

FAQs re. MSRA Scaled Scores

Why are scores scaled?

MSRA scores are scaled for each specialty so that they can be combined with the rest of the selection process, and appropriately weighted, as intended. For Neurosurgery National Selection, the MSRA is used to rank applicants from highest to lowest, to invite applicants to the selection centre. The MSRA is weighted at 40% of the overall shortlisting total, with the paper shortlisting contributing to the remaining 60% of the shortlisting total.

The overall shortlisting total (MSRA and paper shortlisting) contributes 30% towards the overall selection score. The selection centre score accounts for the final 70% of the overall selection score.

Can I get a scaled score of 0?

For each specialty, the MSRA scores are scaled to allow the scores to be combined with the other selection data. For Neurosurgery National Selection, the scores of the SJT and CPS have each been scaled onto a 0-28 point scale (0-56 overall). This means that the mean score for the population of shortlisted applicants to the specialty sits approximately in the middle of this scale. If your score was several standard deviations below the mean score of the shortlisted population, when the scores were scaled, your score may have sat at 0.

I have sat the MSRA before, and the scaled score I have received this year is not consistent with last year, when compared to my standardised score?

For each specialty, the MSRA scores are scaled dependent on the population applying for the specialty in that year. Therefore, your score is scaled dependent on the performance of the applicant population in that specific year.