

The Library
University of East Anglia
Norwich Research Park
Norwich NR4 7TJ
United Kingdom

Email: foi@uea.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 1603 592 431
Fax: +44 (0) 1603 591 010
Web: <http://www.uea.ac.uk>

[REDACTED]

11 May 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information request (ref: FOI_15-083)

We have now considered your request of 27 April 2015 for information regarding applications to the University's A100 medical degree course during the 2015/16 admissions cycle. Our response is on page 2 of this letter, together with a copy of your request, and we hope this will meet your requirements.

However it is not possible to provide all the requested information. The Act contains a number of exemptions that allow public authorities to withhold certain information from release. We have applied the following exemption to questions 1 and 2 of your request.

| Exemption: | Reason: |
|--|---|
| s.22(1), Information intended for future publication | Some/all of the requested information is intended for later publication |

As you may be aware, the University has received similar requests for data relating to previous years' A100 admissions cycles. Our responses to these requests can be found on our FOI Disclosure Log¹.

Due to the large number of requests for information on admissions to the University's medical degree programme we have identified certain data which we will publish on completion of the 2015/16 admissions cycle, in late autumn 2015. The information you have requested in questions 1 and 2 will be published on the UEA website at that point.

Please note that data for the 2014/15 cycle have already been published on our Disclosure Log (see footnote 1). In future this information will be published on our MBBS Medical degree course entry requirements FAQs page.²

We believe it is reasonable to withhold the requested information prior to publication because we can only offer the complete data at the end of the 2015/16 admissions cycle. Were we to provide the requested information at this point it would be a

¹ <https://portal.uea.ac.uk/information-services/strategy-planning-and-compliance/regulations-and-policies/information-regulations-and-policies/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log/admissions> - see link to separate pages for responses to A100-related requests.

² <https://www.uea.ac.uk/study/admissions-info/a100faq>

snapshot of the current situation that was subject to change and therefore potentially misleading.

When considering the application of this exemption we are required to assess the public interest in withholding or disclosing the requested information. There is evidently an interest in the qualifications and success (or otherwise) of applicants to the University's A100 course. Understandably, this interest is likely to be particularly strong in current or future applicants to that course.

However we would argue that individual interest from potential or actual applicants does not equate to a general public interest. There is likely to be a strong public interest in providing all potential students and other interested parties with the complete information, to enable comparison between institutions as well as with previous admissions cycles. On this occasion, we consider the public interest in withholding the information requested in questions 1 and 2 outweighs the public interest in providing the requested data at this time.

Questions about the status of an individual application may be best directed to the University's Admissions team: admissions@uea.ac.uk.

Please note that any material over which UEA has copyright is released on the understanding that you will comply with all relevant copyright rules regarding reproduction and/or transmission of the information provided.

You have the right of appeal against this response. If you wish to appeal, please set out in writing your reasons for appealing and send to the above address. You must appeal within 60 calendar days of the date of this letter. Any appeal received after that date will not be considered nor acknowledged. This policy has been reviewed and approved by the Information Commissioner's Office.

You also have a subsequent right of appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office. Further information is available on their website: https://ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us, or by telephone on 0303 123 1113.

Please quote our reference given at the head of this letter in all correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Ellen Paterson
Information Policy and Compliance Manager
University of East Anglia

Response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 request (FOI_15-083)

I would like to request some information regarding the 2015/2016 A100 Medicine admissions cycle, please see the questions below.

1. For each applicant who was given an offer following the interview, can I get a list of their UKCAT score, their GCSEs, predicted A Level results, interview score per station, overall interview score and any other score if used? Please include all of this information in the same report.

[Information exempted pursuant to s.22(1), Freedom of Information Act]

2. For each applicant who was unsuccessful following the interview, can I get a list of their UKCAT score, their GCSEs, predicted A Level results, interview score per station, overall interview score and any other score if used? Please include all of this information in the same report.

I understand that the MMI stations cannot be named but they can be numbered instead. I would like to have this data presented as a spreadsheet if possible.

[Information exempted pursuant to s.22(1), Freedom of Information Act]

3. As well as the interview score, what other aspect(s) of the UCAS application (i.e. UKCAT score, GCSE grades, A Level grades) are used to select candidates to give offers to, post-interview? How are these aspect(s) weighted alongside the interview score (i.e. 50/50 weighting)?

See our response to previous related FOI requests:

https://portal.uea.ac.uk/documents/6207125/6884169/FOI_13-035.pdf

https://portal.uea.ac.uk/documents/6207125/6884169/FOI_13-106.pdf

4. Was there any other grading/scoring system used alongside the interview score (i.e. extra points awarded for UKCAT score, GCSE, A Level grades, personal statement) when selecting successful candidates post-interview?

See answer to question 3.

5. If this system was used, were all candidates assessed based on the sum of their interview score plus other score (i.e. UKCAT score, GCSE, A Levels) or was there an interview score threshold where only candidates who pass this threshold will have their other aspect(s) of their application considered alongside their interview scores (and those who did not pass the threshold become unsuccessful)?

See answer to question 3.