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### Appendix A: Academic Entry Requirements – 2016/17 Entry

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### Appendix B: English Language Requirements – 2016/17 Entry Page 30
1. Introduction

This policy document provides information on admissions requirements, selection policies and procedures for undergraduate medical courses in Cardiff University’s School of Medicine for 2016 entry.

Further details of the course can be found in the Undergraduate Prospectus, which can be located at http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/for/prospective/ug/prospectus

The Cardiff University School of Medicine Undergraduate Medical Admissions Policy is available in different formats on request.

2. Aims

Cardiff University’s School of Medicine Undergraduate Medical Admissions Policy has been implemented to ensure that the School admits students of the highest quality who can benefit from the educational experiences provided by the course. This policy has been written to support the aims of the undergraduate medical curriculum;

“to produce, attract and retain the best doctors for Wales and the UK”

and to enable the University to meet the strategic objectives contained within its Learning Teaching and Assessment (LTA) Strategy

"to recruit and retain students of the highest quality irrespective of background who can meet the challenges of the University’s education and research environment".

The Policy is intended to ensure that in meeting these aims the process of student selection is objective, transparent, open, fair and free from discrimination of any kind. It is reviewed annually at the start of the admissions cycle and will not normally be changed thereafter during that cycle.

The Policy has been written in line with UCAS guidelines and recommendations outlined in the Admissions to Higher Education Review "Fair Admissions to Higher Education: Recommendations for Good Practice" (Schwartz Report, 2004)

Outcome of the course

At the end of the undergraduate course a MBBCh will be awarded, which is a primary medical qualification (PMQ). Holding a PMQ entitles an individual to provisional registration with the General Medical Council, subject only to its acceptance that there are no Fitness to Practise concerns that need consideration. Provisionally registered doctors can only practise in approved Foundation Year 1 posts: the law does not allow provisionally registered doctors to undertake any other type of work.

To obtain a Foundation Year 1 post an application must be made during the final year of their undergraduate course through the UK Foundation Programme Office selection scheme, which allocates these posts to graduates on a competitive basis. So far, all suitably qualified UK graduates have found a place on the Foundation Year 1 programme, but this cannot be guaranteed, for instance if there were to be an increased number of competitive applications from non-UK graduates.
Successful completion of the Foundation Year 1 programme is normally achieved within 12 months and is marked by the award of a Certificate of Experience. An individual will then be eligible to apply for full registration with the General Medical Council (GMC). Full registration is needed with a licence to practise for unsupervised medical practice in the NHS or private practice in the UK.

Although this information is currently correct, students need to be aware that regulations in this area may change from time to time.

3. Equal Opportunities Statement

Cardiff University School of Medicine welcomes applications from individuals who satisfy the entry criteria, and the School actively supports equality of opportunity for all students and staff. The Institute of Medical Education has an Equality and Diversity committee which promotes and monitors equality, dignity and human rights in the MBBCh programme, the BSc programmes and the Postgraduate taught courses run by Cardiff University School of Medicine. This committee reports to the School of Medicines Equality and Diversity and Human Rights Committee.

Selection is bound by the University's policy on Equality and Diversity, www.cardiff.ac.uk.

Cardiff University School of Medicine aims to create an environment that respects the diversity of staff, students and other stakeholders in the University's community. It also aims to enable them to achieve their full potential, to contribute fully and to derive maximum benefit and enjoyment from their involvement in the life of the University. It also aims to ensure that no prospective or current student is treated less favourably on the grounds of any of the nine protected characteristics defined in the Equality Act 2010, including age, race, gender, ethnic origin, religion/belief, sexual orientation or disability.

The University is committed to the principle of equality of opportunity for all staff and students and committed to providing an environment where respect is shown to all and where individual employees and students are valued and supported in achieving their full potential. The University believes that an inclusive approach benefits all and enables everyone to contribute appropriately to society.

The University aims to ensure equality of opportunity for all individuals whose applications meet the closing date of the 15th of October 2015 and aims to create conditions whereby students are considered solely on the basis of their academic achievement, ability and potential. It acknowledges the need to remove barriers to the recruitment, retention, and advancement of talented students and staff from populations who have historically been under-represented. Applications from individuals with a disability are welcome but such individuals are strongly advised to contact the Admissions Officer for guidance prior to submitting an application. Disabled applicants must declare the details on the application form. Decision making on fitness to practice is entirely separate from the academic and non-academic selection process.

When considering applications from individuals with a disability the School will follow the advisory guidelines “Gateways to the Professions”, published by the General Medical Council www.gmc-uk.org. While a disability need not be a bar to becoming a doctor, the School has a responsibility to make sure that every applicant can achieve the core competencies of the course and fulfil the demands of professional practice as a newly qualified doctor. These include the ability to communicate clearly, sensitively and effectively, to undertake full physical examination of patients and to perform certain practical skills.
There is an obligation on applicants to ensure they do not proceed into a career for which they may not be suited.

Applicants who are invited for interview will be sent an Interview Special Requirements Form which they will be required to complete and return in advance of their interview date. This form will allow Admissions to provide the necessary support, as required. Applicants receiving an offer will be contacted by the University’s Disability Support Service to discuss support that may be required during the course.

Diversity of background among Cardiff’s medical students is encouraged and all selection decisions are made strictly on the basis of merit and on the applicant’s ability to meet the academic and non-academic criteria described in this document.

As part of its widening access agenda, Cardiff University’s Medical School will continue with its use of contextual data. This will assess the achievement of a candidate in the context of opportunity related to a candidate’s education and socio-economic background. See Section 7.c on page 11.

Selection for a medical qualification implies selection for the medical profession and all applicants must have the potential to fulfil the duties of a medical student and subsequently of a doctor as outlined by the GMC in its guidance documents ‘Medical Students: Professional Behaviour and Fitness to Practise’ and ‘Good Medical Practice’ (www.gmc-uk.org). The responsibility for decisions regarding registration is that of the GMC.

The Medical School carefully monitors the selection process regularly to ensure that applicants are not disadvantaged in any way. People involved with admissions are drawn from a wide variety of backgrounds, and are aware of the University’s policies on Equality and Diversity and of the relevant legislation and receive appropriate training in these areas.

The School has recently completed an Equality Impact Assessment on the admissions process for the MBBCh programme which is available here: http://medicine.cf.ac.uk/media/filer_public/76/15/7615688d-5bec-462c-abc1-4330328f21da/cardiff_university_impact_assessment_admissions_policy_final_version_24-07-14.pdf

4. C21 – The new curriculum

C21 is a comprehensive programme to review the undergraduate curriculum, its delivery and the supporting structures, mechanisms and processes and improve the quality of the medical education delivered at Cardiff University.

Led by the Institute of Medical Education, and in partnership with colleagues from across the University, student and patient representatives, the NHS and Welsh Assembly Government, C21 consists of coordinated projects, which when delivered will benefit students and doctors in training, clinical practice, and the wider community.

The purpose of C21 is to embed the values of teaching excellence, service, science, scholarship and patient safety into a world leading medical programme that will attract, train and retain the very best doctors for Wales by providing high quality teaching and an inspiring learning experience based around increased clinical contact.

The Purpose of the C21 project is to improve the quality of medical education delivered by Cardiff University.
The Vision is to produce, attract and retain the best doctors for Wales.

The Strategy is to work in collaboration with institutions and colleagues to develop a world-class educational environment.

The core Values are: Teaching Excellence, Patient Safety, Scholarship, Science and Service.

The Priorities are to create a working environment committed to valuing and respecting professional development and based on clinical excellence and strong medical and biomedical research.

For more information please visit: [http://medicine.cf.ac.uk/medical-education/c21/](http://medicine.cf.ac.uk/medical-education/c21/)

5. Programmes

a. A100 Programme (5 years)

This is the conventional five year programme leading to the MBBCh degree. For the 2016 intake, approximately 268 places for Home and EU students are expected to be available, including graduate/mature applicants, and approximately 25 for international students.

b. A104 Foundation Programme (6 years)

This Foundation programme is designed for applicants who have demonstrated a high academic potential but do not meet the specific subject requirements for entry to the five year medical programme. This Foundation Year is also appropriate for those students with high academic potential but do not have the depth of subject specialism associated with GCE A2 Levels. It is not intended for applicants who have taken but failed to achieve the necessary grades in subjects required for entry into the A100 Programme. The A104 Programme has a modular structure in which students pursue 12 modules. Studies normally centre on chemistry, the biological sciences, and mathematics, with opportunities to observe clinical practice, but may vary according to the student’s prior qualifications. For 2016 intake there are expected to be up to 16 places.

C. A101 Accelerated Medicine Programme

This is a specific four year programme for applicants who are currently enrolled on to an officiated Feeder Stream accelerated entry program within one of the following programmes:

i. BMedSci Degree in Medical Sciences from the University of Bangor (B100)
ii. BSc (Hons) Medical Sciences Degree, from the University of South Wales (B901)
iii. BSc (Hons) Medical Pharmacology degree, School of Medicine, Cardiff University (B210)
iv. BSc (Hons) Biomedical Sciences degree, School of Biosciences, Cardiff University (BC97)

The Feeder Stream accelerated entry programmes have been developed as part of Cardiff University’s commitment to widening access to Medicine enabling a small number of selected students within the above programmes to join the feeder stream, taking on additional modules and graduating from these programmes with a first or upper second class honours degree, to enter the second year of the five year A100 Medical programme.
Applicants applying from these routes will need to have fulfilled all the minimum requirements as outlined in Appendix A for Graduate entry.

The selection process from these feeder courses is dependent on academic and non-academic achievement, as well as performance at interview in line with the selection for all other applicants.

Students wishing to progress from one of the above feeder streams to the four year graduate entry medicine programme (A101) will be subject to the Admissions Criteria, published by the School of Medicine, in the year that the student starts their officiated feeder course and NOT the year of entry to the 4 year graduate entry medicine programme (A101).

The School of Medicine is introducing new standardised entry criteria for Feeder Stream applicants to the A101 programme (see Appendix A, Section h. (ii).) These will apply to all students entering the Feeder Stream courses from September 2014, who wish to apply for the A101 programme at Cardiff University.

Students entering the Feeder courses year of entry 2012 or 2013 can apply using these new entry criteria if they feel they are more advantageous, but must inform their Feeder Stream programme directors, who have written to them with this information.

As of the 2014/15 Entry (applications received by 15th of October 2013), all graduate applicants will be required to sit the GAMSAT admissions exam prior to applying via UCAS. The results will form a key part of the assessment of their application. Those enrolled onto a Feeder Stream in September 2013 onwards will be required to sit the GAMSAT, and not the UKCAT when applying to the A101 programme. Those enrolled onto a Feeder Stream before September 2013 will not be required to sit the GAMSAT, and will be required to sit the UKCAT.

Please note that all dental graduates who are applying to study medicine will be considered for A101 only and will also need to sit the GAMSAT and not the UKCAT.

6. Entry Requirements

Details of the minimum academic requirements for consideration for entry into the MBBCh course are tabulated in the Appendices A and B. However, lower levels of academic achievement may be considered if there are exceptional extenuating circumstances. Details of exceptional extenuating circumstances must be documented and submitted directly to the Admissions Officer at the School of Medicine, at the time of applying via UCAS, i.e. before the 15th of October 2015. Extenuating Circumstances will only be accepted after this date if there may be a direct impact on exam results affecting whether a successful applicant would meet the terms of their offer; these extenuating circumstances must be declared no later than 1st August 2016. It is expected that exceptional extenuating circumstances relating specifically to previous performance in examinations will already have been notified to the relevant Examinations Board, and that the classification of the relevant award will already have been moderated accordingly.

The School of Medicine is committed to safeguarding both its students and the patients with whom they come into contact as part of our medicine programme. Cardiff University’s Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy (2010), and the Children Act (1989) legally defines a child as a person under the age of 18. As part of the existing curriculum early clinical experience occurs with potential of “Children being exposed to the Clinical Environment”. Therefore The Cardiff School of Medicine therefore
requires all applicants to be 18 years or older by the beginning of the academic year, which is normally around the 20th of September each year.

Cardiff University School of Medicine is committed to ensuring that applicants are admitted on the basis of fair admissions practices. Applications that are suspected to contain false, plagiarised, incorrect, or misleading information will be investigated according to the University’s Application Verification Policy. If the suspicions are confirmed, the application will be rejected and any offer already made will be rescinded. It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure the Admissions Office is informed of any relevant changes to his/her personal circumstances. All Personal Statements are subjected to a plagiarism detection process.

All undergraduate applicants, other than those resident in exempt countries are required to take the national UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT) during July-October 2015. Test results obtained in previous years are not accepted. Comprehensive information on this, including specimen test questions, can be found on the UKCAT website (www.ukcat.ac.uk). Cardiff University School of Medicine does not have a minimum threshold score for the UKCAT.

All Graduate Applicants will be required to sit the GAMSAT examination prior to applying, in order for their application to be considered. The minimum entry requirement for GAMSAT is an overall score of 57 with a minimum of 55 in the Science components.

All applicants must have an acceptable English language qualification (for details, see Appendix B).

The Advanced (14-19) Diploma in Society, Health and Development is not accepted for entry into the Medicine Programmes.

Applicants who have been dismissed or suspended from a Medicine degree programme, at another University, will not be considered. For other degree courses students who fail to complete the course would not normally be considered unless there are exceptional changes in circumstances, in which case Cardiff University School of Medicine would advise the candidate to email medadmissions@cf.ac.uk prior to application.

a. Mature Applicants, Graduates and Access Qualifications

Applicants must have completed their degree or must be in the final year of their current degree programme in order for their application to be considered.

Applications from mature students through UCAS are welcome. In addition to the UCAS form, mature applicants are advised to send their full curriculum vitae (CV) directly to the Admissions Office at the time of applying. The CV should include the applicant's entire academic and professional background since entering secondary education and include activities undertaken each year since leaving school or college. The attention of mature applicants is drawn to the statement relating to the duration of the training programme (Section 6b).

Mature students who are pursuing an Access to Science Diploma or Access to Medicine Diploma that is recognised by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (www.accesstohe.ac.uk) will be considered on an individual basis for entry to the Foundation Year Medicine (six year) scheme of study (A104). This entry qualification is
considered acceptable for those applicants who were unable to continue their formal education at school or college post-16 (e.g. for personal reasons). Preference is given to applicants who have been out of full-time education for at least four years before their Access course. It is not an acceptable qualification for applicants who have sat, but failed to achieve, the necessary grades at GCE A2 Level, BTEC qualifications, degrees, etc.

Graduate applicants are welcome to apply for admission to either the 5-year (A100) or the 6-year (A104) programmes, according to their previous academic experience in the sciences. They will be expected to have, or to achieve, at least an upper second class Honours classification in the first degree that they have taken. Academic qualifications obtained before entering university will also be taken into account. Graduate applicants will need to meet the minimum entry requirements as stated in Appendix A Section G. N.B. All Graduate Applicants will be required to sit the GAMSAT examination prior to applying, in order for their application to be considered.

All applicants will need to assess their financial situation very carefully, and mature applicants are advised to seek guidance from their Local Education Authority. A Financial Guarantee Form will be sent to graduate applicants at the time that an offer is given.

b. International Applicants

Applications through UCAS from international students are also welcome. In common with all UK medical schools, the number of places available for international (non-EC) students is limited to 25, by the Government. Preference is therefore given to applicants from countries that do not have sufficient places in their own medical schools to meet the needs of that country. Applicants should have an awareness of the healthcare system in the UK and the nature of the medical training.

While the majority of international applicants offer International Baccalaureate or GCE A2 Level subjects, some other international qualifications are acceptable. Details about acceptable international qualifications can be found at http://medicine.cf.ac.uk/medical-education/undergraduate/admissions/entry-requirements/academic-performance/.

Alternatively the Medical School Admissions Office may be contacted at medadmissions@cf.ac.uk with details of applicants examinations and grades.

International applicants are required to offer a recognised English Language qualification from the list in Appendix B, which must include reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.

All applicants who are being considered for programmes of study leading to the MBBCh degree, including international applicants, will be required to attend an interview. Occasionally, School staff will be visiting other countries and interviews may be arranged for applicants at those locations. This cannot be guaranteed in advance and any applicants to Cardiff University School of Medicine should be prepared to travel to the UK for an interview. Cardiff University is unable to meet any expense incurred.

International applicants should ensure they have adequate financial resources to support them throughout the medical course. The University will require a financial guarantee that all fees can be met. It is unable to offer any scholarship to help students meet these costs.

As part of the admissions process, a survey is sent to all applicants with a Fees status of "O" for Overseas. The purpose of this survey is to ensure all overseas applicants are fully
aware of their funding arrangements, and to draw attention to the potential consequences related to funding that may arise if the course is failed or if the individual must leave the course for any reason. If an individual receives the survey; completion is mandatory. Completion of this survey will not affect an application. Applicants from non-European Union (non EU) or European Economic Areas EEA must satisfy the requirements of Tier 4 of the Points-based Immigration System of the UK Border Agency http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/studyingintheuk/

c. Re-sit Applicants

Cardiff University will consider applications where modules have been re-sat in either AS levels or A Level qualifications on the understanding that they are completed within the standard two year A-level period.

Re-sits for applicants whose A-levels have been completed and the grades awarded will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Those whose under-achievement was due to exceptional extenuating circumstances, and have previously applied to study Medicine at Cardiff University, must provide appropriate evidentiary support. Applicants in this position should contact the Admissions Officer at the Medical School for further advice.

Information on academic requirements is given in Appendix A.

d. Deferment to 2017 Entry

Cardiff University School of Medicine will consider applicants seeking deferred entry to 2017. Applications are made through UCAS in the usual way. The UCAS form should be amended clearly to show the intention to defer at the point of application. The individuals personal statement should include an indication of the reasons for wanting to defer entry. Deferment of entry for a period longer than 12 months is not permitted.

Applicants accepting deferred places are expected to make arrangements for contact with the Medical School to be maintained if they are travelling overseas.

Deferment requests post-application will not normally be considered unless there are significant changes in an applicant’s situation and are at the sole discretion of the Sub-Dean for Medical Admissions

7. The Admissions Process

At the beginning of each admissions cycle, the Admissions Sub-Committee reviews the previous cycle and recommends any changes in policy or the selection criteria to the Board of Medical Studies. This policy and the selection criteria will not normally be changed during an admissions cycle.

Competition for a place at Cardiff University School of Medicine is intense. For example, the University usually receives more than 2,700 applications for 309 places; of these, approximately 1,000 are invited to interview.

a. Method of Application

All applications must be made through the UCAS scheme, details of which can be found at www.ucas.com. Applications can be made in either English or Welsh, and applicants can
elect which of these languages they wish to receive correspondence. Applicants are advised that no more than four choices from the possible five can be used for medical programmes. Cardiff University is not made aware of applicants' other chosen universities, but is aware of an individual's application for other courses at Cardiff University. Application for other courses at Cardiff University will not affect the manner in which an application for Medicine is considered. All applications are subjected to verification procedures for fraud and plagiarism.

The closing date for applications for 2016 entry is the 15th October 2015. Applications received after this date will not usually be considered.

N.B. Cardiff University School of Medicine does not enter Clearing or UCAS Extra for its Undergraduate medical courses.

b. The Selection Process

There are three stages to the selection process. Members of the Medical School's Admissions Sub-Committee Selection Panel are involved at all stages.

Academic requirements

In order to establish an applicant’s potential to cope with the academic requirements of the programme, the initial assessment consists of screening applications according to whether they meet the specified minimum academic requirements shown in Appendices A and B. In the absence of documented exceptional extenuating circumstances provided at the time of application, applicants who do not meet these minimum requirements will be rejected and will be notified of this decision by UCAS.

The remaining applications will be ranked according to their overall prior certificated academic qualifications, usually GCSE and GCE A2 Level grades, Baccalaureate points or degree classifications. AS Level grades and predicted results are not used. From this ranking students will be identified for assessment of non-academic attributes and for interview. This means that not all applicants who have met the minimum academic requirements will proceed to the next ‘non-academic’ stage of the selection process; it will depend on their ranking, and consequently, the competition. As a guide applicants in the last three cycles have achieved 5 A* grades in their GCSEs to meet the minimum threshold which is set each year once all applications have been scored. GCSE scores lower than the cut-off may become competitive once A2 Levels have been obtained, as the A2 Levels can be added to the GCSE score. A2 Levels are not scored in the same way as the GCSEs; they are scored on a sliding scale.

Applicants with other qualifications, whether from within the UK, the European Community or elsewhere will be considered on an individual basis but will be expected to have achieved a comparable high level of achievement within their own education systems.

Non-academic requirements

Applicants who meet the minimum academic requirements and are sufficiently highly ranked academically are assessed on non-academic criteria according to the information in their personal statement and the referee’s report given on the UCAS Application Form. Non-academic requirements will be assessed in the personal statement and at interview. Applications are reviewed by trained selectors and the following are assessed and scored:
- Medical motivation and awareness of the career
- Caring ethos and a sense of social awareness
- Sense of responsibility
- Evidence of a balanced approach to life
- Evidence of self-directed learning and extracurricular activities
- Referee’s report

All applicants are expected to have an appreciation of the length of the training programme and the career structure, and how this relates to their own situation and circumstances.

The University recognises that opportunities for certain types of work experience and participation in some non-academic activities will vary according to individual circumstances, including an applicant's cultural or socio-economic background, or the activities available in their local area. Therefore Selectors are not prescriptive about the ways in which the non-academic selection criteria may be demonstrated.

Selectors will also consider additional information such as that provided by schools or the applicant, particularly that relating to documented exceptional extenuating circumstances, as long as this is provided at the time of application.

C. Use of Contextual Data

Cardiff University School of Medicine is committed to widening access and welcomes applications from students of all backgrounds. For 2016 Entry, the School will continue its use of contextual data. The academic and non-academic attainment of a candidate will be reviewed against educational performance data and socio-economic background to provide admissions tutors with a more complete overview of an applicant’s attainment and potential. The School will consider this information when deciding whether to call a candidate for interview. It will not use this information to make lower or differential offers to any particular group of students. For further information about contextual data and its use please see our web pages: [http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/for/prospective/undergraduate/applying/contextual-data.html](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/for/prospective/undergraduate/applying/contextual-data.html)

D. Interviews

No offers are made without interview. Interviews are offered to applicants who achieve the highest positions according to their academic and non-academic rankings.

**Interviews take place during November through to the end of March, and no significance should be attached to whether the interview date is early or late within this period.** Those who are not invited for interview will be informed, through UCAS, that their application has been unsuccessful.

Each interview panel is drawn from this team and normally consists of 2 or 3 interviewers, at least one of whom is medically qualified, unless exceptional unforeseen circumstances prevent the clinician attending. Panels may include a medical student from the senior years. Interviewers receive specific training and guidance on the form and conduct of the interview, including issues relating to equal opportunities and the benefits of diversity.

The aim of the interview is to explore the non-academic criteria (see above). Applicants will be encouraged to talk naturally about themselves, their studies and their experiences. They should demonstrate their interpersonal skills to, be able to communicate effectively and
whether they have a balanced approach to life. In this way they can show how they meet the non-academic attributes required of a prospective doctor.

Individual interviewers assess each applicant’s performance and the interview panel outcome is dependent on the aggregate score.

Interviews normally last 20 minutes. By prior arrangement, applicants can choose to have a bilingual interview conducted in Welsh and English. It is the responsibility of an applicant to inform Admissions if they require a bilingual interview. If the applicant does not inform Admissions of their language preference then the interview will be conducted in English.

The School will do its utmost to accommodate applicants’ requests for avoiding specific dates for attending the University during the interview period; these dates must be indicated in the appropriate section of the UCAS application form. Postponement of an interview on a single occasion will also be allowed in exceptional unexpected circumstances at the discretion of the Sub-Dean. Postponement will always be allowed for a certificated illness, even at very short notice.

It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure they are physically and mentally fit for the interview. Retrospective adjustment for a weak interview performance will not be made.

Any extenuating circumstances that may affect an applicant’s performance at interview must be stated in the interview special requirements form or emailed to Admissions at medicalinterviews@cf.ac.uk before the interview. Any aspects of the interview that an applicant feels may have not been fairly or properly applied must be brought to the attention of the Admissions team on the day of interview and not retrospectively.

**Failure to attend without good cause will be seen as an application being withdrawn.**

e. Final selection

The final decision to offer a place is made by the Admissions Sub-Committee Selection Panel, chaired by the Sub-Dean for Admissions. Applicants will be advised of decisions by UCAS. Batches of offers are made throughout the cycle with the final batch of offers being made in March after all the interviews have been completed. **Decisions reached by the Admissions Sub-Committee are final.**

Unsuccessful applicants will be provided with general feedback on which aspect of their application led to their lack of success. Due to the high volume of applications received, the School’s capacity to provide more detailed and bespoke feedback is limited, and members of the Admissions staff are under no obligation to do this. It is the University’s policy to provide feedback on a single occasion only. Nevertheless, the Sub-Dean for Admissions or Admissions Officer may, at their discretion and if requested by the applicant personally and in writing, provide limited guidance about relevant aspects of the application. Feedback requests should be submitted to medadmissionsfeedback@cf.ac.uk and are usually responded to in April and not before this time.

Applicants, who fail in their first application, may reapply providing they meet the minimum entry criteria for the year they wish to apply.

8. Other Entry Conditions

a. Disclosure and Barring Service Check
Admission to the MBBCh programmes includes special provisions for the protection of the public and for ensuring a prospective doctor's honesty, integrity and probity. It is subject to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (1974) Section 4 (2) (Exemption) Order 1975, DHSS Circular HC (88) 9 Guidelines Regarding Child Protection and Police Checks.

UK applicants will be required to complete the Disclosure and Barring Service Disclosure process at the ‘Enhanced’ level and the University’s own Criminal Record Disclaimer form. International applicants and those from EU countries should provide a Certificate of Good Conduct, in English Language from the police or appropriate legal authority from their country of residence. Those who have been resident in the UK for longer than one year will also be required to complete the Disclosure and Barring Service process. All information provided will be treated in absolute confidence.

Detailed information will be given to successful applicants with letters offering places. Information on the Disclosure process can be found on the Disclosure and Barring Service website: https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service

**Enrolment onto the course cannot take place until clearance from the Disclosure and Barring Service check has been received.** Delay in returning the DBS form may also compromise an applicant's university accommodation options. Those who are known to be travelling overseas should endeavour to authorise another individual to deal with all correspondence on their behalf.

Applicants are required to disclose all police cautions, reprimands, bind-overs and warnings, in addition to formal offences and convictions. These, and any issues raised by the Disclosure and Barring Service report, will be dealt with according to the University's Policy for Determining Applicants’ Fitness to Practise and Eligibility to Pursue Regulated Programmes of Study. Failure to disclose relevant information may lead to an offer being withdrawn. The School will follow the principles outlined in “Medical Students: Professional Values and Fitness to Practice” published by the GMC [http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/undergraduate/professional_behaviour.asp](http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/undergraduate/professional_behaviour.asp). It will consider fitness to practice of a potential medical student in relation to how it may have an impact on patient and public safety and on the public’s trust in the medical profession. Cardiff University School of Medicine will also consult with the GMC, where necessary.

All applicants are advised to submit a full disclosure of any offence prior to submitting an application either by email or letter to the Admissions Office.

**b. GMC Booklet; Medical Students: Professional Values and Fitness to Practice.** (GMC Section 60, Page 23.)

Section 60 page 23 of this booklet states:
Medical schools should inform students, as part of their admissions procedures, through student handbooks, and also as part of their fitness to practise guidance and procedures, that the GMC is responsible for decisions regarding registration. It must be made clear to students that the GMC will consider any issue that calls their fitness to practise into question. This includes anything that happened before or during their undergraduate years, and any decisions made by a fitness to practise panel or university. Medical schools should make students aware, before they apply for provisional registration with a licence to practise, of the requirements in the GMC’s declaration of fitness to practise.
c. Health Check

Successful applicants will be required to undergo a Health Check which is carried out independently by the University’s Occupational Health Service. Health questionnaires will be sent to successful applicants with offer packs in April/May which must be completed and returned fully and honestly. A history of serious ill health will not preclude a career in medicine unless the condition impinges on professional fitness to practise, in which case it will be considered in accordance with the University’s Policy for Determining Applicants’ Fitness to Practise and Eligibility to Pursue Regulated Programmes of Study. Students with long term health problems should contact the Medical School Admissions Department for advice prior to submitting an application. If appropriate, an informal (and confidential) discussion with an Occupational Health Physician can be arranged.

Enrolment on to the course cannot take place until the Occupational Health Service has received and approved an applicant’s health questionnaire. Delay in returning the questionnaire may also compromise an applicant’s university accommodation options. Those who are known to be travelling overseas at the relevant time should endeavour to authorise another individual to deal with all correspondence on their behalf.

If an applicant has a health issue that they are not sure may impact on their ability to study or practise they are strongly advised to seek advice.

d. Blood-Borne Viruses and Other Infectious Diseases

Infection with a transmissible blood-borne virus (e.g. Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C or HIV) is not a contra-indication to admission, provided there are no other significant health problems. Students carrying an infection will be able to complete the course and obtain GMC registration, but some specialities may not be open to them during training or in their subsequent career. National guidance that is current at the time of admission will be followed. Detailed information may be obtained from the Occupational Health Service.

All students will undergo screening for blood-borne viruses and tuberculosis shortly after enrolment. Those who are non-immune to Hepatitis B will be required to complete a full immunisation programme before becoming involved in clinical procedures. This can be administered by the Occupational Health Service. Cardiff University has responsibility for ensuring that the programme is completed. However, prospective students might enquire beforehand, with their local General Practitioner or Travel Centre, to begin the vaccination programme before joining the university (a charge may be made for this) as a delay in acquiring Hepatitis B immunity may delay when a student is allowed to commence clinical teaching.

9. Confirmation of a Place

The examination results of applicants taking standard UK qualifications and who are holding conditional offers at Cardiff University will be transmitted electronically by UCAS to Cardiff University in August each year. The admissions office will review the grades obtained. Applicants with other qualifications, such as graduates and international students, are
responsible for ensuring that the Admissions Office is informed of their results immediately after they are published, and must provide copies of relevant certificates. Applicants who have met the terms of their offer will be notified by UCAS, and in writing by Cardiff University.

Those who have failed narrowly to meet the terms of their offer are referred to the Admissions Sub-Committee Selection Panel for review. The Panel will take into account all information available relating to the application, including documented exceptional extenuating circumstances, school performance data and socio-economic background, if appropriate, before making a decision as to whether the student should be offered a place. It should be noted that exceptional extenuating circumstances relating directly to examination performance will normally be expected to have been disclosed to the relevant Examination Board and to have been dealt with in the grading or classification of results. UCAS and the Admissions Office will notify the applicant of the decision. The Panel's decision is final.

10. Transfers

It is not the usual practice of Cardiff University's Medical School to accept transfers from other medical courses in the United Kingdom. In exceptional cases, for example extraordinary health or personal circumstances, the Board of Medical Studies may agree to a transfer into the MBBCh course at the beginning of a Phase of the course which will usually be at the beginning of Year 1 or 2 of the 5-year programme or at the beginning of Year 1 or 2 of the Graduate Entry Programme. In addition, there must be compatibility between the academic structures of the medical degree programmes of the original medical school and those of Cardiff University, the original university must give its consent, and the transfer must not compromise the learning experience and opportunities of Cardiff University’s existing students. Accordingly, opportunities for transfer are few.

The Policy for students requesting transfer to Cardiff Medical School from other UK Undergraduate Medical Courses is published on the Admissions website at http://medicine.cf.ac.uk/medical-education/undergraduate/admissions/entry-requirements/transfers-our-medicine-course-copy/. Applications for transfer must be received in writing before 30th April for entry in the following session. They must satisfy the criteria listed in the Policy and applicants should provide supporting evidence, including full details of their academic studies and their reasons for wishing to transfer. Transfers into the medical undergraduate programmes from non-medical uncompleted courses will not be considered.

Cardiff University School of Medicine do not routinely consider applicants studying Medicine at overseas universities. In very exceptional circumstances Cardiff University may consider transfers, provided academic selection for the course and curriculum content of the course are compatible, and academic achievement on the course to date has been acceptable. In these situations, Cardiff University School of Medicine would decide the point of entry into our programme. Those who have previously failed to complete a Medicine degree programme at another Medical School will not be considered.

11. Communication with the Admissions Office

All communication with the Admissions Office relating to matters pertaining to an applicant’s personal circumstances and having a potential bearing on selection, must be made in writing. In the interests of confidentiality and data protection, communications relating specifically to offers and decisions will only be made with applicants themselves, unless
prior written authorisation has been given by the applicant that admissions staff can communicate with other named individuals.

The Admissions Staff will normally respond to general enquiries about the admissions process by telephone, when they consider that this is appropriate. However, applicants wishing to use information obtained from the Admissions Staff to support an application must ensure that such information has been provided in writing.

12. Complaints and Appeals

Cardiff University is committed to delivering a high quality, efficient and fair admissions process to its applicants. Applicants may lodge a complaint/appeal if they feel that procedural aspects of the selection process, as documented in the School’s published policies and procedures, have not been fairly or properly applied. Applicants may not appeal to the University against the academic judgement of the Selection Panel or the applicant’s failure to fulfil non-academic conditions of admission.

Complaints/appeals must be submitted by the applicant in writing to the Director of Registry. As much detail as possible should be provided about the reason(s) why the applicant considers that his or her application has not been considered fairly and properly according to the published policy and procedures, including copies of all available evidence to support the complaint. The correspondence should be sent to:

Director of Registry
Cardiff University
Mackenzie House
Newport Road
Cardiff
CF24 0DE

The complaint must be dated and signed by the applicant, and submitted within 28 days of the date that UCAS informed the applicant of the University’s decision.

Standards of professionalism are an important part of being both a medical student and doctor. Unacceptable or abusive behaviour during the admissions process may be considered as unprofessional behaviour, which could impact on the application itself, and may result in your application being withdrawn.

13. Open Days

Prospective students are encouraged to visit the Medical School during the Cardiff University Visit Day and on the annual Open Day. Details for both of these events can be found at [http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/for/prospective/undergraduate/events.html](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/for/prospective/undergraduate/events.html)

A Symposium, entitled MedWales, on careers in medicine and including an introduction to clinical skills presented via practical workshops, is held on a Saturday in February/March. The Symposium is free-of-charge, but places are limited to 200 students. Parallel sessions are arranged for accompanying parents.

All details of Open Days can be found at the above link.

14. Further enquiries:
For further enquiries regarding admissions to Cardiff University's undergraduate medical degree programmes please contact:

Undergraduate Medicine Admissions Office, 2nd Floor Neuadd Meirionnydd, Heath Park Campus, Cardiff, CF14 4YS

Telephone:  (029) 2068 8113/ 8073
Email:  medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk
Appendix A

Academic Requirements for Applicants – 2016 entry

It is expected that all applicants will provide evidence of prior academic capability in publicly validated examinations, e.g. GCSE, IGCSE. Normally this should be included on the UCAS application form, but if this is not possible then the details must be sent directly to the Admissions Office.

All applicants must possess an acceptable English Language qualification (see Appendix B).

For applicants with UK qualifications, only those that are defined in the National Database of Accredited Qualifications are acceptable (http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/514.aspx).

A100 and A104 programmes:

a. GCSE Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GCSE Subjects</th>
<th>Minimum requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Language/ Welsh 1st Language</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If Welsh Language is offered, it must also be supplemented with English Language at a minimum of a grade B.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Either, AA in Science and Additional Science (formerly Double Award Science) or equivalent. Or, AAB in Chemistry, Physics and Biology in any order.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other subjects</td>
<td>Other subjects not stated above, to make a total of nine, at a minimum of grade B.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GCSE Human Biology will be considered but not in conjunction with standard GCSE Biology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Level 2 certificates such as the Certificate in Digital applications (CiDA), Applied Business, ICT and the Diploma in Digital Applications (DiDA) will be considered as contributing one additional, separate subject in lieu of a GCSE during the academic scoring process where D will count as 3 points, M as 2 points and P as 1 point respectively.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subjects NOT considered</td>
<td>Short course GCSE subjects. Additional Maths. Additional Applied Sciences or Applied Science. Level 2 BTECs. NVQs. Welsh Bac.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IGCSE: English Language</td>
<td>• Cambridge IGCSE English - First Language (UK) (0522); Acceptable - at a minimum grade B.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Cambridge IGCSE English - First Language (UK) (0500); Acceptable only if all four components have been undertaken and this must be made clear on the UCAS form at the time of application.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Cambridge IGCSE English - Second Language (count-in oral) (0511); Acceptable - at a minimum grade B as a GCSE equivalent but must be accompanied by IELTS to satisfy minimum reqs in English Language. Refer to Appendix B for IELTS requirements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Extra Information for GCSEs:**

Certified GCSE resit results will be considered only if completed within 12 months of the first sitting.

GCSE Dual Award subjects, other than GCSE dual award Science will only be counted as one subject during the overall assessment.

Cardiff University does not formally recognise locally developed GCSE equivalent qualifications for admission to the University and these qualifications will be explicitly excluded from any selection scoring processes for admission to the University.

Applicants who were unable to take 9 GCSE’s, i.e. if the school or college did not allow for an applicant to sit 9 GCSEs, must email medadmissions@cf.ac.uk to discuss this before making an application.

**b. GCE A2 Level and AS Level Requirements (A100)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Minimum requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GCE A2 Level and AS Level</td>
<td>Students should offer three A2 Levels, which must include two science subjects from Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Mathematics. Statistics can be offered instead of Mathematics. Students must also offer a minimum C grade in one AS Level in a fourth subject. At least one A2 Level science must be either Biology or Chemistry. The subject not offered at A2 (Biology or Chemistry) must be offered at AS Level, at grade A. The typical offer will be AAA grades at A2 Level. Plus a minimum of a grade C in an AS Level subject not offered at A2 Level (provided the additional subject at AS is not Biology or Chemistry - see above). Key Skills Level 3 in three subjects is an alternative to an AS level. If Biology and Chemistry are both offered at A2 Level you are required to obtain an A grade in both of these subjects. We will not accept an A grade at AS Biology or Chemistry if this subject is taken to A2 Level.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
c. GCE A2 Level and AS Level Requirements (A104)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Minimum requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GCE A2 Level/AS Level</td>
<td>Students should offer three A2 Levels. This Foundation Year is for those students who do not have the depth of subject specialism associated with A100. It is not intended for applicants who have taken but failed to achieve the necessary grades in subjects required for entry into the A100 Programme. The typical offer will be AAA grades at A2 level plus a C grade in an AS Level subject not offered at A2 Level. Key Skills Level 3 in three subjects is an alternative to an AS level.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Extra information applicable to A2 Level:

For applicants offering Mathematics and/or Statistics at AS and/or A2 level only one will count towards meeting the conditions of an offer. Further Maths is not accepted at A2 level, but is recognised at AS Level. Critical Thinking is not accepted at A2 level, but is recognised at AS Level. General Studies is not acceptable at AS or A2 Level. A fourth A2 Level subject will not enhance your application. Schools/Colleges that cannot offer the opportunity for students to study three subjects at A2 Level and one subject at AS Level are asked to declare this in the UCAS reference. This will be taken into consideration when reviewing the application. Cardiff University recognises the Edexcel International Advanced Level qualification as equivalent to other GCE A level qualifications.

AVCE or applied GCE qualifications are accepted provided that the subject requirements at A2 and AS Level are also satisfied.

The school will not consider applications where additional Level 3 Qualifications (i.e. International Baccalaureate, Welsh Baccalaureate) are undertaken post A-Level, in lieu of A-level grades not being achieved first time round unless there are exceptional circumstances and have been taken within a two year study period.

d. Welsh Baccalaureate

Standard offers for the 5-year (A100) programme will be conditional upon achievement of the Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced Diploma (WBQ) with an overall grade A in the Core, an A grade in GCE A2 Level Chemistry or Biology, and an A grade in a second A2 Level science subject e.g. Biology, Physics, Mathematics or Statistics. Biology and Chemistry must be offered at AS Level, with a minimum grade A, if not offered at A2 Level. General Studies is not acceptable at AS or A2 Level and only one Mathematics or Statistics subject may be included in meeting the conditions of the offer.

e. Cambridge Pre-University Diploma

The full Pre-University Diploma is required with three D3 grades in the three Principal Subjects, which must include two science subjects from Biology, Chemistry, Physics and
either Mathematics or Statistics. One D3 grade must be in Biology or Chemistry. In addition, an M3 grade in a Pre-U short course is required in a fourth subject. If not offered as a Principal Subject, Biology or Chemistry must be with an A grade at AS level. No more than one Mathematics subject will be accepted within the whole subject combination.

A combination of Pre-University qualification with A and AS levels which is equivalent to the above is acceptable. For example, one D3 grade is required, with an A grade in Biology or Chemistry at A2 Level.

f. AQA Baccalaureate

In addition to passing the Baccalaureate, AAA grades in three A-level subjects are required, which must include two science subjects from Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and either Mathematics or Statistics. At least one science must be either Biology or Chemistry with an A-grade. In addition, grade C in a fourth subject at AS level (excluding General Studies) is required - this will usually be Critical Thinking or Citizenship as part of the Baccalaureate. Biology and Chemistry must be offered at AS Level, with a minimum grade A, if not offered at A-Level.

g. Graduates

All graduate applicants should have achieved a minimum of grade ‘B’ in GCSE Mathematics plus grade ‘B’ in GCSE English Language. Plus at GCE A2 Level, they are expected to have achieved a minimum of ‘ABB’ grades. Graduate applicants must have, or expect to achieve, an upper second class Honours classification in their first degree.

A100 5 year programme:
Graduates should have Chemistry and Biology at A2 Level, with a grade A in Chemistry or Biology. Science graduates who do not hold GCE A2 Level qualifications in Biology or Chemistry may be considered for the A100 programme. They will be required to provide details of specific modules from their degree courses and will then be considered individually by the Sub Dean. Further details can be obtained from the Admissions Office.

A104 6 year programme:
Graduates who do not have the appropriate science background may be considered for the A104 (6 year) Foundation Programme.

All Graduate Applicants will be required to sit the GAMSAT examination prior to applying, in order for their application to be considered. The minimum entry requirement for GAMSAT is an overall score of 57 with a minimum of 55 in the Science components.

N.B. Graduates applying for either the A100 or A104 programme will only be considered for entry into the first year of the programme.

Applicants must have completed their degree or must be in the final year of their current degree programme in order for their application to be considered.

h. (i) Dental Graduates

Dental graduates normally enter into the second year of the medical course. Applicants are required to have good qualifications at school and during their undergraduate dental course,
and have completed further postgraduate training obtaining appropriate professional qualifications. Applicants should submit a full CV (curriculum vitae) to the Admissions Office at the time of making their UCAS application.

Please note that all dental graduates who are applying to study medicine will be considered for A101 only.

http://www.baoms.org.uk/file.aspx?id=601 Links to a document from the British Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons which provides further information on the requirement from January 1\textsuperscript{st} 2014 for all applicants for speciality training in OMFS to hold a qualification fully registerable with the General Dental Council.

Those with a BDS obtained from outside the EU who have not done ORE/LDS who then do a medical degree in the UK will find themselves unable to apply for specialty training.

It is advised that those medical schools who admit dental graduates to any programme should make sure that those international graduates are aware they need ORE/LDS and that dental schools who offer shortened programmes should make medical graduates aware that they need to register their BDS with the GDC.


All Dental Graduate Applicants will also be required to sit the GAMSAT examination prior to applying, in order for their application to be considered. The minimum entry requirement for GAMSAT is an overall score of 57 with a minimum of 55 in the Science components.

h. (ii) Feeder Stream courses to the A101 programme

This is a specific four year programme for dental graduates (see Appendix h.(i)) and applicants who are currently enrolled on to an officiated Feeder Stream accelerated entry program within one of the following programmes:

1. The BMedSci Degree in Medical Sciences from the University of Bangor (B100)
2. The BSc (Hons) Medical Sciences Degree, from the University of South Wales (B901)
3. The BSc (Hons) Medical Pharmacology degree, School of Medicine, Cardiff University (B210)
4. The BSc (Hons) Biomedical Sciences degree, School of Biosciences, Cardiff University (BC97)

A small number of selected students within the Feeder Stream accelerated entry programmes above will join the feeder stream, taking on additional modules to enter the second year of the five year A100 Medical programme

The standardised entry criteria to the MBBCh programme from all of these four feeder programmes are stated below. Each feeder stream has up to ten places available. The A101 course is 4 years long, with no provision to do an Intercalated BSc during the programme.

CRITERIA for graduate entry to the A101 programme:

It is expected that all applicants will provide evidence of prior academic capability in publicly validated examinations e.g. GCSEs. Normally this should be included on the UCAS form.
1. **BSc degree 2:1 or above**

2. **English and Maths GCSE at grade B level or above, or IELTs at level 7.5 for EU applicants.**

   Applicants can re sit these GCSEs during their BSc programme to achieve these grades, prior to entering the A101 programme. In addition, Welsh GCSE at B level or above if applicant wishes to be taught and/or assessed in Welsh as well as English.

3. **GAMSAT**

   All Graduate Applicants will be required to sit the GAMSAT examination prior to applying, in order for their application to be considered. The minimum entry requirement for GAMSAT is an overall score of 57 with a minimum of 55 in the Science components.

4. **Overall grade average of 60% or above during the BSc course**

   **Not failing >20 credits** – to have failed not more than 20 credits, at first attempt (except due to extenuating circumstances), in any given year of study. Candidates who have to repeat a year as a result of academic progress are not eligible to apply for graduate entry Medicine (A101).

   *Individual academic performance threshold to be set by own Feeder Programme and not to be less than the overall grade average of 60% or above. The Feeder Programme can decide if this grade average covers academic performance in Year 1 performance, but it MUST include academic performance in Year 2 (students will be informed by their BSc programme which average will be applied).*

5. **Interview requirements as set by the School of Medicine, Cardiff University**

6. In addition to the academic requirements, applicants must also meet a number of non-academic requirements including a satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Enhanced Disclosure, satisfactory outcome to any Fitness to Practice assessments if held, a satisfactory health check involving screening for Hepatitis B, C and HIV, as stated for A100 course entrants.

7. Students are also expected to sign the Medical School Student Agreement.

   Please note that success on the BSc Medical Sciences programme does not in itself guarantee entry to the MBBCh programme at Cardiff University.

   *Anyone wishing to apply who does not have the equivalent of 3 A levels at BBB grades, or other qualifications in an appropriate range of subjects at level 3 study (equivalent to A levels, such as International Baccalaureate) is likely to struggle on the MBBCh course and is advised to reconsider an application.*

   *Students entering the BSc Medical Sciences should be properly counselled about future progression and suitability of their prior qualifications for the Medicine MBBCh programme.*

i. **Access Diploma Programmes**

   Applicants should complete and submit their UCAS applications by the 15th October 2015. It is recognised that they will usually have only recently embarked on their Access
programme at this time. Accordingly, tutors of those students who are highly ranked on the basis of their non-academic attributes will be asked to provide updated academic references in January 2016 when the students will have had the opportunity to adjust to the demands of their Access course. At this stage applicants may be asked to submit a curriculum vitae.

Preference will be given to applicants who have been out of full-time education for at least 4 years before their Access course.

The final selection for interviews will take place in February-March. Offers made to Access Diploma students are conditional upon achieving grades at Distinction Level in all units of assessment. Only Access Diploma Programmes that are recognised by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education are accepted and the scientific content of the programme must be appropriate in providing a suitable foundation for the medical course (A104).

Applicants must meet the minimum entry requirements as stated in Appendix A Section A. The school will not consider applications where access courses are undertaken post A-Level, in lieu of A-Level grades not being achieved first time round unless there are exceptional circumstances, in these cases you must email medadmissions@cf.ac.uk before making an application.

j. Scottish Qualifications

‘AAAAA’ grades in Scottish Highers, including Chemistry, Physics, and Biology are required for entry into the Foundation Year Medicine (six-year) programme of study (A104).

Applicants offering two subjects at Advanced Higher level with AA grades (including Chemistry); in addition to the Scottish Highers described above, can be considered for the five year scheme (A100).

Applicants should normally achieve the qualifications (Highers or Advanced Highers) at the first attempt of the examinations.

Mathematics and English must be passed to at least Standard Level with Grade 2 or Grade B.

k. Irish Qualifications

Entry is only available into the Foundation Year (six-year) programme of study (A104). Applicants must offer 6 subjects at Higher Level and obtain ‘AAAAAA’ grades, which must include A (A1 or A2) grades in Chemistry and Biology. Preferably Physics must be passed to at least Standard Level with grade A.

Mathematics and English must be passed to at least Standard Level with grade B.

Applicants should normally achieve the qualifications at the first attempt of the examinations.

l. International Baccalaureate Diploma

Applicants require an overall total of 38 points (excluding Theory of Knowledge and the Extended Essay) for entry. A minimum of 20 points must be achieved in the Higher Level
subjects including a 7 in Chemistry or Biology. If Mathematics and English are not offered within the diploma they should be offered as GCSE subjects with at least grade B.

For the 5-year medical programme (A100), two sciences (from Chemistry, Biology, Physics, and either Mathematics or Statistics, but not Mathematical Studies) must be offered at Higher Level, one of which is Chemistry or Biology. Chemistry or Biology must be offered at Standard Level if not at Higher Level. Physics must be offered at GCSE level if not at Higher or Subsidiary Level.

For the six year programme (A104) the applicant must have a total of 38 points (excluding Theory of Knowledge and the Extended Essay).

m. European Baccalaureate Diploma

Applicants must offer the Diploma with a final overall mark of at least 85%. Chemistry and Biology with individual grades of at least 8.5 in year 7 must be included in the Diploma for entry to the 5-year medical programme (A100).

We recommend that applicants put their year 6 marks on the UCAS application form as we appreciate that there will be no certified marks until year 7. In the absence of any information then we will be unable to assess an application.

N.B. We will not take into account predicted grades.

n. BTEC Qualifications

Pre-2003
The National Diploma courses at Level 3 in Science and Medical Laboratory Science are acceptable for entry to the Foundation Year Medicine (six year) scheme (A104) if passed at a predominantly high (Distinction) level.

The Higher National Diploma final year should be passed with a minimum of Merit grades and predominantly with Distinctions in final year units for entry to the 5-year programme (A100).

Applicants must meet the minimum entry requirements as stated in Appendix A Section A.

Post-2003
The 18 unit BTEC National Diploma in Science at Distinction (DDD) level is an acceptable qualification for entry to the 6-year scheme (A104). The Higher National Diploma at Distinction (DDD) level is required for entry to the 5-year scheme (A100).

Applicants must meet the minimum entry requirements as stated in Appendix A Section A.

o. French Baccalaureate

For A104 entry, applicants must offer the French Baccalaureate Serie S (Science) qualification. An average score of 15/20 is required.
For A100 entry, the student must offer GCE A2 Level Chemistry with at least grade B, in addition to a minimum score of 14/20 in each of Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics in the French Baccalaureate Serie S (Science).

p. German Abitur

Applicants must have an average overall mark of 1.3 or higher, including 13/15 in two Leistungskurse (LK) subjects and 12/15 in two additional Grundkurse (GK) subjects, including 12/15 in Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics. Entry is to the A104 programme.

q. Other European qualifications

Information of European qualifications can be found here: http://medicine.cf.ac.uk/media/filer_public/2012/11/07/non-uk_qualifications_2013.pdf

Students with European qualifications not listed in the link above or in the policy should email the Admissions Office at medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk and provide full details of their qualifications to obtain advice on eligibility before making an application.

Applications are considered on an individual basis.

r. Malaysian qualifications

The Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) qualification is accepted as equivalent on a subject-for-subject basis to GCSE, with grades 1A and 2A equivalent to GCSE grades A* and A respectively. The SPM English Language qualification does not satisfy the English requirement for the medical course, but the Cambridge International GCE O level qualification (1119) for Malaysian applicants at grade B is accepted. (see Appendix B).

The Sigil Tinggi Persekolan Malaysia (STPM) is accepted as equivalent to its counterpart GCE A2 Level subject, with STPM grades A/A- (grade point 3.67) equivalent to A2 Level grade A.

s. Other qualifications

Further information of qualifications can be found here: http://medicine.cf.ac.uk/media/filer_public/2012/11/07/non-uk_qualifications_2013.pdf

Students with qualifications not listed in the link above or in the policy should email the Admissions Office at medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk and provide full details of their qualifications to obtain advice on eligibility before making an application.

Applications are considered on an individual basis.

t. Admissions Tests

UKCAT: All undergraduate applicants (other than those resident in exempt countries) are required to take the national UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UK-CAT) during July-October 2015. Test results obtained in previous years are not accepted. Comprehensive information on this (including specimen test questions) can be found on the UK-CAT website (www.ukcat.ac.uk). We do not have a minimum threshold score for the UK-CAT.
GAMSAT: All Graduate Applicants will be required to sit the GAMSAT examination prior to applying, in order for their application to be considered. The minimum entry requirement for GAMSAT is an overall score of 57 with a minimum of 55 in the Science components. Graduate applicants are not required to sit the UKCAT.
Appendix B

English Language qualifications – 2016 entry

The following qualifications satisfy the minimum requirement:

- GCE O Level, or GCSE: English Language – Grade B
- GCE O Level (1119) – Grade B4
- IELTS: An average score of 7.0 or above (with a minimum of 7.0 in speaking, 6.5 in listening, 6.5 in reading and 6.5 in writing)
- Certificate of Proficiency in English (AEB; Cambridge) – Grade B
- Certificate in Attainment in English (ULEAC) – Level 6
- International Baccalaureate: Syllabus A1 or A2 (Higher or Standard) – Grade 5
- International Baccalaureate: Syllabus B (Higher) – Grade 6
- European Baccalaureate: English as First Language – 8.0 out of 10 (80%)
- Irish Leaving Certificate English – Grade B at Ordinary Level
- Scottish Standard Level English – Grade 2
- Hong Kong Certificate of Extended Education (HKCEE) English – Grade 4
- South African National Senior Certificate English – Grade 6
- Test in English for Educational Purposes – Band score of 7.0
- Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB) – Score 90

For international applicants whose first language is not English, the qualifications must have been taken no more than three years before the proposed date of entry to the University.

Failing to achieve the minimum GCSE requirement of a B in English language cannot be substituted with a different English Language qualification.