Mansfield College
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Computer Science
Admissions Feedback 2024-25

Summary[1]

	Computer Science	Maths & Computer Science
Applications	701	620
Shortlisted	178	181
Offers for 2025	65	77
Offers for 2026	2	3

Offers for 2025 include 11 open offers.

Mansfield made one offer for Maths & Computer Science and seven offers for Computer Science for 2025 entry, including one open offer.

Shortlisting

Candidates were shortlisted using their scores on the Maths Admissions Test and their UCAS applications, including any relevant contextual information. Approximately 3.2 candidates were shortlisted per offer made.
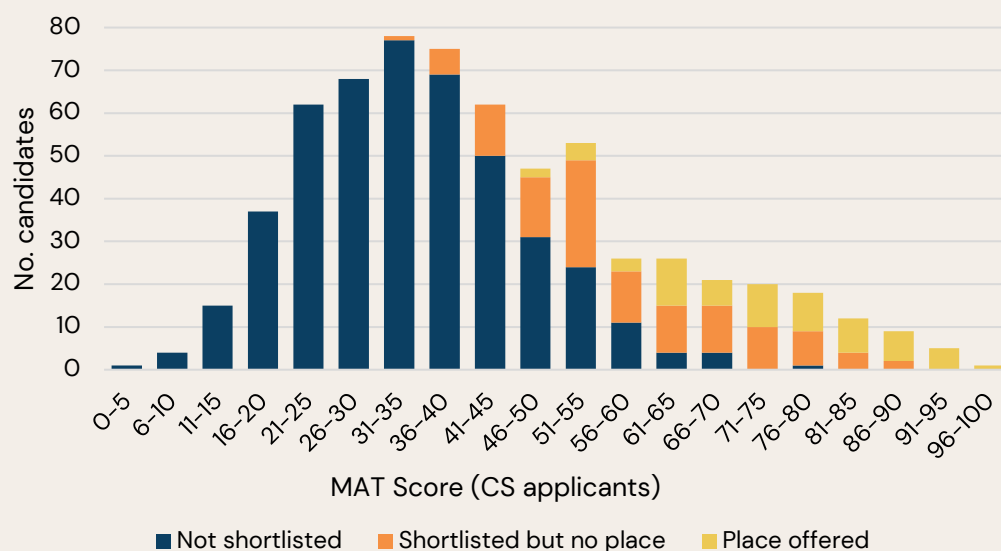
Maths Admissions Test (MAT)
As part of the application process, candidates were asked to sit the MAT in October 2024. The MAT is a 2hr30 test of mathematical ability and understanding. The test contains a series of multiple-choice questions and two longer questions for which candidates need to show their working. Information about the MAT can be found on the MAT section of the Oxford Maths website.

The mean MAT score for Computer Science applicants (excluding those who did not sit the test) was 42.1. The mean score for shortlisted applicants was 63.5, and 73.5 for those who went on to receive an offer. The distribution of marks was as follows:
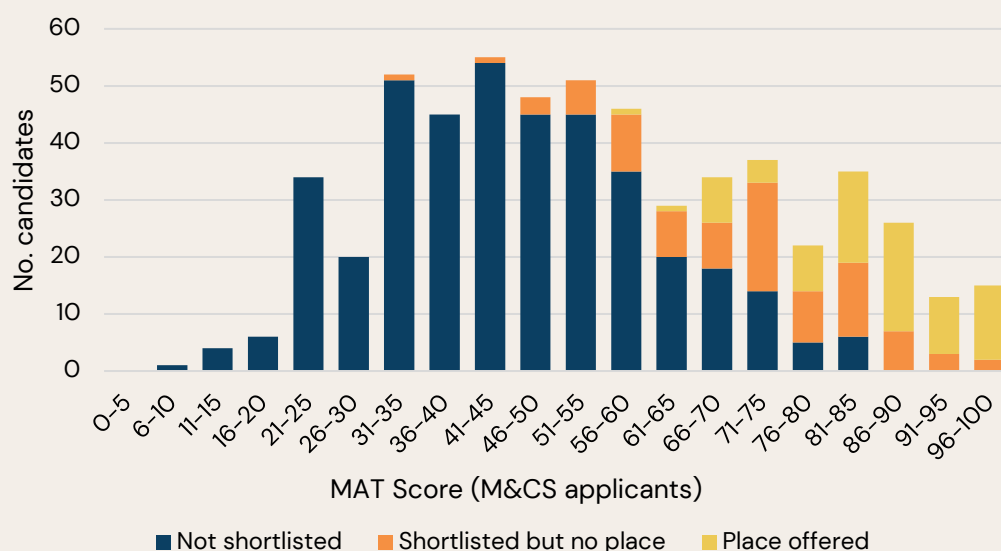
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[1] Some applicants for Mathematics & Computer Science were made an offer for Computer Science or Mathematics only.

Note: graph excludes candidates who did not sit the MAT.

The mean MAT score for Maths & Computer Science applicants (excluding those who did not sit the test) was 55.0. The mean score for shortlisted applicants was 77.5, and 84.8 for those who went on to receive an offer. The distribution of marks was as follows:

UCAS Application

Tutors assessed the motivation and ability of each candidate (including appropriate mathematical background) on the basis of their qualifications and predicted grades, personal statement and reference. Tutors looked for: high marks or predictions at GCSE (A*/9/8s) and A level (A*AA+) or equivalent; a reference recommending the applicant as outstanding among their peers; a personal statement suggesting strong evidence of interest and enthusiasm for the course. Each candidate's individual circumstances were taken into account when assessing their application.

Those who performed better in the MAT were more likely to be shortlisted for interview, and those who scored lower were less likely to be shortlisted unless mitigating

circumstances or contextual information suggested that their score might not be an accurate reflection of their potential.

Interview

All candidates shortlisted by Mansfield were asked to attend two interviews online of around 30 minutes each with the Mansfield tutors.

Most candidates also had an interview at a second college, and a small number at a third or fourth college. These interviews were carried out as part of the movement of candidates from oversubscribed to undersubscribed colleges.

In the interviews tutors looked for:
- mathematical aptitude and technical skills
- a capacity to absorb and use new ideas
- the ability to think and work independently
- perseverance and enthusiasm

Offers

Offers were made to candidates who demonstrated the most potential to perform well on the course on the basis of their UCAS form, performance in the MAT, interview performance and any other relevant contextual information.

Some applicants for Maths & Computer Science received an offer for Computer Science or Mathematics single honours.

34.7% of Computer Science and Maths & Computer Science candidates who were made offers received their offer from a college other than their first-choice college.

Most candidates were made a conditional offer; for details of the standard offer please see the Computer Science Department Website.