

Applying to MBBS Medicine from the King's International Foundation – Biology & Chemistry Pathway

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Which King's International Foundation pathway should I study if I want to apply to Medicine?

You must be studying on the King's International Foundation – Biology & Chemistry Pathway.

Am I eligible to apply to the King's International Foundation – Biology & Chemistry course?

Students wishing to apply to the King's International Foundation – Biology & Chemistry pathway must fulfil all the conditions below:

1. You must be an EU or International student; AND
2. You must have completed or be in the process of completing high school (year 12) in your country of residence with excellent grades (please refer to the [Global Qualifications list](#) on our website for guidance on minimum required grades); AND
3. You must have studied a school curriculum that would not allow you to apply for direct entry to a UK university otherwise (for example your country's national high school diploma), and not have completed an international qualification like A levels or the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma.
4. You must have studied Chemistry and Biology in your final year of high school and achieved high grades (please refer to the [Global Qualifications list](#) for details on scores required by country); AND
5. You must have achieved the equivalent of a grade A in maths in year 11 (GCSE equivalent); AND
6. You must have a minimum IELTS score of 6.0 overall with no skill below 5.5. Your test must be taken under UK Visas & Immigration ([UKVI](#)) approved conditions ([click here](#) for more details) and within two years of the King's International Foundation – Biology & Chemistry pathway start date; AND

What are the guidelines for applicants to King's Medicine MBBS regarding additional requirements such as skills, aptitude and vocational experience?

If you intend to apply to King's [Medicine MBBS](#), you must fulfil the conditions below.

Before applying for the King's International Foundation – Biology & Chemistry pathway, you must provide evidence that you:

1. Appreciate the demands of a medical degree and career; AND
2. Have normally undertaken work experience in a caring environment and/or observation in a medical clinical setting or, if this has not been possible, interacted with the general public through work, e.g. in a pharmacy; AND
3. Have good communication skills; AND
4. Have the ability to work successfully in a team; AND
5. Have participated as fully as possible in school or college life; AND
6. Have some experience of society beyond your immediate environment; AND
7. Have already completed the UCAT before you begin your King's Foundation programme.

Before enrolling on the King's International Foundation – Biology & Chemistry pathway in September, you must **ALSO** provide evidence that you:

1. Have achieved a high score on the [University Clinical Aptitude Test \(UCAT\)](#)

Unless you provide evidence of having fulfilled the conditions above in the personal statement of your application, we will **not** support your application to Medicine.

For more details, please see the latest guidelines for applicants on the [GKT School of Medical Education](#) website and on the Medicine MBBS Entry Requirements section of the [online prospectus](#).

Are there any guarantees from King's GKT School of Medical Education for King's International Foundation – Biology & Chemistry students?

Students on the King's International Foundation – Biology & Chemistry pathway who reach the required University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT) score for the proposed year of Medicine MBBS entry, and have the required skills, aptitude and vocational experience described above, and are predicted an overall grade of A with an A in each module, will be guaranteed an interview.

Any offer made would be dependent on the student's interview and overall academic profile. If you successfully receive an offer, it will typically be conditional to completing the King's International Foundation – Biology & Chemistry pathway with an overall grade of A grade, and an A in each module.

Will I need to sit the UCAT exam before starting my King's International Foundation – Biology & Chemistry course?

Yes. As the King's College London Medicine MBBS requires UCAT you will need to take the test before you start your course.

You can find out more about the [UCAT](#) exam through their website, where you can see details about exam locations, times, and prices, as well as extensive [preparation guides](#) and sample test papers.

It is strongly recommended you make full use of the UCAT Candidate Preparation Toolkit, the various tutorials, practice tests and the UCAT Official Guide, all available from the '[Preparing for the test](#)' page. UCAT has test centres in almost 90 countries around the world so overseas applicants will not be disadvantaged. Please refer to the UCAT website for details on registration: www.ucat.ac.uk.

What score do I need to achieve in the UCAT?

It varies from university to university and from year to year. At King's, the applicants who have the greatest chance of being invited to interview will generally have scores in the top 30% when compared against all applicants who have applied to King's. Please note that this is different to the overall UCAT percentile, as King's applicants on average are stronger than the overall field. The precise average score which this relates to changes from year to year as the quality and competition changes.

How are students selected for interview?

When considering those students which will be shortlisted for interview, the selectors at King's consider the following:

- GCSEs or equivalent (high school in your case); AND
- predicted or achieved A level grades (KIF in your case); AND
- the personal statement; AND
- the academic reference; AND
- the score in the UCAT

All of the above contribute to the shortlisting of candidates, but examination performance and the UCAT score are perhaps the most important. These are highlighted as they provide us with the fairest and most consistent method of comparing applicants.

What help will I get from King's Foundations?

Your tutor on the King's International Foundation – Biology & Chemistry pathway will help you with your UCAS form personal statement.

However, you will need to apply as an independent candidate through UCAS as the date for applying to medicine is much earlier than for other courses. This means that you will need to get a reference from your high school tutor (ask them to prepare this in advance).

The King's Foundations will not be able to provide you with predicted grades at the time you submit your application, because there is not enough information about your academic performance by this point. However, predicted grades and a reference will be provided on request in December.

Can I apply to Medicine at other UK universities?

Please note that up to four of your five UCAS choices can be for Medicine. It is your responsibility to research any additional requirements that other programmes may have and ensure that you fulfil them **before** enrolling on the King's International Foundation – Biology & Chemistry course. Typically, Medicine programmes in the UK require applicants to:

- Have completed relevant work experience or voluntary work; AND
- Achieve high scores in external exams such as the [University Clinical Aptitude Test \(UCAT\)](#) or the [BioMedical Admissions Test \(BMAT\)](#)

If you start the King's International Foundation – Biology & Chemistry pathway in September without having researched and prepared for these applications, or without providing evidence of having fulfilled the conditions above, we will **not** support your application to Medicine.

How should I use the fifth non-Medical choice on my UCAS form?

King's International Foundation students who apply to King's Medicine MBBS can also apply to King's School of Bioscience Education for one of its '[Common Year One](#)' courses.

You can choose one of a number of courses including:

- Medical Physiology BSc
- Neuroscience BSc/MSci
- Anatomy, Developmental & Human Biology BSc
- Pharmacology BSc/MSci
- Pharmacology & Molecular Genetics BSc
- Biomedical Science BSc
- Molecular Genetics BSc
- Biochemistry BSc/MSci

The flexibility of the pathway allows you to move between specialisms at the end of the first year.

You would be guaranteed to receive an offer from King's for one of these programmes conditional on completion of the King's International Foundation – Biology & Chemistry pathway with an overall grade of B+ and a B+ in Biology and a B+ in Chemistry.

How likely am I to get into Medicine MBBS?

Medicine programmes in the UK are incredibly competitive therefore it is important for you to be realistic about your chances. Even if you fulfil all the entry criteria described above and complete the King's International Foundation – Biology & Chemistry pathway with the highest grades, the competition is fierce.

To give you an idea, King's receives around 5,000 applications for the five-year medical programme (Medicine MBBS) each year. The university makes approximately 500 offers (universities make more offers than they have places to account for those who either do not accept or do not meet the requirements) of which only a very small percentage can be allocated to international students in line with UK government quotas. For example, for the 2015-16 entry, the MBBS programme received 511 international applications for 31 available places.

For this reason, it is important for you to consider carefully your fifth choice on the UCAS form such as one of King's 'Common Year One' (CYO) programmes.

Chart: Applying to MBBS Medicine at King's College London

