Discover true potential
Enhancing your selection process with our admissions tests
We are a trusted partner to organisations around the world

Here’s a selection of institutions we work with:

Ashoka University
University of Leeds
University of Oxford
Stockholm School of Economics
Chulalongkorn University
University of Malaya
Leiden University Medical Center
Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine
University of Cambridge
Imperial College London

“Admissions tests provide a way of assessing our applicants against the same criteria. The fact that we publish everything about the assessment, such as support materials, means it’s available to everyone – which helps with widening participation.”

Dr Sam Lucy | Director of Admissions for the Cambridge Colleges, University of Cambridge, UK
Identifying the right applicants for your institution can be challenging.

At Cambridge Assessment Admissions Testing, we believe all your applicants should have the opportunity to prove they have what it takes, and you should have the right tools and information to find the people who will thrive.

We are part of the University of Cambridge, and our tests provide a fair measure of skills and aptitude to help you make informed decisions.

Wherever in the world your applicants are, no matter what their background, we give everyone the opportunity to let their true potential shine.

Organisations use our tests for:

**Predicting success**

Identify the applicants who will thrive. Our research shows a positive relationship between admissions test scores and on-course success.

**Discovering students with the right skills**

Our tests cover a range of skills and aptitudes rarely tested discretely in school qualifications, such as critical thinking, problem solving, communication skills, and the application of knowledge to new contexts.

**Widening participation**

Give all applicants the same opportunity to show their potential, regardless of their background. We provide comprehensive free preparation materials for all applicants, so that they do not need to pay for preparation courses.

**International reach**

Our tests can be taken either through our global network of test centres or online as secure remote-proctored tests. This makes them accessible to all your applicants, wherever they are in the world.
Our tests

The BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT) is used for entry to Medicine, Biomedicine, Veterinary and Dentistry degrees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test sections</th>
<th>What it tests</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1: Thinking Skills</td>
<td>Problem solving and critical thinking.</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
<td>32 multiple-choice questions</td>
<td>Pen-and-paper test or computer-based test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2: Scientific Knowledge and Applications</td>
<td>The ability to apply scientific knowledge.</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>27 multiple-choice questions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3: Writing Task</td>
<td>The ability to select, develop and organise ideas, and communicate them concisely and effectively.</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>One task from a choice of three questions</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The Thinking Skills Assessment (TSA) is used for entry to a wide range of courses, such as Economics, Management, Engineering and Psychology.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1: Problem Solving and Critical Thinking</td>
<td>Numerical reasoning, and understanding argument and reasoning using everyday language.</td>
<td>90 minutes</td>
<td>50 multiple-choice questions</td>
<td>Pen-and-paper test or computer-based test</td>
</tr>
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### The Cambridge Personal Styles Questionnaire® (CPSQ)

The Cambridge Personal Styles Questionnaire® (CPSQ) is used for selection, training, and development in school and higher education, for teachers, and for healthcare professions.

<table>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1: Personal Styles</td>
<td>Behavioural competencies that support success and wellbeing in education and the workplace.</td>
<td>Untimed. Most respondents finish in 20–40 minutes</td>
<td>Short statements with rating options</td>
<td>Computer-based test</td>
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</table>

### The Test of Mathematics for University Admission (TMUA)

The Test of Mathematics for University Admission (TMUA) is used for entry to Mathematics and Mathematics-related courses.

<table>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1: Applications of Mathematical Knowledge</td>
<td>The ability to apply knowledge of mathematics in new situations.</td>
<td>75 minutes</td>
<td>20 multiple-choice questions</td>
<td>Pen-and-paper test or computer-based test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2: Mathematical Reasoning</td>
<td>The ability to deal with mathematical reasoning, and simple ideas from elementary logic.</td>
<td>75 minutes</td>
<td>20 multiple-choice questions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We conduct extensive research to ensure the validity and fairness of our admissions tests. Our research agenda and our approach to admissions testing is guided by the following key principles.

Positive impact for test-takers
Our tests are designed to have a positive impact for test-takers. Any time spent preparing for our tests helps test-takers develop skills directly beneficial for their future academic studies.

Selection based on evidence of potential
Admissions tests provide a snapshot of a student’s ability at the time of their application to university study. Our research shows that admissions test performance also predicts later performance on the university course.

Application of existing knowledge and skills
Many of our tests focus on knowledge and skills that should already be familiar to applicants. We aim to minimise the amount of new learning or study needed, to ensure that preparation is accessible to all test-takers.

Collaborative working
The institutions that use our tests have input into our research programme and we hold regular meetings with them. We also fund research in partnership with institutions to explore the impact of our tests in their own admissions contexts.

Quality assurance and fairness
We monitor the performance of all our test items to ensure they are of the highest quality. Advanced statistical analyses are used to monitor the performance of different test-taker groups (e.g. gender, school background) to guard against any potential bias.

A broad view of admissions
An admissions test is one part of the admissions process and our research covers wider approaches to selection. We look at the broader context such as widening access initiatives, applicants’ perceptions of admissions processes, and the relationship between admissions test scores and other parts of the admissions process.

Few can be anything but impressed by the development processes, validation, contextual study and continual review and evaluation that Cambridge Assessment Admissions Testing uses.

Martyn Partridge  |  Professor of Respiratory Medicine and Patient Centred Care, Imperial College London, UK
Case study

The University of Durham worked with Admissions Testing in the development of the Test of Mathematics for University Admission (TMUA) and now uses it as part of its selection processes for undergraduate Mathematics courses. We spoke to Steven Abel, Director of Education for Mathematical Sciences, to find out more about their experiences.

Why did you start using an admissions test?

Over the years, the A Level grades an applicant needed to get a place on our course had risen, however, we were not sure that it was helping us to select the best mathematicians. At the same time, changes to the A Level marking system (the disappearance of the Uniform Mark Scale) meant that we would have to rely more heavily on references and personal statements.

We were concerned to ensure that our selection process was transparent and that applicants with access to expertise from schools and parents did not have an unfair advantage.

Why did you choose to work with Cambridge Assessment Admissions Testing?

Their tests are tailor-made for university admissions, after several years of development. They provide some of the most accurate assessment of ability to perform at degree level.

At the same time, their tests rely only on core A Level knowledge and require minimal revision. This levels the playing field for applicants and greatly improves the fairness of our admissions process.

Does the test help you select the right applicants?

Some of our applicants do not achieve their predicted A Level grades and these numbers have been increasing. But we have found that TMUA indicates which applicants are most likely to meet their predicted A Level grades, and go on to perform well on the course.

What impact has the test had on selection processes?

Applicant numbers have not dropped at all and there have been significant improvements in admissions processes in many ways – speed, transparency, accuracy and robustness. The test has made the job of selectors significantly easier.

In future, student selection will be done by a central admissions team rather than academic staff, and using this test helps provide clear selection criteria to support that transition.
“Our collaboration with Cambridge Assessment Admissions Testing has been fantastic, they have been very supportive.”

Professor Dr Jamunarani S Vadivelu | Head, Medical Education and Research Development Unit,
Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, Malaysia