

Pears Cumbria School of Medicine: Admissions statistics

1. Introduction

The Pears Cumbria School of Medicine (PCSM) receives many Freedom of Information (FOI) Act requests from potential applicants for information about the admissions process for the A102 Medicine programme and for admissions statistics. We have compiled the information below based on commonly received FOI requests. We hope this document and the information available on our website will provide you with all the information that you need. If you want to obtain further information, please contact foi@imperial.ac.uk or, for admissions enquiries please contact cumbriamedadmissions@cumbria.ac.uk.

2. The admissions process

Information on the admissions process for A102 Medicine is outlined below. Please also see the considerable information available on the PCSM website about Medicine applications: [Medicine - Graduate Entry - The Pears Cumbria School of Medicine](#)

Please see the following link for information relating to the PCSM Selection Process and Interview sections: [Applying - The Pears Cumbria School of Medicine](#)

On receipt, all UCAS forms received by the deadline are checked to ensure that applicants have, or are predicted to obtain, the minimum academic entry requirements. Applicants are then only considered if they have taken the UCAT admissions test in the same year as their application or GAMSAT test in the last two years. Applicants must also be assessed as eligible for home fees status as a condition of entry, although students with uncertain fees status will continue to be considered until their fees status is confirmed. The fee status of applicants is determined in accordance with UK government guidelines. For further guidance on fee status: [Eligibility rules for home fee status](#)

Applicants are selected for interview based on their UCAT or GAMSAT scores. The School calculates threshold UCAT and GAMSAT scores each year as a result of ranked applicant UCAT and GAMSAT scores versus number of expected interview sessions.

Contextual GAMSAT and UCAT thresholds are applied to candidates who meet Imperial's Contextual Admissions criteria, to ensure the proportions of Widening Participation versus non-Widening Participation applicants remain consistent at the interview stage compared to the application stage. For example, if 40% of applicants were Widening Participation, the threshold score to invite to interview was adjusted to ensure that 40% of those interviewed were also Widening Participation.

3. The interview/selection process

Considerable emphasis is placed on the performance of applicants at interview, and no offer is made to any applicant who has not attended a competitive interview. The format is multiple mini-interviews (MMIs), affording applicants an opportunity to discuss a range of matters in some depth. Although questions and stations may vary through the years, these are the main topics on which applicants are asked questions:

- Commitment to medicine and understanding of the role of a doctor
- Potential to contribute to the medical school and the region
- Teamwork and leadership
- Ethics
- Empathy

- Resilience and adaptability

Applicants' responses were scored on a 0-100 percentage scale with a possible 80% for content (what the applicant says) and 20% for communication (how the applicant says it) in each interview station. Often there is no right or wrong answer – the interviewers are assessing an ability to explain thinking. If an applicant changes their mind on a specific question, part-way through a question, the interviewers will consider the applicant's ability to reflect on their ideas and adapt.

An applicant will receive a score for each interview station in the MMI. For 2026 entry, the total number of stations in a MMI was six (6). Therefore, a total of six (6) station scores were received per applicant, and these scores were combined for the total interview score. All stations have equal weighting. The Admissions team reviews the applicant's scores across the MMI to determine whether to make an offer or reject.

For more information on the criteria for contextual admissions, please follow this [link](#).

4. Applying through UCAS

The Medicine (Graduate entry) degree is awarded by Imperial College London and delivered by Pears Cumbria School of Medicine at its Carlisle campus. Applicants must select Imperial College London as the awarding Institution.

The UCAS course code is A102.

5. What weight is given to the applicant's personal statement?

The personal statement is not used at the shortlisting stage. It could be given to interviewers and assessors during the MMI process and applicants could be asked to discuss aspects of the application. This may include, for example, evidence of motivation and the understanding of medicine as a career, evidence of extracurricular interests, as well as the information provided by the referee's report.

6. What are the work experience requirements?

There are no requirements to have work experience prior to the interview stage. At the interview stage, any relevant work experience will be beneficial to the applicant.

7. Which qualifications/results are taken into consideration?

GCSE and A-Level results are not taken into consideration at any stage of the application process.

Where applicable, the English language requirements need to be met: [English language requirements | Study | Imperial College London](#)

The academic requirement is a 2:1 honours undergraduate degree in a relevant subject. Higher degrees are not considered. No additional weighting is attached to applicants with a higher classification in their undergraduate degree.

For examples of relevant UK biological or allied health professional subjects: [Medicine - Graduate Entry - The Pears Cumbria School of Medicine](#)

If a degree does not appear on the list of acceptable qualifications, the School assess it on a case-by-case basis. An official transcript detailing the modules completed during the degree is required, along with information on the credit value of each module, such as the CATS/ECTS allocation. The modules

required will need to be biology or medically related, with majority of modules in total comprised of these subjects.

Applicants can apply as a final year undergraduate student before their final grade has been confirmed. Applicants will be required to show evidence that they are predicted an upper second-class degree (or above) and if successful the offer will be conditional on achieving that predicted grade.

8. What UCAT or GAMSAT scores do applicants need to achieve?

There are two different UCAT and GAMSAT thresholds, depending on if the applicant has been classed as eligible for Imperial's Contextual Admissions Scheme (Widening Participation applicants).

For 2026 Entry, the following UCAT thresholds were applied:

UCAT Thresholds for Non-Widening Participation Applicants

- UCAT minimum threshold total score: 1960
- GAMSAT minimum threshold total score: 59

UCAT Thresholds for Widening Participation Applicants

- UCAT minimum threshold total score: 1910
- GAMSAT minimum threshold total score: 53

As 2026 was the second admission cycle for the Pears Cumbria School of Medicine, there is only one year of historical scores prior to this cycle. It should be noted that thresholds will change year on year based on the scores of the applicants and the number of interview places available. Changes to the UCAT And GAMSAT will also affect scores. It is therefore not possible to state in advance what our threshold scores will be for each admissions cycle. Each year, we will publish our threshold scores in retrospect, as guidance to future cohorts.

For applicants who have taken both the GAMSAT and the UCAT exam, we automatically use the higher score when selecting for interview.

In the event of mitigating circumstances during the GAMSAT or UCAT, the respective test provider sends us information which we review. Applicants are required to report any such concerns directly to the test provider. The test provider will assess the mitigating circumstances and communicate any flagged cases to the school.

9. How many applications were received and how many offers were made, and for how many places?

For 2026 entry, the School of Medicine's target intake number was 58. This number consists of Home fees status students only as the School is not currently accepting applications from students who are assessed as having Overseas fees status.

PCSM will publish undergraduate admissions statistics for the past five completed admissions cycles. These include:

- Number of applicants, offers and places confirmed
- Average UCAT and GAMSAT scores

For 2026 entry, PCSM will have only two previous admission cycles, so only two years of statistics will be published.

The published information can be accessed at the transparency pages of our website: [Transparency information | Administration and support services | Imperial College London](#) (scroll to the bottom of the

page to the link “Download the Undergraduate Admission Statistics 2019-2023”). Information is exempt from the Freedom of Information Act (Section 21) if it is already reasonably accessible to the requester. The published figures are updated annually (usually in January/February). Information that is intended for future publication is exempt from the Freedom of Information Act by virtue of Section 22 of the Act. (scroll to the bottom of the page to the link “Download the Undergraduate Admission Statistics”).

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For A102 Medicine, the applications, invitations to interview, offers and places confirmed were as follows:

	2025 UCAS Cycle	2026 UCAS Cyle
Applications received	652	832
Number invited to interview	343	279
Offers made	101	127
Places confirmed	58	58

10. What predicted grades did applicants have?

It is not possible for the School to provide details of applicants predicted grades, or the undergraduate degree subjects that applicants have studied.

11. How many applicants were invited to interview?

For 2025 entry, 279 applicants were invited to interview.

12. What are the tuition fees, and what funding opportunities are available?

There are several funding options and routes that applicants can take to support their study. For further information: <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/students/fees-and-funding/undergraduate-funding/>

13. Is it possible to defer admission?

As PCSM is a small school, deferrals are not guaranteed to be available. The School would advise to submit an application for the relevant academic year's admission cycle.

14. Are reapplicants eligible to apply?

Applicants who have previously enrolled in and subsequently withdrawn from another medical programme are not eligible for admission to this programme.

15. How do resits affect eligibility to apply?

If the final degree classification awarded is a 2:1, the applicant will be considered eligible, even if this result is achieved following resits. If the applicant's initial final award is a 2:2 and this is under appeal, they should clearly indicate this on their application to ensure it is considered during the initial assessment and to avoid an inadvertent rejection.