



**QUEEN'S  
UNIVERSITY  
BELFAST**

SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE,  
DENTISTRY AND  
BIOMEDICAL  
SCIENCES

**TOP 10 IN THE UK  
FOR MEDICINE\***

**MB MEDICINE**

\* Complete University Guide 2023

# MB MEDICINE

- Students are welcomed and gain experience in a variety of hospitals, over 150 general practices, and healthcare settings throughout Northern Ireland from first year and onwards.
- Students are introduced to clinical work from the onset and by third year almost all teaching is delivered in the clinical setting.
- We are one of the few medical schools in the UK to teach anatomy through cadaveric dissection

## Entrance Requirements

The University has a quota of twenty six Medical places for international students out of its total intake of 262.

### Academic

- AAA (Chemistry and Biology) at A-Level, or A (Chemistry) AB (including at least one from Biology, Maths and Physics) at A-level plus A in a fourth AS or equivalent in terms of other qualifications. Biology is required to at least AS Level (Grade B), if not offered at A-Level
- **Sijil Tinggi Persekolahan Malaysia (STPM)** is considered equivalent to A Levels. Grades required are A,A (in Chemistry and Biology) and A- in another subject excluding Pengajian Am (General Studies) and Bahasa Melayu (Malay Language)
- **Singapore/Cambridge A-Levels**, with grades AAA (Chemistry and Biology) in H2 Level subjects or A(Chemistry) AB (including at least one from Biology, Maths and Physics) in H2 Level subjects plus A in a fourth H1 Level subject (excluding General Paper). Biology is required to at least H1 Level (Grade B), if not offered at H2
- **IB Diploma:** with a total of 36 points including 6,6,6 (to include Chemistry and Biology) at Higher Level
- **Canadian High School Graduation Diploma** with 90% overall at Grade 12, including marks of at least 90% in Chemistry and Biology
- **American High School Diploma** with a minimum GPA of 3.5 on a scale of 4.0 plus four Advanced Placement (AP) Tests with scores of 5,5 (Chemistry and Biology), 5,4.

SAT subject scores may be acceptable in lieu of APs.

- **Indian Higher Secondary School Leaving Certificate** Grade XII with 90% overall including marks of at least 90% in Chemistry and Biology
- **Singaporean Diploma** in Biomedical Science or Biotechnology: applicants with a minimum overall CGPA of 3.85 on a scale of 4.0 may be considered
- Applications from students who have completed or are due to complete their Bachelor Degree in the year of application are also welcomed. Both school and university qualifications are taken into account and a minimum of a 2.1 honours degree; 78% in a Canadian degree; CGPA of 3.3 on a scale of 4, or equivalent would be required. Applicants must also have the appropriate background in the relevant Science subjects.

Alternative equivalent academic qualifications will be considered.

In order to fulfill the subject requirements for the degree programme, all applicants must have GCSE/SPM/ O-Level (or equivalent) in Mathematics and Physics, if not offered beyond this level.

Applications must be submitted through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service ([www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)) by 15 October prior to the year of entry and, in advance, arrangements should be made to undertake the University Clinical Aptitude test ([www.ucat.ac.uk](http://www.ucat.ac.uk)).

For international applicants, previous academic background, predicted grades in any qualifications still to be completed and UCAT results are important (there is no minimum score), as is appropriate evidence of proficiency in English Language. Qualifications most commonly offered are as follows:

- O-Level /IGCSE
- IELTS Academic: Normally an overall score of 7.5 in IELTS, with a minimum band score of 7.0 in speaking and listening, and 6.5 in reading and writing.
- TOEFL IBT: 105, with not less than 24 – Listening; 21 – Reading; 23 – Speaking; 23 – Writing
- Cambridge GCE O Level English Language syllabus 1119 with a minimum grade of A2If selected for interview international applicants will be required to complete multi-mini interviews designed to objectively evaluate non-cognitive skills.

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Applications will be considered holistically; no scoring system is used and the different factors are not weighted. Where applicants have not undertaken any formal qualifications at the time of application, school reports will be used in lieu of this to assess previous academic performance, and fulfilment of course requirements. All students admitted to this course will be required to complete a Hepatitis B vaccination programme at the Occupational Health Service of the University.

Medicine welcomes applications from people with disabilities. All applications will be treated on an individual case basis to ensure that the candidate has the potential to fulfil the demands of professional fitness to practise. Disability will not be considered as part of the selection process. However, it is strongly advised that candidates disclose their disability on their UCAS form and contact the School to obtain further advice.

Because of the professional nature of the course any offer made will be conditional on a satisfactory Certificate of Good Conduct or equivalent Criminal Record Check.

### The subject

Queen's medical degree is a five-year programme with an initial systems-based approach. The medical programme is designed to meet the General Medical Council's 'Outcomes or Graduates' and to address the challenges of an ageing population, training our graduates to be the future medical leaders. Twenty five percent of clinical placements are delivered in primary care. Programme design and delivery embraces best practice in education and training and comprises small group case-based learning, integrated with lectures, practical's and tutorials.

Four themes named after nucleotide bases are embedded throughout the programme and represent the DNA of the curriculum: Global and Population Health, Clinical Science and Practice, Achieving Good Medical Practice and Teamwork for Safe Care.

Key features of the medical programme include opportunities for interprofessional education and simulation-based learning delivered in a new state-

of-the-art Simulation Centre. Progress tests are used to assess knowledge. This will allow students to track their development as a learner and provide opportunities for feedback, while encouraging deep learning and reducing exam stress. Progress testing also helps prepare our students for the General Medical Council's Medical Licensing Assessment.

## Course Content

### Year 1 and 2

During the first two years of the degree, you learn about the scientific basis of medical practice. You gain knowledge about each body system, focusing on normal structure and function, with an introduction to abnormal structure and function. Case-based learning (CBL) integrates biomedical sciences with behavioural and social sciences, clinical medicine, and public health. Students work through case-based scenarios relevant to each body system. CBL is supported by a co-ordinated programme of lectures, seminars, practical's, laboratory and clinical skills sessions and relevant clinical experience. Clinical skills (including communication, examination, and practical procedural skills) are taught in Clinical Skill Education Centres and through contact with real patients in primary and secondary care.

### Years 3 and 4

In year 3, you will undertake a Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship focusing on the common presentation of illnesses in general medicine and surgery and their sub-specialties. Your placements will be in secondary and tertiary care hospital settings; 2 days a month will be spent in general practice. In year 4, your clinical experience will focus on life cycle from childhood, through reproduction to adult life to old age. The emphasis is on the patient in the community, at home, in the GP surgery and in hospital at all stages of life. Mental health and cancer-care are integrated. GP's and hospital doctors deliver the teaching together to ensure you understand the whole patient journey. Case-based learning continues in year 3 and 4, providing another review of the body systems you studied in years 1 and 2.

### Year 5

Final year is designed to prepare you for the transition to become a Foundation doctor. Clinical experience will focus on Acute Care, Chronic Care and Primary Care. Simulation based training focusing on patient safety is embedded. The 'Taster' gives you a chance to explore a specialty of particular interest to you to help you inform your future career choices. In the Assistantship you will work closely with a Foundation doctor and become familiar with the routine working life of a newly qualified doctor.

## Career Prospects and Accreditation

At the end of the undergraduate course, you will receive your MB BCh BAO degree, which is a Primary Medical Qualification (PMQ). Holding a PMQ entitles you to apply for provisional registration with the GMC. Provisionally registered doctors can only practise in approved Foundation Year 1 posts: the law does not allow provisionally registered doctors to undertake any other type of work.

On successful completion of the first year of this training period you become a fully registered doctor; however, whichever branch of medicine you intend to pursue, you will be required to undertake further training. For example, to enter General Practice you will require a further three year's training. To become a hospital consultant, you may require a further seven years of specialty training. Further information about postgraduate training is available from the GMC website: [www.gmc-uk.org](http://www.gmc-uk.org)

## School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences

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