



Information Assurance and Governance  
Office of the Principal

7 October 2020

Dear Dawn,

**Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002**  
**Our Ref: 289-20**

Thank you for your interest in the University. You have asked to be supplied with the following information under the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 ("the FOISA"):

- a) How you consider UCAT score in your admissions process from applicants applying under mitigating circumstances?

The School of Medicine's policy on extenuating circumstances for A100 and A990 covers the sitting of the UCAT (points 13 to 17): [http://medhandbook.st-andrews.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/27/2014/05/students\\_admissions\\_Extenuating-circumstances.pdf](http://medhandbook.st-andrews.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/27/2014/05/students_admissions_Extenuating-circumstances.pdf)

- b) I would like to ask whether having higher predicted grades (e.g. (A\*A\*A) than the entry requirements AAA is taken into consideration when your University reviews international Medicine applicants?

Information on academic requirements and how we select applicants can be found on our website: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/medicine/medicine-bsc-a100/entry-requirements/>.

Meeting the academic entry requirements is only one 'hurdle' in the admissions process and therefore achieving above the minimum academic requirements would not necessarily make you more competitive if you perform less well in other areas.

Information otherwise accessible

As you are being directed to information as part of this response, which is already publicly available, section 25(1), *Information otherwise accessible* of the FOISA is applicable. Where the University has expended resource to proactively make information available from its Freedom of Information publication scheme and the public interest is best served by referring an applicant to that alternative source, then it will do so. Please note that this exemption is absolute and does not require validation through application of the public interest test.

Information Assurance and Governance  
01334 462776  
foi@st-andrews.ac.uk

I trust you find the above information helpful and if you decide to apply for a place here at the University of St Andrews, I wish you every success with your application.

#### Your right to seek a review of how your information request was managed

If you are not satisfied with the University's response and/or our reasoning set-out above, you have the right to request a review of our decision. The timelines in which this right is available are set out in section 20(5)(a) and (b) FOISA and regulation 16 of the EIRs. In broad terms the right to seek a review must be exercised within 40 working days of receiving this response.

The Information Assurance and Governance team are currently working remotely due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Any request for review at this time should be sent by email to [foi@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:foi@st-andrews.ac.uk) stating:

- a) your name and address;
- b) details of your original request; and
- c) the reasons why you are dissatisfied with our response.

If you remain dissatisfied with how your request for information has been dealt with following Review, you also have the right to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner (SIC) for a decision. In the event of an appeal to the SIC, the Commissioner will generally only be able to investigate the matters raised in the request for review.

Details on how to make an appeal online to the SIC can be found on their website: <http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Unhappywiththeresponse/AppealingtoCommissioner.aspx>.

This concludes the University's response.

Yours sincerely

**JUNE WEIR**

Information Assurance and Governance Officer