



Keele
University

school of medicine

Medicine

How to prepare and how to apply

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Keele University School of Medicine



How many medical students are selected?

UK 2016 entry (all routes)

- approx 75,000 applications
- approx 7,000 places
- **11 applications/place**

Keele 2016 entry (all routes)

- 2,400 applications
- 129 places
- **19 applications/place**

Assuming each applicant applies to four medical schools, average probability of obtaining a place is approx. 1:3

65% of applicants will not get a place



Routes of entry

- A104 Health Foundation Year for Medicine (6 years including foundation year)
 - For students with academic qualifications of appropriate standard but lacking specific science qualifications
- A100 Standard Entry (5 years)
 - For students with appropriate academic qualifications



Academic requirements – A100

GCSE

- Minimum of 5 As (not including short courses)
- Minimum of grade B in:
 - maths
 - English language
 - core science + additional science + further additional science (if taken)

or

- physics + chemistry + biology

A-level

- Three A2 subjects at grades A*AA
- If already achieved, grades of AAAa will be accepted
- Three A-levels **must** be achieved within 2 years of study
 - students in third year of A-level study are ineligible unless required grades have already been achieved



Academic requirements – A100

A-level subject requirements

- Chemistry or biology plus a second science (physics, chemistry, biology, maths, statistics)
- Third academic A-level (list of excluded subjects is available on our web pages)
- Some subject combinations are barred:
 - maths/further maths/statistics
 - biology/human biology and PE
 - other combinations with significant overlap for A104



Academic requirements – A104

GCSE

- Minimum of grade C in:
 - maths
 - English language
- Usually minimum of 5 As (not including short courses), but may be waived for students with non-traditional qualifications

A-level or equivalent

- Most level 3 qualifications (A-level, BTEC national diploma, etc.) at A*AA, distinction or equivalent
 - AAA where there is no A* equivalent
- Must not have studied chemistry post-16
- Should not have studied more than one science post-16



Graduates

- Graduates may apply for A100
 - must achieve minimum of upper second-class honours (2i)
 - must have English language and maths and sciences at GCSE grade B or equivalent (e.g. international qualification if appropriate)
 - **there are NO exceptions to these rules**
 - must have minimum of BBB at A-level, including chemistry/biology plus a second science and third academic subject
 - if A-level requirements are not met, must take GAMSAT and meet requirement stated on our web pages
- If you meet the A-level grade requirements but without the science content, you may apply for A104



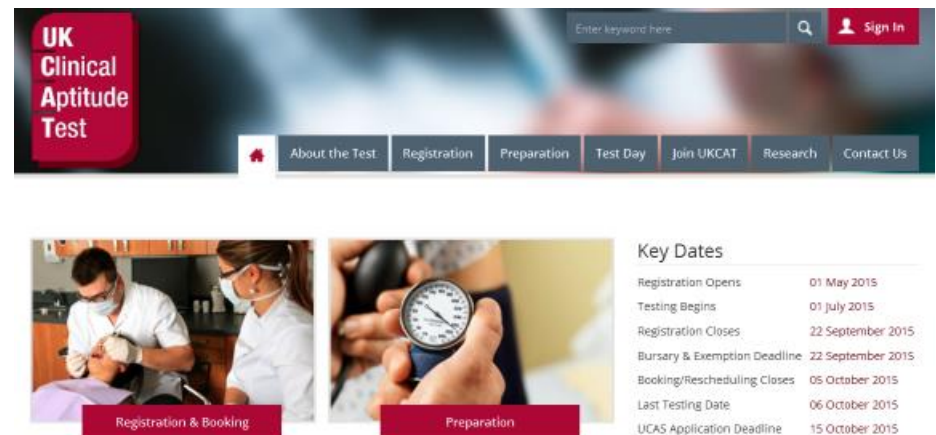
International applicants

- Applicants who have international student fees status (non-UK/EU)
 - these students enter a separate competition
 - the R+R form is not required
 - students must take BMAT in the year of application (i.e. November 2016 for 2017 entry)
 - applications will be ranked for interview on BMAT score



UKCAT


- Currently all applicants must take the UK clinical aptitude test (UKCAT) in the year of application
- UKCAT no longer grants exemptions
- Bottom 20% cut-off score (would have been 2,330 in 2015)
- Band 4 SJT excluded
- Scores are also used in borderline decisions
- Practice tests are available at www.ukcat.ac.uk
- Bursaries are available



The screenshot shows the UKCAT website homepage. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "Enter keyword here" and a "Sign In" button. Below the search bar is a navigation menu with links: "About the Test", "Registration", "Preparation", "Test Day", "Join UKCAT", "Research", and "Contact Us". The main content area features two images: "Registration & Booking" showing two people in a clinical setting, and "Preparation" showing a hand holding a blood pressure cuff. To the right of these images is a "Key Dates" table.

Key Dates	
Registration Opens	01 May 2015
Testing Begins	01 July 2015
Registration Closes	22 September 2015
Bursary & Exemption Deadline	22 September 2015
Booking/Rescheduling Closes	05 October 2015
Last Testing Date	06 October 2015
UCAS Application Deadline	15 October 2015





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School of Medicine

[/ Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences / School of Medicine / MBChB \(5 years\) / Entry Routes & How to Apply](#)

Entry routes and how to apply

Admissions overview

WE ADVISE ALL THOSE INTERESTED IN APPLYING TO CHECK THIS WEBSITE REGULARLY FOR UPDATES

Please note the following points regarding applications for 2017 entry:

- All UK/EU applicants will be required to submit a Roles & Responsibilities form during the last two weeks of October.
- All applicants classed as Overseas for fees are required to take the Biomedical Admissions Test (BMAT). This will be used instead of the R&R form to select for interview.
- Applicants with total UKCAT scores in the lowest two deciles (i.e. in the bottom 20% of scores for the year) will not be considered, nor those with an SJT score in Band 4. The minimum acceptable test score for candidates taking the test in 2015 was 2,330.
- UK applicants must have completed level-2 qualifications (GCSE or equivalent) that fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum for Key Stage 4 in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and are accredited for delivery in maintained schools: this includes appropriate sciences (double-award, triple-award or three separate sciences), mathematics and an English language qualification incorporating use and understanding of both written and spoken English. Please note that all UK exam board GCSE and IGCSE first-language English qualifications are accepted. At least one multiple mini-interview station will be used explicitly to assess applicants' *communication skills in English*.

EXPLORE THIS SECTION

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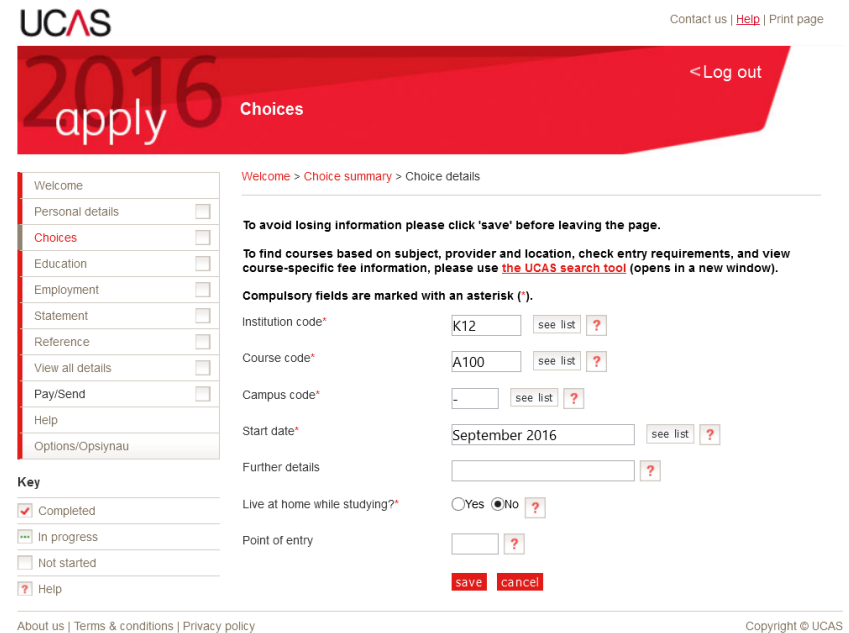
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How to apply

- All applications must be submitted through UCAS by 15th October
- You may apply for up to 4 medicine courses and 1 additional non-medicine course
- No order of preference
- We do not know where else you have applied
- We will not consider any supplementary information unless we have explicitly requested it



UCAS 2016 apply Choices

Contact us | [Help](#) | Print page

[<Log out](#)

Welcome > [Choice summary](#) > Choice details

To avoid losing information please click 'save' before leaving the page.

To find courses based on subject, provider and location, check entry requirements, and view course-specific fee information, please use [the UCAS search tool](#) (opens in a new window).

Compulsory fields are marked with an asterisk (*).

Institution code* [see list](#) [?](#)

Course code* [see list](#) [?](#)

Campus code* [see list](#) [?](#)

Start date* [see list](#) [?](#)

Further details [?](#)

Live at home while studying?* ☐ Yes ☒ No [?](#)

Point of entry [?](#)

[save](#) [cancel](#)

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Key

- ☒ Completed
- ☐ In progress
- ☐ Not started
- [?](#) Help

Navigation:

- Welcome
- Personal details
- Choices**
- Education
- Employment
- Statement
- Reference
- View all details
- Pay/Send
- Help
- Options/Opstynau



Getting an interview

- We select for interview on the basis of
 - roles and responsibilities (skills & characteristics)
 - widening participation (overcoming disadvantage)
- The Roles & Responsibilities form gives you an opportunity to make a case for selection
- Your case must be based on **evidence** that you possess the required skills and characteristics
- DO show us how you have demonstrated these qualities
- DON'T box-tick, name-drop, use jargon or tell us what to think



Roles & Responsibilities Recording Form

Please read the instructions carefully. Once complete please return the form as per the instructions at the end. You are strongly advised to read the additional guidance to applicants on the Keele Medical School Website before completing this form
(<http://www.keele.ac.uk/medicine/undergraduatemedicalcourse/entryrouteshowtoapply/>)

FIRST NAME/ GIVEN NAME		SURNAME/FAMILY NAME	
DATE OF BIRTH		UCAS ID	

Please provide details of **up to 4** work experience roles you have undertaken, preferably within the past 3 years (only one is required). These roles may be in paid employment or voluntary/community work and do not have to be in the health sector. Charity work may be included. If you are an unpaid carer then work undertaken in this role can be included. If you are in paid employment then you will need to be explicit in the following sections about what you have done, which is over and above that expected from your job role. You should record the details of any work experiences here that you write about below, but you do not need to write about everything listed here.

Date Started	Length of Time in role hours/days/weeks/years	Total hours in role	Organisation	Role Undertaken
	Please select from list:			
	Please select from list:			
	Please select from list:			
	Please select from list:			
Estimated Total Hours				

Please provide a contact for each of your work experiences so that we can check the details if required. Either a telephone/mobile number or an e-mail address is required for each contact.

Name	Tel/mobile	Email address	Organisation	Role/job title



Please provide details of what you actually did during one or more of the work experiences you have recorded above. You should reflect upon the personal attributes you have demonstrated in this work, especially those which are mentioned in the NHS Constitution, but you must be explicit about how you demonstrated them. We will not credit observation or shadowing: we need to know about hands-on experience that you have undertaken. Maximum 1,100 characters (about 200 words).

Please provide details of any responsibility you have taken, either in the work place, while volunteering or at school/college/university. Titles alone (e.g. Head Boy/Girl) will not attract marks: you must tell us what the responsibility involved and what you actually did to discharge this responsibility. One detailed example is likely to gain more marks than a list of responsibilities. Maximum 1,100 characters (about 200 words).



Please give an example of a situation where you have helped or provided care for somebody (by this we mean an individual person). You may use examples from your work experience, from life at home or at school/college/ university, or from extracurricular activities. Please note that if you are using examples from the home or family then the example needs to demonstrate a level of commitment well above and beyond what would normally be expected of anyone of your age. Examples that require regular commitment are likely to attract more marks than one-off incidents. Tell us briefly what you actually did; what you learned from the experience and the effect your contribution had on the person you were helping. Maximum 850 Characters (about 150 words).

Please provide details of any exceptional achievements or exceptional (difficult) circumstances you would like us to consider in marking your application. You do not need to complete this box if you do not have anything exceptional to report (the majority of applicants will not). Exceptional achievements can be in any area and might include major awards, sporting success at national or international level, etc. If you have had to overcome exceptional difficulties you should write about them here.; We would also expect to see these reflected in the school reference, but only achievements or circumstances included in this box will be considered. Maximum 600 characters (about 100 words).



- “Work experience” means voluntary or paid work that **you** have arranged
- Observation (e.g. in hospital or GP practice) does **not** constitute experience and will not be credited, although it is likely to be useful to you
- We are **not** interested in long lists of placements or how much money you have spent
- We **are** interested in what skills & characteristics you have demonstrated in your experiences
- **S*T*A*R**



Roles & Responsibilities Form

- Specific criteria for assessment are:
 - Commitment to work experience/charity work/caring roles etc.
 - The level of personal engagement required to undertake the roles (e.g. “helping” nurses in a care home will score less than assisting patients to eat their meals)
 - The level of responsibility undertaken
 - The impact you had on others in one of your roles
 - Exceptional achievements (over and above expected for your situation)



Reference

- The reference from your school/college should tell us:
 - any difficulties you have experienced or extenuating circumstances
 - any difficulties the school has experienced during your time there (e.g. special measures, high staff turnover)
 - what roles and responsibilities you have taken on
 - We do not look at predicted A-level grades



Interviews - MMI

- You will be assessed on your:
 - verbal/non-verbal communication
 - recognition of factors affecting communication
 - clarity of motivation for a medical career
 - reflection on experiences
 - awareness & understanding of ethical, legal & professional issues related to medicine
 - ability to deal with challenging situations (situational judgement)
 - empathy & caring disposition
 - understanding of what a medical career will involve
 - ability to undertake simple but relevant data handling



Interviews

- Preparation for interviews involves:
 - Getting used to answering questions under pressure
 - Being able to talk directly to the interviewer and answer questions directly
 - Ensuring that you have a clear and firm understanding of why you want to be a doctor
 - Listening to what other people say and responding to it
 - Being aware of current scientific, social & political issues affecting health & healthcare



Post-offer requirements

- Disclosure & Barring Service
 - You **must** declare any convictions on your UCAS application
 - DBS disclosure will show convictions, cautions, warnings and reprimands – subject to DBS filtering rules
 - It is in your interest to declare any criminal record before interview



Post-offer requirements

- Occupational health screen
 - You must be declared fit for study and for hospital/ community-based placements
 - There are strict vaccination requirements
 - You must consent to these requirements, otherwise you will not be able to complete the course



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Questions?