

Applying for Medicine

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Manchester Medical School

MAP applicants applying to Medicine

- Have you been accepted onto the MAP medicine strand?
- Only students on the MAP medicine strand are eligible for the 40 UCAS points towards an offer for Medicine, and only those students can go through the “Decision Manchester” process.
- MAP students not on the MAP medicine strand can still apply to Manchester for one of the Medicine courses but will have to meet our standard academic, non academic and UKCAT requirements to be called for interview. These applicants will not go through the “Decision Manchester” process and if subsequently made an offer will not be eligible for the 40 UCAS points towards their offer.

What do you have to do to apply?

- **Speak to clinicians and healthcare staff. [Shadowing is not that vital – if under 18 it can be difficult to get into a hospital). Talk to a wide range of people to develop your understanding of the profession.**
- **Volunteering – working with vulnerable people, practical hands-on caring experience, motivating/teaching others, mentoring, volunteering with other healthcare professionals to gain an appreciation of the wider healthcare team. Ideally done this once a week for about a year. 2 weeks not enough. Needs to be joined up.**
- **Evidence of team work.**
- **Review the options at medical schools - www.ucas.com**

What does a good applicant have

- Professional attitude.
- Motivation – clear and well explained. Why medicine?
- Caring experience - do you really know what the job entails? Clear description and reflection.
- Strong academic background -have you have the right qualifications?
- Have you the right temperament? - How do you cope with stress? Self-awareness showing suitability for medicine.
- Interests/hobbies – good work/life balance.

What are we looking for in the personal statement?

- Commitment to medicine: how did this interest develop? Personal experiences, work experience etc. Realistic understanding of the profession. How you followed up this interest.
- Experience: hands-on experience is better than simply observing. What did you learn about the caring profession and about yourself? How have you built on this experience? What skills can you bring from other work/extra-curricular experience? Interests/hobbies – show that you are a rounded individual, have a good work-life balance and stress-busters!
- Team working skills/ communication skills
- Honesty

Do I need Plan B?

- Yes – what will I do if I do not get any offers for Medicine?
There are no guarantees.
- Have a gap year and re-apply with a minimum of AAB/AAA.
- Re-sitting A2 subjects? Clearing/UCAS extra? NO!

What are we looking for at interview?

- The ability to communicate
- The experiences you can talk about that made you decide on your choice of career
- The type of medical course offered
- Awareness of medical issues
- Interests/hobbies you have listed
- That you have been honest in your personal statement and have indeed done what you have said.

What is the Manchester Course like?

Problem based/enquiry based [PBL]

- Students taught in small groups of 8-12
- Anatomy taught with dissection
- Early clinical experience in year 1 at Manchester
- Structured cases based on ‘core curriculum’
- Lectures.
- Responsible for your own time-management – good organisational skills imperative!
- Tutor acts as facilitator not teacher
- Students involved in curriculum design
- Randomly allocated to a teaching hospital in year 3 at either MRI, Hope, Wythenshawe or Preston and Chorley

MAP Medicine strand Entry requirements 2014

- At least seven GCSE subjects –Dual Award Science minimum B/B. Physics and Biology at either AS (minimum C) or GCSE (minimum B) .Maths & English Language minimum Grade B. Minimum of 3 subjects at Grade A/A* as long as the other grades are ok i.e. English Language, Maths and the sciences.
- 4 AS subjects [grades not counted] AS resits are accepted.
- For A106, 5 year course, Chemistry, one other science & one other academic subject at A2. Grades ABB predicted or achieved (MAP offer). Other medical schools at least AAA. Critical Thinking and General Studies excluded.
- For A104, 6 year Foundation Course, 3 arts at A2 or one science and two arts subjects. Grades BBB.

Entry requirements for 2014

*Applicable to MAP students who **are not** on the MAP medicine strand*

- At least seven GCSE subjects –Dual Award Science minimum B/B. Physics and Biology at either AS (minimum C) or GCSE (minimum B) .Maths & English Language minimum Grade B. 5 subjects at Grade A/A*.
- 4 AS subjects [grades not counted]
- For A106, 5 year course, Chemistry, one other science & one other academic subject at A2. Grades AAA predicted or achieved. Critical Thinking & General Studies excluded.
- For A104, 6 year Foundation Course, 3 arts at A2 or one science and two arts subjects. Grades AAB.
- International Baccalaureate – 37 points plus core to include 7,6,6 at HL in Chemistry, another science and another academic subject, and grades 5,5,5 at SL to include Maths and English Language



UKCAT

- Not used in the assessment process for Medicine Strand MAP applicants but will be used for non-Medicine Strand applicants
- The test will not contain any curriculum nor any science content. It cannot be revised for.
- www.ukcat.ac.uk with specimen questions
- Cognitive ability – used in assessment
 - Verbal reasoning
 - Quantitative reasoning
 - Abstract reasoning
 - Decision analysis
- Best way is to practise the sample test!
- Bursaries available on UKCAT website

UKCAT scores of applicants invited for interview for A106

Admissions Cycle	Applicants with a WP Plus Flag (ie those who meet both geo-demographic and educational indicators, and/or those who have been in care for more than 3 months)	Applicants with a WP Flag or no contextual flags (includes mature students and students applying from the EU)
2012/13	2560 and above	2650 and above
2011/12	2490 and above	2590 and above
2010/11	2460 and above	2610 and above

The Manchester Assessment Process

- Initial screening
 - academic attributes
- UCAS form assessment
 - non academic attributes
- UKCAT (not taken into account for applicants on the MAP Medicine strand)
- MAP Medicine strand applicants guaranteed an interview before Christmas.
- But not guaranteed an offer.

Reference [School report]

We are looking for :-

- evidence of commitment
- communication skills
- evidence of caring
- leadership qualities
- team work [may be sports, social, charity work]
- extenuating circumstances
- Predicted A2 grades required by 15 October 2012

Interview

- Most medical schools interview and offer on predicted A2 grades
- Each one will have different sizes of Panels
- Manchester uses 3 interviewers. The 2013 interview comprised:-
- Assessment of ability to communicate and work in a group
 - a group task
- Assessment of interpretive skills
 - work experience
 - leisure time
 - stress management, reflection and self-awareness

The 2014 interview may change!