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:

- Brighton and Sussex Medical School
- University of Leeds
- University of Oxford
- Lancaster University
- Chulalongkorn University
- University of Malaya
- Leiden University Medical Center
- Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine
- University of Cambridge
- UCL
- Nazarbayev University
- 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 to:

**Make decisions fairly**

Compare applicants from different countries and with different qualifications. Our global network of test centres enables applicants to take our tests wherever they are in the world.

**Predict success**

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

**Widen 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.

**Build a broad picture of applicants**

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.
Our tests

The BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT) is used for entry to Medicine, Biomedicine 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: Aptitude and Skills</td>
<td>Problem solving, understanding argument, and data analysis and inference.</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
<td>35 multiple-choice questions</td>
<td>Pen-and-paper 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</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>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<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: Problem Solving and Critical Thinking</td>
<td>Numerical and spatial 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>
</tbody>
</table>
**TEST OF MATHEMATICS**

*for University Admission*

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

<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: Mathematical Thinking</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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2: Mathematical Reasoning</td>
<td>The ability to justify and interpret mathematical arguments and conjectures, and deal with elementary concepts from logic.</td>
<td>75 minutes</td>
<td>20 multiple-choice questions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CPSQ**

The Cambridge Personal Styles Questionnaire® (CPSQ) is used for selection, training and development in a wide range of courses and careers, including healthcare.

<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: Personal Styles</td>
<td>The behaviours and personal qualities needed to succeed in university, employment and healthcare professions.</td>
<td>Untimed. Most respondents finish in 30–40 minutes</td>
<td>Short statements with rating options</td>
<td>Computer-based test</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
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 the Test of Mathematics for University Admission 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