## Overview

We received 418 applications.

Of these applicants 401 successfully registered for and sat the BMAT. Data below refers to these applicants with complete applications.

66% of applicants were studying A-levels.

Approximately 62% of applicants applied from a school in the UK.

29% of applicants resided outside the EU.

74% of applicants were female. 77% of those short-listed and 72% of those made offers were female.

Short-listing was heavily based on BMAT performance and GCSE performance (where available).

120 applicants (30%) were invited to interview.

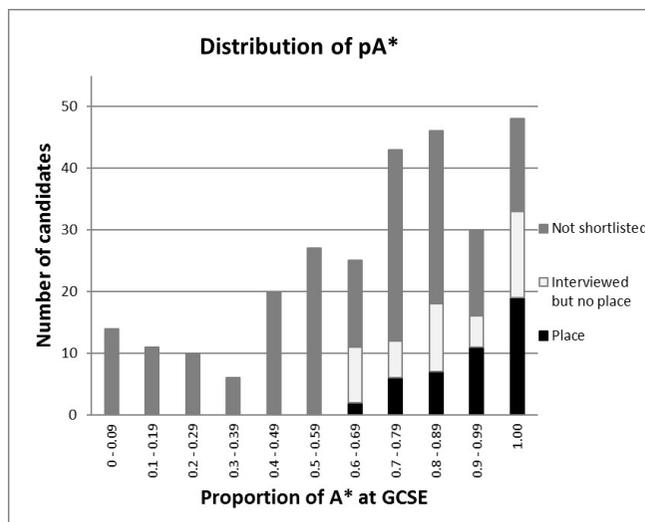49 offers were made for 2019 entry. 1 offer was made for 2020 entry.

## GCSE performance

The average number of GCSEs offered was 10.3.

The mean proportion of A* for all applicants (number of A* at GCSE divided by total number of GCSEs, pA*) was $0.68 \pm 0.28$.

For short-listed applicants, the mean pA* was $0.87 \pm 0.13$.

For successful applicants, the mean pA* was $0.90 \pm 0.11$.



*GCSE performance data for schools in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was used to assess whether an applicant's grades at GCSE reflected an under- or over-performance within the context of the school at which they were taken.*
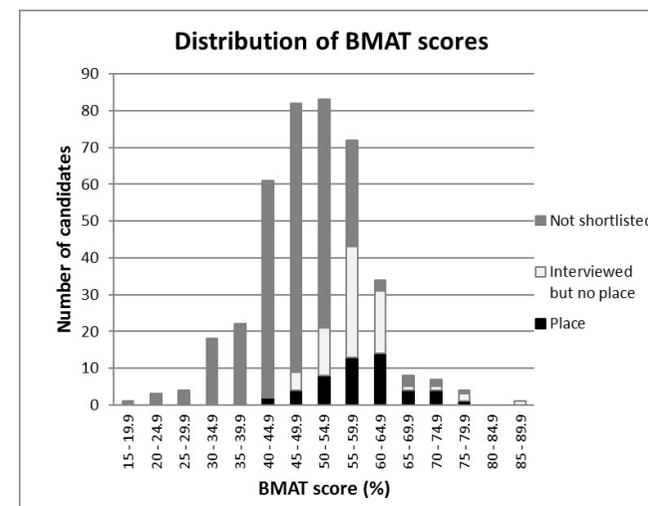
## BMAT performance

The average raw score for all applicants on Section 1 was 4.5, on Section 2 was 4.5 and Section 3 was 3.2A.

An overall BMAT score (out of 100) was calculated using the weighting 40% Section 1, 40% Section 2 and 20% Section 3.

The mean overall BMAT score for all applicants was $50.2 \pm 10.1$.

For short-listed applicants, the mean overall BMAT score was $58.8 \pm 7.1$.

For successful applicants, the mean overall BMAT score was $59.2 \pm 7.7$.

## Short-listing

Initial short-listing was based on a combined BMAT and GCSE score (the latter if available).

All non-shortlisted applicants were then reviewed to identify if their GCSE and/or BMAT performance was likely to have underestimated their potential. As a result of this process 10 additional applicants were added to the short-list.

## Interviews

Colleges were not aware at the time of interview whether or not the candidate had applied to them.

Colleges ranked candidates based on interview performance. Colleges then compared rankings of candidates and received BMAT scores before making final decisions.

*More detailed analysis on the admissions process can be found at*
[https://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/bms/applying/admissions-statistics](https://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/bms/applying/admissions-statistics)

## Selection

Applications were considered against the following criteria:

- A competitive overall BMAT score and ranking.

- Motivation and capacity for sustained and intense work.

- A strong track record of academic achievement, and particular ability and potential in science and/or mathematics. An excellent record at GCSE (or equivalent).

- Intellectual curiosity and enthusiasm and readiness to cope with the academic demands of the course.

- Reasoning and problem solving ability: use of a logical and critical approach, and strong powers of analysis.

- Communication: Good command of the English language. Ability to express ideas clearly and effectively. Ability to listen.

- Ability to generate own ideas and proposals. Originality and creativity of thought, lateral thinking and hypothesis-generation.

- A demonstrable commitment to the study of biomedical sciences and/or neuroscience at university.

# Biomedical Sciences

# Admissions exercise December 2018

# How we reached our decision



Prepared for the Oxford Colleges by the Course Director for Biomedical Sciences