

# **University of Surrey School of Medicine - BMBS Admissions Process Policy**

## **2027 entry**

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## 2 Governance

A specific Medicine Admissions Review Group (MARG) will operate in relation to admissions to the BMBS programme. Reports from the Group will be made available to the University Board of Studies and recommendations for changes will be taken to the University Admissions Steering Group for approval. The BMBS MARG will be chaired by the Admissions Lead or Deputy Admissions Lead for the School of Medicine with representation from relevant academic leads, central admissions and Professional Services staff.

The School of Medicine Admissions policy has been developed in accordance with the University Policy and with the standards set out by the General Medical Council (GMC) [Promoting excellence: standards for medical education training](#), [Outcomes for Graduates](#) and Medical Schools Council (MSC) 'Guiding Principles for the admission of Medical Students' (revised March 2010).

The University Admissions Policy is committed to:

- Provide transparent, consistent and efficient information.
- Selecting applicants who can complete the programme as judged by their achievements and potential.
- Using reliable assessment methods, including consideration of evidence provided.
- Minimising barriers in line with the University Access Agreement with the Office of Fair Access.

## 3 Entry requirements

- Degree level (UK or equivalent) minimum 2.1 (any subject).
- GCSE (or equivalent): Maths and English at Grade C (Level 5) or above.

We accept equivalent degree level qualifications from all over the world. For further details on equivalents visit [country specific information](#) on our website.

### 3.1 English language requirements

IELTS Academic: A score of at least 7.0 overall and at least 7.0 in all components. We accept equivalent [English language qualifications](#) detailed on our website.

### 3.2 Declaration of criminal convictions

This is a regulated course that requires declaration of criminal convictions at the application stage. Please visit the University [criminal convictions information](#) for more details.

### 3.3 Deferred entry

The Medical School does not accept applications for deferred entry via the UCAS process. However, deferred entry can be requested by offer holders and will be considered on an individual basis by the

Medical Admissions Review Group. Due to the limited number of places on the course, we reserve the right to refuse any deferral requests.

### **3.4 Student transfer**

The Medical School would *not* permit transfers into *any* years of the programme from any other UK or International Medical Schools. Applications cannot be considered from individuals that have previously commenced a medical degree either in the UK or overseas.

### **3.5 Health Care Degrees**

Applicants studying for any health care related degree or working in a health care profession must provide evidence they are in good standing with their regulatory body.

Please note, meeting the above requirements does not guarantee being shortlisted for interview.

### **3.6 Medical School Council Excluded Students Database**

Applicants must undergo a satisfactory check with the Medical School Council Excluded Students Database.

## **4 Admission process**

Applicants are required to take the Graduate Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT); the use of GAMSAT allows us to compare students from diverse backgrounds and whose first degrees are not science-based. A student can complete the University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT) as an alternative to GAMSAT if they have one of the following specific degrees as listed:

- Biochemistry
- Biology
- Biomedical Sciences
- Chemistry
- Natural Sciences

The GAMSAT will be required for joint honours degrees including one of the above subjects.

Candidates should submit a UCAS application form by 15 October 2026 and sit the GAMSAT (or UCAT as above). GAMSAT scores are valid for two years, results from March and September 2025 and 2026 are valid for applications for 2027 entry. UCAT score is valid for one year, results from summer 2026 will be valid for 2027 entry.

Candidates sitting the UCAT must have a Situational Judgement Test (SJT) band of 3 or above to be considered for interview. Any student with an SJT of 4 will be rejected. Personal statements and references are not scored but may be reviewed during the applications process. Work experience in caregiving is desirable but not essential for entry onto the programme.

The Medical Admissions Review Group (MARG) will review all applicants who meet the academic entrance requirements and select candidates for interview by anonymised ranking of admissions

test score. Applications will be sorted according to academic profile and GAMSAT (or UCAT) overall score in order to determine which applicants will receive an offer of an interview.

Interviews are multiple mini-interviews (MMIs) which is a values-based recruitment process and reinforces objectivity. Each interview station assesses a specific competency or characteristic. Staff involved will be academic and clinical professionals to ensure there is a range of different perspectives.

## 5 Offers and requirements

The Medical Admissions Review Group will review and rank all candidate MMI scores and make offers based on performance. Offers will be made conditional on academic and non-academic requirements described below:

- References confirming suitability for the course.
- Occupational Health screening completed before enrolment. The Occupational Health team assess students to identify and suggest required adjustments before enrolment. Students are required to complete an online disclaimer at the start of the programme confirming that they understand their responsibility to inform staff of any change or impediment to health.
- UCAS Similarity Detection Service will check each personal statement against those that have been previously submitted to detect plagiarism. The University reserves the right to reject applicants who are identified through this process.
- Applicants must disclose all criminal and unspent convictions as directed by the GMC 'Protected spent cautions and convictions' document. Failure to declare relevant information at the point of application could result in the place being withdrawn. Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks must be completed prior to enrolment and/or a Certificate of Good Character provided if the student has been resident outside of the UK.

## 6 Dawson Scholarships for UK students (Widening Participation)

Subject to confirmation of funding, there is one scholarship available for home students. To be eligible for consideration for this award, applicants MUST:

- Be eligible for home fees status.
- Have attended a non-selective state school (defined as completing A-levels, or equivalent).

Applicants must normally demonstrate that they meet at least two of our widening participation criteria.

| Criteria         | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Evidence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Care experienced | Being care experienced means you will have <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- spent time living with foster carers under local authority care,</li><li>- in residential care (e.g. a children's home),</li><li>- looked after at home under a supervision order,</li><li>- or in kinship care with relatives or friends, either officially (e.g. a special guardianship</li></ul> | Student must provide the name and contact details of a professional who can verify their care experience status. Examples include a contact from their local authority such as their social worker, key worker or virtual school staff, their school tutor or GP. |

|                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                             | order) or informally without local authority support.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Estranged from family                                                       | <p>By estranged we mean that either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- You have not communicated with either of your biological or adoptive parents for a period of one year before your course began</li> <li>- Your parents cannot be traced or it is not possible, practical, or safe to make contact with them</li> <li>- Your parents have significant mental or physical health problems which prevent you from contacting them</li> <li>- Both of your biological or adoptive parents are deceased</li> </ul> | <p>Student applied to Student Finance England for their Undergraduate degree as an independent student or was supported to update their circumstances by University support services.</p> <p>Name and contact information for Student Services of undergraduate University.</p>                                               |
| Lived in an area of multi-deprivation during compulsory education           | <p>Area with an Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Quintile 1*</p> <p>Resident in this area in the year GCSEs and A levels (or equivalent) were completed.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Postcode of address at the time of your GCSEs and A levels.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Young carer/ young adult carer                                              | A person who regularly provides unpaid emotional and/or practical support and assistance for a friend or family member who due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction cannot cope without their support.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | A name and contact details of a professional who can verify your carer status. Examples include a contact from a registered charity that has supported you, a social worker, your school tutor or your GP.                                                                                                                    |
| Higher level University maintenance loan or University means tested bursary | <p>Maintenance loan paid according to household income of £25000 or less.</p> <p>Received a university means-tested bursary during their undergraduate degree</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <p>Confirmation letter from Student Loan Company or undergraduate university detailing the financial support you were entitled to.</p> <p>A name and contact details for Student Services or Bursaries and Scholarship staff from your undergraduate university who can verify you received the financial support listed.</p> |

\*Indices of Multiple Deprivation will be according to 2015 or 2019 datasets depending on dates in secondary education.

- Applicants should apply via our standard UCAS admissions process as described in section 4.
- Applicants must have received an offer as described in section 5.
- Offer holders who meet the scholarship criteria will be required to complete an application form indicating which criteria they meet.

- Eligible applicants will be ranked by the Medical Admissions Review Group according to Multiple Mini Interview total score. The highest scoring candidates will be invited for a panel interview pending verification of their supporting evidence.
- The panel interview will be held face to face and candidates will be asked questions to demonstrate their knowledge and behaviours related to a career in medicine.
- Each candidate is ranked independently by each interviewer.
- The candidate fulfilling the requirements with the highest total panel interview score will be offered the Dawson scholarship.

## **7 Reserve lists**

- A defined number of applicants may be offered a place on the reserve list following interview.
- Applicants will be contacted offering them the opportunity to be placed on the reserve list. They will be required to confirm if they wish to accept the place.
- Applicants on the reserve list will be required to complete the Occupational Health, Student Agreement and Self-Declaration form in advance of the summer.
- Applicants will be advised that they will be required to contact the University once their degree results have been released to find out whether any places have become available.
- Applicants who successfully gain a place through the reserve list will then be required to complete the DBS process.
- A place on the reserve list does not imply, suggest, or guarantee that a formal offer of a place can or will be made as this is subject to capacity in any given year.