

Business Assurance
Information
Compliance

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Yusuf Dhaif

By email only to: request-501689-30bee39b@whatdotheyknow.com

30 July 2018

Dear Mr Dhaif,

Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act")

Further to your recent request for information held by King's College London, I am writing to confirm that the requested information is held by the university.

Your request

We received your information request on 26 July 2018 and have treated it as a request for information made under section 1(1) of the Act.

I would like to request for information for the BDS Dentistry admissions.

Please provide me an excel sheet with the following information for each of the latest 2 admission cycle for the BDS Dentistry course:

- * UKCAT score*
- * A-level subject grades (predicted)*
- * Home / International (non-EU)*
- * Interviewed / Not interviewed*
- * Made an offer / Not made an offer*
- * Enrolled / Applicant declined offer / Applicant did not meet offer*

The latest 2 admission cycle - 2016/17 and 2017/18

Our response

- This is the data for the 2016/17 and 2017/18 Admissions Cycles.
- This data includes only applicants who applied to the BDS Dentistry programme with a UKCAT score.
- This data includes only applicants who applied to the BDS Dentistry programme with 3 predicted A Level grades.
- This data includes only applicants who applied to the BDS Dentistry programme with a 'Home' or 'International (non-EU)' fee status.

- For anonymity purposes UKCAT scores have been allocated into bands.
- For anonymity purposes A Level predicted grades shown are equivalent grades (i.e. A*AB amended to AAA).
- For anonymity purposes each applicant's information is not listed, instead there is a count of how many applicants met the conditions provided.
- Please note that applicants with predicted grades of less than A*AA (our entry requirements) may still be given an offer of A*AA, perhaps due to for example, mitigating circumstances or widening participation.

In relation to column H of your request in the excel spreadsheet, where the total number of students who fell into the criteria laid out in columns A-G was 5 or under, the university has replaced the figure with 'equal to or less than five' (≤ 5). The university considers that it is reasonably likely that students could be identified from the low numbers. Such identification would constitute a breach of one of the principles set out in the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA). This approach is in accordance with the Information Commissioner's Office Code of Practice on Anonymisation. This information is therefore exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the Act. This is an absolute exemption which means that the university does not need to consider the public interest in disclosing the information, we only need to establish that the exemption has been engaged.

The methodology the university has adopted is a variation of the HESA standard rounding and suppression method. Numbers that are five or fewer are replaced with " ≤ 5 (less than or equal to five)"; when needed to prevent potential identification all other numbers are rounded to the nearest multiple of five (halves are rounded upwards).

Full details of the HESA methodology can be found on their website:
<https://www.hesa.ac.uk/about/regulation/data-protection/rounding-and-suppression-anonymise-statistics>

This completes the university's response to your information request.

Your right to complain

If you are unhappy with the service, you have received in relation to your information request or feel that it has not been properly handled you have the right to complain or request a review of our decision by contacting the Assistant Director of Business Assurance (Information Compliance) within 60 days of the date of this letter.

Further information about our internal complaints procedure is available at the link below:

http://www.kcl.ac.uk/college/policyzone/assets/files/governance_and_legal/Freedom_of_Information_Policy_updated_Oct_%202011.pdf

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint you may apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the internal complaints procedure provided by King's College London.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at the following address:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

Jade Roche
Information Compliance