Access Arrangements: Diabetes

Candidates with diabetes may need access arrangements to manage their condition during their test.

Which test version should I take?

The UCAT is a 2-hour timed, computer-based test, which once started, cannot be paused. For most candidates the standard test will be suitable. If you are usually entitled to rest breaks during public exams we have a version of the test called the UCATSA, which has the standard UCAT subtest timings, with 5 minute, timed instruction sections before each subtest. To sit this version of the test you must apply for approval with supporting evidence.

What can I take into the test room without prior approval?

Items on the Pearson VUE Comfort Aid List can be taken into the test room and do not require prior approval. They will be visually inspected by test centre staff during the check-in process. These include:

- **Glucose Tablets** (does not include hard candy) - must be unwrapped and not in a bottle/container.

- **Continuous Glucose Monitor or Insulin Pump** – must be attached to a person's body and be inaudible. If device makes noise, then candidates must apply and be approved for an accommodation. Additional Information: Candidates are not permitted to plug any device into the computer workstation. If the medical device includes an accompanying external remote-control device, the remote-control device may not be taken into the testing room. If there is a need to take the external remote-control device into the testing room, including a cell phone, candidates must apply and be approved for an accommodation to do so.

What can I take into the test room with prior approval?

If you need to access the following items during your test you can apply (with supporting evidence) for approval to have them at your workstation. You will need to test in a separate room, but this means that you can manage your condition without having to leave the room. However, you should note that the availability of a separate room cannot be guaranteed at certain times of the year and in certain locations.

Food/drink
You must follow these rules:
- Drinks must be in a transparent, spill-proof bottle with a spout.
- Food must be in a small, transparent plastic bag.
- Hard candy (sweets) must be unwrapped and not in a container.
- Food or drink must be placed away from the workstation while testing.
- You may not eat or drink over or near the workstation. You are responsible for any damage to the testing room related to your food or drink.

Diabetic testing supplies (not classed as comfort aids)

Mobile phone as a diabetes-monitoring device
- Only a mobile phone without a SIM card (i.e. it cannot access a mobile network) can be taken into the test area to use as a diabetes-monitoring device. You will be expected to demonstrate that it is SIM free to test centre staff. If approved the Test Centre is notified in advance with instructions for administering the appointment.

All these items will be visually inspected before being allowed into the testing room.

How do I apply for approval?

Details of how to apply for access arrangements can be found here:
https://www.ucat.ac.uk/register/access-arrangements/

What if I take unapproved items with me to the test centre?

Any unapproved items you take with you to the test centre must be stored in a locker and can only be used outside the testing room. If they are required during testing, please raise your hand to notify the invigilator. You are advised, if possible, to use the break between subtests to limit the impact on test time.

What if I become ill during testing?

If you become ill during your test, notify the invigilator. If you are not well enough to continue, you should ask the invigilator to end your test. If you choose to continue testing, UCAT will not accept this as a mitigating circumstance.

If your test was stopped due to illness, you should email the UCAT Office as soon as possible (usually within 1 working day of your test) to arrange another test.