

## Medicine Admissions

Can I apply for two medicine courses in the same year (e.g. graduate entry, extended programme etc)?

Yes you can. These courses however have different requirements, and given that you only have four medicine choices on your UCAS form, we strongly suggest that you review the programme entry requirements on our website, seek advice from your school/advisors and speak to our admissions team about which of those courses is most suited to you.

Covid-19 and limitations in securing work experience: How important is work experience? Is it 100% necessary?

The purpose of work experience is to demonstrate that the vocation of Medicine is something you have carefully considered, having experienced something related to it and therefore knowing that it is the right path for you. It also shows us your ability to reflect on what these experiences have taught you; and this reflection is more important to us than the type or amount of experience you have had.

We understand the difficulties in securing work experience, both during the restrictions of Covid-19 and the more general inequalities of access.

There are ways to explore experience that is useful without it being face to face, in a hospital or in a clinical setting. Speak to your school or careers advisors to see what they suggest. What we are really interested in is what you have learnt from whatever experience is possible, and we do not turn applicants away purely because they haven't been able to obtain work experience. For example, we have had successful past applicants who reflected on their experience in their part time job as a way of dealing with demanding people, and drawing similarities between that and A&E.

What do you look for in personal statements?

We look for personal statements that are clear, concise and relevant. They should demonstrate and include where possible:

- Your rationale for medicine
- Work experience
- Shadowing doctors, voluntary work in healthcare setting etc.
- Extra-curricular activities

Our advice is to be honest about yourself, demonstrate that you've reflected on what you've learnt, what that tells you about yourself and why you want to study medicine. Ask someone you trust to read it and feedback. Make sure everything you say is true and don't try too hard to stand out.

### Do I need to tailor my personal statement to include my non-medicine choice(s)?

You should write it for Medicine. Admissions teams for other courses understand that Medicine is generally the primary aim of the application, so the general advice is always to tailor your personal statement to Medicine rather than the additional science courses.

### What do you place the most weight upon? A Levels, personal statement, UCAT or interview etc?

There is a sequential process to your application being considered, the last of which is the interview, so issues such as weighting are difficult to quantify. We consider A-level grades, UCAT, Personal statements and GCSE grades when shortlisting for interview. If you are invited to an MMI our final decision is then based on how you perform at interview.

### Is there a cut off score for the UCAT? What is the average score you accept?

There is no cut off score as UCAT is used in combination with the rest of your application in the shortlisting process. What is deemed a competitive score varies each year and will depend on the performance of other students applying to King's. We are therefore unable to provide an average score.

### What is the ratio of applications to offers?

It varies year to year and between the programmes, somewhere between approximately 10% and 25% of candidates are made offers.

### What proportion of applicants get to interview? What proportion of interviewees get offered a place?

We run sufficient interviews each year to be able to provide the numbers of offers we require to translate into enrolling students. This varies between the programme, but in total on average it is in the order of approximately 30%

Approximately half of the people invited to interview will be made an offer, but this also varies significantly by programme.

### What is the standard interview process? What will an interview look like this year? Will it be face-to-face?

Our standard interview process takes the form of multiple mini interviews (MMIs). This consists of seven interviews on different topics/questions, each with one interviewer and lasting seven minutes. Interviewers are made up of current medical students, medicine teaching staff (both clinical and academic) and NHS doctors. You are scored for each question on the content of your response and your communication.

This year we are moving to virtual MMIs and will be taking a simpler approach with four interviewers/interviews, each asking two questions. For those who may have problems sitting a virtual MMI (lack of technology, no quiet space to sit the MMIs etc) please let us know when we invite you to interview, as we plan on holding some slots later in the year for face-to-face interviews under any relevant social distancing guidance at the time.

### Are resits accepted?

Where an applicant has taken longer than three years to complete their exams, only applicants with significant mitigating circumstances will be considered if they have resits. When they apply, a Mitigating Circumstances form should also be submitted.

### Is there any flexibility on the A\*AA requirements for A100?

Medicine is a very competitive course and as such there is no flexibility on the academic entry requirements. A full list of entry requirements can be found on the specific course page on our website.

### Are there any scholarships or bursaries available?

Details of any available scholarships and bursaries can be found here on our website:

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/fees-and-funding/student-funding/scholarships-and-bursaries>

## The Medicine Course/Life at King's

### What format do assessments take?

We have four main assessment methods, there is an in-year retake opportunity for all types:

#### 1. E-Portfolio

At King's, our focus is to develop professionals, and the professional approach begins from the very start of the course with our E-Portfolio: a series of small and important tasks that recognise your ongoing growth. Professional standards and ways of working is something that you continually grow throughout the course and indeed throughout your medical career.

#### 2. Progress Tests

Single best answer knowledge-based assessments, in stages two and three are our own brand of progress testing. With this type of assessment you gain experience with the types of questions we ask as well as your understanding of the topics, and you can get feedback about how you've done in order to grow for future progress tests. In Stage 1 single best answer question papers take a more traditional approach.

#### 3. Essays and Project-Based Assessments

Project assessments take the form of essays together with engagement measures.

#### 4. Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs)

We assess you clinically through objective structured clinical examinations (OSCEs) which happen in years 2 and 4 to give you feedback on how you're doing (formative assessment). In years 3 and 5 these are summative assessments, i.e. you must pass in order to progress.

### Is intercalation mandatory?

Intercalation is no longer mandatory, but we would certainly recommend it as a great opportunity to achieve a degree in one year, and work towards a particular speciality that you might be interested in. We have a very wide range of iBSc degrees available, and if we do not offer a subject you wish to study, you can study elsewhere for that year.

### What are the timings of a typical day? Does this allow me the option of a part time job alongside my degree?

Medicine is a full-time degree. During the earlier years of the programme it is more or less 9-5. In the later years as you work more clinically, it is important to be able to stay for extended hours when necessary.

It is possible to have a part time job and do the degree (for example many of our students are [King's Student Ambassadors](#) which allows for flexible working), but you should make sure it doesn't interfere with your study.

### Is there a student society for medical students?

Our [Medical Student's Association](#) is a vibrant society that work with the faculty to help shape policy. They have a great social programme and are strong on diversity, student support and understanding the complexities of being a medical student.

### Does the course use problem-based learning?

Problem-based learning is learning around problems in small groups with very little input from the teacher, who facilitates but doesn't direct learning. There is a little emphasis on this as an opportunity to develop learning skills in our Extended Medical Degree Programme, but not otherwise. We make extensive use of case-based learning. This is a similar principle of taking a problem and working on it, but with more input from the teacher.

### How diverse would you describe the environment at King's?

King's is incredibly diverse, reflective of the average street in London. We have a hugely rich cultural mix at King's and the university all the better for that.