Medicine

Undergraduate study
Courses

Single Honours

**MB ChB Medicine**
five years A100

**Gateway to Medicine**
one year (plus five years) A108

Why study medicine at Bristol?

Bristol’s exciting new medical curriculum develops your capabilities in a stimulating, safe and supportive environment. As a student doctor in Bristol you will:

- Benefit from an innovative curriculum incorporating the very best of modern medical education, with patient safety at its core.
- Experience the breadth of medical practice in our clinical academies, from small district general hospitals to city centre specialist centres such as the Bristol Royal Hospital for Children and Bristol Heart Institute.
- Gain exposure to primary care (General Practice) and secondary care in hospitals right from the start of your course.
- Learn from world leaders in clinical and biomedical research who are making a real difference to patient outcomes, and from enthusiastic educators who will help you to shine.
- See things from different perspectives and develop team-working skills through interprofessional learning with nursing and pharmacy students.
- Develop confidence in dealing with lifelike clinical scenarios through use of cutting-edge simulation.
- Live and work in a diverse and multicultural environment, with many opportunities to explore and develop your interests.
- Feel a real sense of community and support throughout your medical student career.

‘The curriculum’s single aim is to make you the best doctor you can be – not just a good scientist or a good clinician, but the best at everything that makes you into a well-rounded person who can go on to deliver brilliant, patient-centred care.’

Chloe (MB ChB Medicine)

Courses

**Why study medicine at Bristol?**

‘The curriculum’s single aim is to make you the best doctor you can be – not just a good scientist or a good clinician, but the best at everything that makes you into a well-rounded person who can go on to deliver brilliant, patient-centred care.’

Chloe (MB ChB Medicine)
What will you study?

Year one
Your first year gives you a solid grounding in the fundamental principles of medicine and focuses on developing your clinical reasoning skills. You will learn to apply the principles of biomedical science to clinical cases in small teams, and you will train as a healthcare assistant and basic life support provider.

Year two
This year will help you to work out the most likely diagnosis for common symptoms. You will develop your consulting skills in a placement at one of our academies, and study pathophysiology and disease processes.

In years two and three you will have the opportunity to explore your own interests through project work with leading clinicians and researchers. Previous projects have included investigation into physiological changes in adverse environments and the study of wilderness medicine.

Year three
In years three to five you will spend time in at least five clinical academies. You will be introduced to medical and surgical specialities and follow the patient journey through the healthcare system in primary, community and secondary care.

Year four
Your focus in year four will be the life cycle, from birth to end-of-life care. You will learn about reproductive health, child health, mental health and care of older people with multiple health problems.

Year five
In year five you will prepare for your first year as a foundation doctor with assistantships in primary care, acute and critical care, and ward-based care. You will also have the opportunity to work overseas, broadening your understanding of healthcare systems around the world.

How will you study?

We focus on clinically relevant learning from the start. You will learn through peer-supported teaching, case-based learning sessions and primary care visits, as well as lectures and tutorials. You will also develop a portfolio which helps you to adopt a way of learning that you will continue to use in professional practice.

We use a variety of assessment methods, including examinations and continuous assessment. From year one to year four you will complete regular progress tests, which allow you to measure the extent to which you are acquiring the knowledge that you will need by the time you take your final examinations. You must also demonstrate satisfactory professional conduct throughout the course.

What support can you expect?
We strive to create a learning environment that is safe and supportive, and which values all of our students. You will meet regularly with a mentor, who will oversee your progress.

Dedicated student advisers in the Bristol Medical School will provide you with an excellent, confidential support service. In addition, the University has an award-winning Student Health Service, Student Counselling Service, Disability Services and Occupational Health Service.

Bristol is in the UK top ten for Medicine and Dentistry.

THE World University Rankings 2018
Our clinical academies form the centre of your experience as an undergraduate medical student. They give you real-life training in NHS environments across the South West of England, from rural hospitals to large city-centre sites. You will gain invaluable experience of a wide range of clinical settings and learn from practitioners with primary care, mental health and acute care backgrounds.

The same core curriculum is delivered in every clinical academy by hospital specialists and general practitioners. You will be supported by an academy dean, administrative team and enthusiastic clinical teaching fellows.

Although the core curriculum is the same across our academies, we celebrate the fact that every patient you meet will be unique and have their own story to tell. This exposure to a broad range of patient experiences will enrich your journey through medical school and provide realistic training for the world of work.

‘The skills learned in the clinical academies help students develop into well-rounded foundation doctors and improve their clinical practice, as they have had greater exposure to medicine than they would if they simply remained in one university hospital.’

Aaron (MB ChB Medicine)

Where will you study?

For more information about each of the academies see bristol.ac.uk/medical-school/clinical-academies.

*Approximate distance from the main University campus.
Making your application

Typical offer for MB ChB Medicine*

Visit bristol.ac.uk/ug19-medicine for other qualifications.

A-levels AAA (contextual AAC†) including AA in Chemistry and either Biology or Physics. Graduate applicants are required to obtain a 2:1 in their degree plus ABB at A-level including A in Chemistry and B in either Biology or Physics.

IB Diploma 36 points overall (contextual 32†) with 18 at Higher Level (contextual 16†), including 6, 6 at Higher Level in Chemistry and either Biology or Physics.

English Language profile A††

GCSEs Advanced numeracy requirement (A in GCSE Mathematics or equivalent) and standard literacy requirement (C in GCSE English or equivalent).

Age requirement Students are required to be 18 years of age (or above) by the 1st of October in their year of entry in order to undertake the clinical experiential learning in our teaching (general) practices and clinical academies. This is to ensure that our students have the legal capacity to be bound by the rules of confidentiality of our NHS partners.

†For information on contextual offers, visit bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers.

††For details of English language profiles, visit bristol.ac.uk/ug-language-requirements.

Selection UCAS and Multiple Mini Interviews. The UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT) is required. Work experience is required.

*The typical offer is indicative only and the University accepts a wide range of qualifications. The information is correct at the time of printing (June 2018); however, we recommend you check the University’s website for the most up-to-date information: bristol.ac.uk/ug-study.

What kind of student are we looking for?

We are looking for students who are passionate about studying medicine and have the potential to become compassionate, safe and effective doctors.

References

Ideally, these should be from a personal tutor at school or college, confirming the academic potential of the applicant to study at degree level. Where this is not possible a non-academic reference should confirm the relevant experience of the applicant and indicate the potential of the applicant for study at degree level. Your referee should consider whether they see the qualities of a good doctor within you, and whether they would be happy to place their trust in you.

References are read in conjunction with the personal statement and used as supporting information.

Multiple Mini Interviews

The final stages in your application, following academic and personal statement scoring, are Multiple Mini Interviews (MMIs). MMIs at Bristol usually consist of ten stations, each taking five minutes, and you are assessed on a specific skill or attribute at each of these stations. The stations may include communication skills, work experience, coping with adversity, teamwork and observation.

These are a great opportunity for you to demonstrate the skills and attributes that are necessary for a career in medicine. The interview day also gives you an opportunity to visit the city and campus and meet current students, to help you to decide if you would like to study here.

Students who are unsuccessful in the MMI process will not be offered a place.

‘Some days are stimulating and totally thrilling: you succeed in a new practical skill, get good feedback from a doctor or see an exciting patient. For me these days have become more frequent as I have progressed.’

Emma (MB ChB Medicine)
Our one-year Gateway to Medicine course is an initiative targeted at UK students who have the potential to become doctors but do not meet the academic entry criteria to apply directly to the MB ChB Medicine. We have specific entry criteria for this course, which are listed in full on our website.

You will develop your knowledge of the basic sciences that underpin the study of medicine, and of professional behaviours and attitudes. Medical-related work experience will form part of the course. Successful completion of this year will enable you to progress to the five-year MB ChB Medicine course.

**Entry requirements**

**A-levels** BBC including BB in Chemistry and one of Biology, Physics or Mathematics. Applicants with predicted or achieved grades of AAB or above are not eligible for this course.

**IB Diploma** 29 points overall with 14 at Higher Level, including 5 at Higher Level in Chemistry and 5 at Higher Level in one of Biology, Physics or Mathematics. Applicants with predicted or achieved grades of 33 overall and 16 at Higher Level or above are not eligible for this course.

**GCSEs** Standard literacy requirement (C in GCSE English or equivalent) and higher numeracy requirement (B in GCSE Mathematics or equivalent) and two higher science requirements (B in GCSE Science or equivalent).

UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT) is required.

Work experience is recommended.

Other academic qualifications may be considered; please see our website for details.

---

**Selection** Candidates who fit the academic entry criteria and the additional widening participation criteria will be considered for interview. This will be a series of practical tests (Multiple Mini Interviews) undertaken at the University of Bristol campus.

**Deferred entry** Not accepted.

For more information please visit: [bristol.ac.uk/ug19-medicine](bristol.ac.uk/ug19-medicine).

‘The academic aspect doesn’t come naturally to me; I have to work hard to achieve the top grades. For me, the opportunity of a supported initial year that provides me with both guidance and a foundation to clinical knowledge was the ideal way forward.’

Chloe (Gateway to Medicine)
If you have any questions about courses, applications or any aspect of being a UK or international student at Bristol please contact the Enquiries Team.

**Enquiries Team**  
Tel +44 (0)117 394 1649  
Email choosebristol-ug@bristol.ac.uk

Accommodation Office  
Tel +44 (0)117 954 6640  
Email accom-office@bristol.ac.uk  
[bristol.ac.uk/accommodation](http://bristol.ac.uk/accommodation)

Disability Services  
Tel +44 (0)117 331 0444  
Email disability-services@bristol.ac.uk  
[bristol.ac.uk/disability-services](http://bristol.ac.uk/disability-services)

University guide to the city of Bristol  
[bristol.ac.uk/citybristol](http://bristol.ac.uk/citybristol)

If you need all or part of this publication in an alternative format please contact  
Student Marketing:  
**Tel** +44 (0)117 394 1573  
**Email** ug-publications@bristol.ac.uk

Photography  
Dan Rowley, Nick Riddle  
© University of Bristol