

# BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES (BC98) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD: APPLICATION CHECKLIST

## 1. CHECK THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

As well as fulfilling the academic entry requirements:

[www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/bms/academic-qualifications-and-standard-offer-levels](http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/bms/academic-qualifications-and-standard-offer-levels)

all candidates are required to sit the BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT):

[www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/bms/biomedical-admissions-test](http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/bms/biomedical-admissions-test)

in November of the year of application (more information also available from [www.atsts.org.uk](http://www.atsts.org.uk)).

## 2. ATTEND AN OPEN DAY

We strongly recommend that you attend an open day for Biomedical Sciences (you do not need to book, just turn up!). Staff and students will be on hand to answer all your questions.

We offer three dates per year - you will find further information on our open days page:

[www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/bms/open-days](http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/bms/open-days)

## 3. THINK ABOUT COSTS & FUNDING

**How much will it cost?** Information on University fees, college fees (not payable by those eligible for UK Government support) and general living costs can be found at:

[www.ox.ac.uk/feesandfunding/fees/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/feesandfunding/fees/)

What is my fee status? It is extremely important that candidates are clear on their fee status (Home/EU or Overseas) prior to submitting an application. Do consult the advice posted by the UK Council for International Student Affairs (see [www.ukcisa.org.uk](http://www.ukcisa.org.uk)), which provides a checklist covering information that we may ask you for when deciding on your status. Any candidate unsure of their status should check the University's statement on determining status for fees purposes:

[www.ox.ac.uk/feesandfunding/fees/information/feestatus/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/feesandfunding/fees/information/feestatus/)

and/or write to the Fees Clerk, Student Funding Office, University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JD (or by email [fees.clerk@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:fees.clerk@admin.ox.ac.uk)) with full details.

**Are there any scholarships?** For more information about student finance matters, and to undertake a full funding search, please see: [www.ox.ac.uk/feesandfunding](http://www.ox.ac.uk/feesandfunding)

The following website may also be of interest: [www.scholarship-search.org.uk](http://www.scholarship-search.org.uk)

UK students are strongly advised to read through the Oxford Opportunity Bursaries website to find out more concerning the bursaries, which benefit a large number of students at the University each year:

<http://www.ox.ac.uk/feesandfunding/ugcurrent/oob/>

## 4. REGISTER FOR THE BMAT

All applicants to Biomedical Sciences at Oxford must register for and sit the BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT).

UK candidates are able to sit the BMAT in their own school or college - and should contact their examinations' officer to register for the test. Candidates outside the UK should identify the open test centre closest to them; there are test centres worldwide, and a list is available at [www.atsts.org.uk](http://www.atsts.org.uk).

Candidates can register for the BMAT from 1 September; the standard entry closing date is 5pm on 1 October, and there is a late entry closing date, 5pm on 15 October. Please note that if you register after 1 October you will incur a large penalty fee.

The BMAT is sat everywhere in the world on the first Wednesday in November every year.

## 5. CHOOSE A COLLEGE

Look at our page on colleges:

[www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/bms/colleges](http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/bms/colleges)

and the University guidance on colleges:

[www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate\\_courses/colleges/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate_courses/colleges/)

You can choose a college if you want to, but you do not have to! All colleges are academically strong, and teaching provision (lectures, practicals, seminars, etc.) will be the same regardless of the college you are in.

The college to which a candidate applies has no bearing on their chances of gaining a place: the ratio of interviews to places is the same across all the colleges (so colleges with large numbers of places see more applicants at interview). Candidates should focus on the style and content of the programme we offer, not on unnecessary comparisons between colleges. Every applicant is interviewed at two colleges, helping to ensure that the strength of each college's cohort of applicants is very similar. In fact, because each applicant is interviewed by two colleges, around a third of the successful candidates are placed at a college other than the one they originally selected on their UCAS form.

If a candidate doesn't have a strong view about a particular college, we encourage them to make an 'open' application that allows us to assign them to a college based on the numbers of available places and the number of applications. This is designed to ensure that everyone has an equal opportunity to compete for the available places. However, if they have decided that one particular college appeals to them - perhaps because of its location or its facilities - then they should specify that college on application form.

## 6. SUBMIT AN APPLICATION THROUGH UCAS

The deadline for submission of UCAS applications is 15 October every year (see [www.ucas.ac.uk](http://www.ucas.ac.uk)). Applications submitted to UCAS past the 15 October deadline cannot be considered by Oxford.

Please ensure that you give your complete qualifications history, and not just details of the qualifications you might be currently working towards (i.e. provide full information on your GCSEs or GCSE-equivalent qualifications).

When writing your personal statement, think about our selection criteria:

[www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/bms/selection-criteria](http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/bms/selection-criteria)

and read our advice on personal statements:

[www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/bms/ps](http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/bms/ps)

Do allow sufficient time for your referee to complete his/her section.