

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

From: Nicha Rattanakul - *whatdotheyknow.com*
Subject: Economics 2021 Entry
Reference: Fol-2020-21-19

Your request was received by Trinity Hall ('the College') on 22 January 2021 and I am dealing with it under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act').

You asked:

Could you please provide the following information for Trinity Hall Economics 2021 entry applicants:

- 1. Number of applicants**
- 2. Average ECAA score (raw and converged)**
- 3. Highest score for ECAA part 1A, 1B and part 2 (raw and converged)**
- 4. Number of interviews and pre-interview rejections**

Please provide the information above for all, home, overseas separately.

The 2021 undergraduate applications cycle is ongoing and the information requested, insofar as it is held, is exempt under section 36(2)(c) of the Act because its disclosure would be likely to prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs, in this case the integrity of the College's applications and admissions process which form a fundamental part of its mission as an educational institution. (As the information requested is statistical in nature, the opinion of the qualified person did not need to be sought for this application of section 36.)

As mentioned, the current undergraduate applications cycle is ongoing and applications are still being submitted and assessed. The College considers that the disclosure of detailed statistics about applications made within the current cycle would be likely to prejudice the notion of a fair and confidential admissions process whereby each applicant has the same information at their disposal and partial granular data is not disclosed to specific members of the public while the process is ongoing.

As this is a qualified exemption, the College has considered whether, in all circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. The College considers that, while some people might have an understandable private interest in these statistics, there is no genuine public interest in them when set against the extensive statistical information available about previous admissions cycles published at <https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/statistics>, coupled with the prevailing public interest in maintaining a level playing field in terms of the information available to all applicants.

Sheila Hunter
Freedom of Information Officer
Trinity Hall
foi@trinhall.cam.ac.uk

29 January 2021

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request an internal review of this decision, you should contact us quoting the reference number given above. If you choose to do so please state your reasons for dissatisfaction and any other matters to which the College should have regard. The College would normally expect to receive your request for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this reply and reserves the right not to review a decision where there had been undue delay in raising a complaint. If you are not content with the outcome of your review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the College. The Information Commissioner may be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF (<https://ico.org.uk/>).