

## MB ChB Admissions Policy 2009-10

Policy on admission and entry to the 4-year graduate entry MB ChB course based at Warwick Medical School, University of Warwick.

1. The University believes that a diverse student population contributes to a challenging and stimulating learning environment. We therefore welcome undergraduate applications from all candidates with the potential to succeed at Warwick, whatever their background. We are committed to equality of opportunity and aim to avoid unfair discrimination on whatever grounds, including disability, gender, age and ethnic background.

### General Requirements

2. Applicants must normally have attained or hope to attain at least an upper second UK honours degree (or equivalent) in Biological, Health, Natural or Physical Sciences. Applicants with a lower second class UK honours degree (or equivalent) and an appropriate doctoral qualification may also be considered at the discretion of the course selectors.
3. The Medical School receives many more applications than it has places available and the admissions process is therefore competitive. Course selectors consider applications on their own merits and in competition with others. They will select candidates for attendance at Selection Centres on the basis of the suitability of the candidate's academic qualifications, UCAS personal statement, academic references and their UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT) outcome. Some applicants may be asked to submit additional application materials. UKCAT is administered on behalf of Warwick Medical School by an independent consortium. Details of the test and how to apply for it can be found at the following web address: <http://www.ukcat.ac.uk/home>
4. Two selectors will normally be involved in a decision on whether or not to offer a place. Those applicants who fail to meet the specific minimum academic requirements as laid down in paragraph 2 may be rejected by a single selector or member of the Postgraduate Admissions Team. Warwick Medical School adheres to the University's statement of good practice on feedback to unsuccessful applicants. The decision of the Director of Admissions is final.
- 5.a. In cases where information of a relevant, non-academic nature, including matters relating to health or conduct, are disclosed the matter will be referred to the WMS Fitness to Practise Committee. Where the Fitness to Practise Committee makes a recommendation not to admit a student this recommendation will be referred directly to the Vice-Chancellor. Should the Fitness to Practise Committee recommend that the student be admitted that recommendation will be referred to the Committee on the Admission of Students to Courses of Study, or to the Chair of the Committee if deemed appropriate, for ratification.
- 5.b. All candidates when accepting an offer of a place to study the MB ChB are required to provide the University with a completed Fitness to Practise declaration form. A covering letter and form are sent out to candidates with their offer of a place, which is returned to the Assistant Registrar (WMS).
- 5.c. The Fitness to Practise Committee considers only the information relevant to the issue under consideration and is independent of the course selector's judgement regarding entry requirements. Failure to declare relevant information of interest to

the Fitness to Practice Committee might, in itself, result in disciplinary action by the committee.

- 5.d. All candidates who accept an offer of a place to study the MB ChB are required to provide the University with an Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau check. Application details are sent out to appropriate candidates by the Postgraduate Admissions Team.
6. The University statutes give the Vice-Chancellor, in exceptional circumstances and with the concurrence of Senate, the power to refuse to admit any person as a student of the University without assigning any reason.
- 7.a. Warwick Medical School will not accept applications from candidates who wish to defer their entry.
- 7.b. Deferred entry may only be considered in exceptional circumstances by the Director of Admissions once an offer has been made and accepted.
- 7.c. Warwick Medical School requires all candidates who wish to enrol for the MB ChB to have cleared their academic conditions for entry by 31 August each year. No exceptions will be made.
- 8.a. The University welcomes applications from disabled people and those with specific learning difficulties and considers them on the same academic grounds as other candidates. In order that the University can provide appropriate advice and guidance on the services and facilities available, it is helpful for us to know in advance if you have a disability or specific learning difficulty. If you wish to discuss this further please contact Disability Services by telephoning +44 (0)24 7615 0641 or emailing [disability@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:disability@warwick.ac.uk).
- 8.b. In a small number of cases, we may ask candidates who have indicated a recent, recurring or serious health problem to allow us to request a medical report on their condition. This may also occur if the Fitness to Practise procedure is invoked under paragraph 5a. These reports do not form part of the academic selection process and will not be available to anyone except the University Occupational Health Officer and the Fitness to Practise Committee if convened. Failure to declare a recent, recurring or serious health problem during the admission process might, in itself, lead to a referral to the Fitness to Practice Committee, even if this illness does not affect one's fitness to practise.

The Registrar is ultimately responsible for ensuring that the University is able to make adequate provision for students with disabilities and specific learning difficulties and for keeping a record of the exceptional cases where a candidate is refused admission on the grounds of disability.

9. As Warwick Medical School gives equal consideration to all applications received by UCAS by the 15 October deadline, it may be some time before a decision can be made regarding an application. UKCAT results are received in November and invitations to attend Selection Centres will usually be sent out in late December / early January. All candidates must attend a Selection Centre at either Warwick Medical School or Barts and The London. Assessors and course selectors cannot make official offers at the Selection Centre, formal offers will be sent out following the Selection Centres through UCAS.

10. The University requires evidence that an applicant's English Language capability is of a level that will enable them to succeed on their chosen course of study. The entry requirements for MB ChB are:
- IELTS (International English Language Testing System) with a minimum score of 7.0
  - TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) with a minimum score of 620 in the paper test, 260 in the computer-based test or 105 in the internet-based test
  - WELT (Warwick English Language Test) with a minimum score of BBB

All tests must have been taken within two years of the start date of the course at Warwick. If an applicant does not achieve one of the above scores the University may require that they retake the test or that they attend a pre-sessional English course provided by the University.

If an applicant has been educated entirely in English for the duration of their degree and completed this qualification within the last 2 years, this may be sufficient to satisfy the University of their language skills. The Postgraduate Admissions Team is able to provide guidance on the suitability of qualifications and experience.

### **Widening Access and Student Diversity**

11. Warwick Medical School is committed to ensuring that any student with the potential to succeed on the MB ChB feels able to apply to us. We are committed to providing appropriate support to our students academically, pastorally and financially. We do not operate a quota for students from groups currently under-represented in Higher Education but we very much want to promote the diversity of our student population. All applications are considered on merit.

### **Open Days and University Visits**

12. Warwick Medical School runs open days at various times of the year. Details are given on our website at <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/med/study/ugr/od/>. We encourage all potential candidates to attend one of our on site open days, if possible (even if they have attended a general University Open Day or have previously studied at the University of Warwick), as they provide a good opportunity to visit the department and learn more about the MB ChB, as well as meet academic tutors and students. Representatives from Warwick Medical School staff visit other Universities throughout the year to provide information to first and second year undergraduates.

### **Other Information**

13. The University classifies applicants as either home/EU or overseas students for fees purposes according to the regulations set down by the UK Government's Education Department. A provisional fees status is declared on the UCAS form. Where the information provided by the applicant within the Residential Status section of the UCAS form is insufficient to enable a final classification to be reached, the student will be asked to complete a fees questionnaire. The questionnaire plays no part in the academic selection process since admission to the MB ChB is based solely on academic criteria. The offer Warwick Medical School makes through UCAS to an applicant forms the basis of the contract between the applicant and the University. It is important, therefore, that both parties are clear about the fee level due if the place is confirmed.

14. If an applicant has any questions or needs clarification regarding the University's Policy on Admissions, he or she is welcome to contact the Postgraduate Admissions Team:

Students Admissions and Recruitment Office  
University House  
University of Warwick  
Coventry  
CV4 8UW

Web site address: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/med/study/ugr/admissions/>

It should be noted that the Undergraduate Prospectus is prepared more than 18 months prior to entry to a degree programme. Whilst every effort is made to ensure its accuracy, some changes in the subsequent period are inevitable. Up to date advice will be available from the Postgraduate Admissions Team.