

Our ref: FOI/2021/478

Name: Dr Leeron Marshall
By email to: request-803652-953b32a7@whatdotheyknow.com

30 November 2021

Freedom of Information Team

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Dear Dr Marshall,

Your request for information received on 2 November 2021 has now been considered. A response to your enquiry is provided below.

I request 2 data sets. One for groups of applicants and one anonymised per individual applicant. I would like all data to please be provided in a spreadsheet.

1. Data for groups of applicants

Can I please request the following statistics on applicants who applied to study medicine at Liverpool, for application cycles relating to the following years of entry: 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021? Please split the data in the following groups:

A100

- International undergraduate applicants;*
- International graduate applicants,*
- Home undergraduate applicants,*
- Home graduate applicants.*

A101

- International undergraduate applicants;*
- International graduate applicants,*
- Home undergraduate applicants,*
- Home graduate applicants.*

International means considered international for fee purposes. Home includes all candidates that qualified as home fees. I understand that in previous years, that includes both UK and EU applicants. If these exact groups are not available, please provide the data in an equivalent, or similar grouping that you have available. For areas where the data will not apply, for example undergraduate and GAMSAT score, please put "NA".

For each of these 4 groups, and per programme, I would like to know the following information:

Number of applicants (total)

Number of applicants (with contextual data/factors)

Number of applicants interviewed

Number of offers
Number of places
Number of deferrals

UCAT

For students who received an interview (no contextual data/factors), the:

- Lowest and Highest UCAT score
- Interquartile range of UCAT scores
- Mean UCAT score (ideally with standard deviation and variance)
- Median UCAT score
- Mode UCAT score

For students who received an interview (with contextual data/factors), the:

- Lowest and Highest UCAT score
- Interquartile range of UCAT scores
- Mean UCAT score (ideally with standard deviation and variance)
- Median UCAT score
- Mode UCAT score

For students who received an offer (no contextual data/factors), the:

- Lowest and Highest UCAT score
- Interquartile range of UCAT scores
- Mean UCAT score (ideally with standard deviation and variance)
- Median UCAT score
- Mode UCAT score

For students who received an offer (with contextual data/factors), the:

- Lowest and Highest UCAT score
- Interquartile range of UCAT scores
- Mean UCAT score (ideally with standard deviation and variance)
- Median UCAT score
- Mode UCAT score

Lowest SJT band to receive an interview (no contextual factors)

Lowest SJT band to receive an interview (contextual factors)

GAMSAT

The following data applied for a) overall score b) section1 score c) section 2 score c) section 3 score

For students who received an interview (no contextual data/factors), the:

- Lowest and Highest GAMSAT score
- Interquartile range of GAMSAT scores
- Mean GAMSAT score (ideally with standard deviation and variance)
- Median GAMSAT score

-Mode GAMSAT score

For students who received an interview (with contextual data/factors), the:

-Lowest and Highest GAMSAT score

-Interquartile range of GAMSAT scores

-Mean GAMSAT score (ideally with standard deviation and variance)

-Median GAMSAT score

-Mode GAMSAT score

For students who received an offer (no contextual data/factors), the:

-Lowest and Highest GAMSAT score

-Interquartile range of GAMSAT scores

-Mean GAMSAT score (ideally with standard deviation and variance)

-Median GAMSAT score

-Mode GAMSAT score

For students who received an offer (with contextual data/factors), the:

-Lowest and Highest GAMSAT score

-Interquartile range of GAMSAT scores

-Mean GAMSAT score (ideally with standard deviation and variance)

-Median GAMSAT score

-Mode GAMSAT score

2) Per Individual applicant data

I would like to know the following information per individual applicant, in a spreadsheet. One row per applicant. I understand that at the time of application, the fee status may not always be clear, and if that is the case, please categorise the applicant as “unsure” for fee status and provide the rest of their data.

-Candidate number (any unique identifier) - 1 column

-Undergraduate or Graduate applicant - 1 column

-Course applied for by code (A100, A101 etc) - 1 column

-UK/home or International applicant (fee status) - 1 column

-UCAT score (per section & SJT if available, OR overall score) - 6 columns

-GAMSAT score (per section of the exam & overall if available) - 4 columns

-Curriculum (GCE A-levels, IB, CBSE, APs, SAT subject tests, Canadian secondary school, other) - 1 column

-Invited for interview - yes or no, 1 column

-Received an offer - yes or no, 1 column

-If yes, what offer was sent? (grades required to achieve), 1 column

-Accepted an offer for application year - yes or no, 1 column

-Deferred place for the following year - yes or no, 1 column

If Following GCE A-levels, then please provide:

-A Level Grades for each subject (1 column per subject)

-Specify if that grade is predicted or achieved (1 column)

If Following IB, then please provide:

- HL grades per subject (1 column per subject)
- Specify if that grade is predicted or achieved (1 column)
- SL grades per subject (1 column per subject)
- Specify if that grade is predicted or achieved (1 column)
- Overall IB score predicted or achieved

Please provide the equivalent information (predicted or achieved grades) for students who apply with CBSE curriculum, APs, SAT subject tests and Canadian secondary school diploma.

If a student applied with a different curriculum, write "NA".

If the student has completed GCSEs or iGCSEs, please provide:

- Specify if GCSEs or iGCSEs
- Grades achieved for each subject

If a graduate applicant:

- Degree achieved or predicted
- Degree class
- Degree subject
- Masters (yes or no)
- PhD (yes or no)

For areas where the data will not apply, for example undergraduate and GAMSAT score, please put "NA".

If information is not available for any given year, please provide information for years that are available

We can confirm that the University holds information; however, it is withheld because it falls under the exemption provided by Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) relating to "requests where the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit".

Section 12(1) FOIA provides that an authority is not obliged to respond to a request for information if it is estimated that the cost of complying with that request would exceed the "appropriate limit". The "appropriate limit" for universities set by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004 is 18 hours and considers the activities involved in determining whether the requested information is held, locating, retrieving, and extracting the information from the record containing it.

This is because much of the information you have requested isn't routinely recorded for decision making and would therefore require manual interrogation of each applicant record. For example, we do not extract IB or GCSE results or identify whether an applicant is a graduate. We receive approximately 2,500 applicants per year. Even estimating two minutes per record covering a four-year period, we believe this would exceed the appropriate fees limited defined by the Act. This acts as our Refusal Notice.

Section 16 of FOIA places an obligation on the University to provide you with advice and assistance. We can advise that admissions datasets can be obtained from the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) at the following site: <https://www.ucas.com/data-and-analysis/data-products-and-services>.

If you are unhappy with the way we have handled your request for information, you have a right under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act to ask the University to review it; however, you must do so within 40 working days of the date of this response. Your request should include our reference number and explain the reason for requesting a review. Email foi@liverpool.ac.uk or write to the Freedom of Information Reviewer, Legal & Governance, University of Liverpool, Foundation Building, 765 Brownlow Hill, Liverpool L69 7ZX. We will respond to your request for an internal review within 20 working days of receipt.

Following an internal review, if you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. Telephone: 0303 123 1113 www.ico.org.uk.

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely

Kirsty Rothwell

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Freedom of Information Officer / Data Protection Co-ordinator
Legal & Governance