Gateway to Medicine
2017 entry
What is the Gateway to Medicine?

The School of Medicine at the University of St Andrews offers a Gateway to Medicine which is a one-year programme taught in the Faculty of Science but with contributions from staff in Medicine.

The purpose of the Gateway to Medicine programme is to promote the uptake of higher education, specifically among those groups that are traditionally under-represented at university. The Gateway programme provides the opportunity for students who have completed S5 and just missed out on the grades required for medicine to study at first year undergraduate level. The Gateway year is an alternative to S6. Pupils who pass the year at an appropriate level and meet the requirements for progression will transfer onto our Medicine degree programme.

What are the entrance requirements?

To be eligible for the Gateway programme applicants must be resident in Scotland and have attended a state school. Applicants must also have AAAB at Scottish Higher which must include Chemistry and one other from Biology, Mathematics or Physics. These must be obtained in one sitting in S5. Consideration may be given to results within one grade point of this. If Biology, English and Mathematics have not been passed at Higher, each must normally have been passed at National 5 (A or B) or equivalent.

For progression onto the full medical programme students must have achieved:

- Grades of at least 12.0 in all first year modules.
- A suitable UKCAT score.
- A pass in the Multiple Mini Interview.

If all modules are passed but not at grade 12.0 students can remain in the Faculty of Science with the opportunity to transfer onto a BSc Honours programme where pre-requisites have been met.

How will I be supported?

There is a variety of support in place for students on our Gateway to Medicine programme. This includes:

- A programme co-ordinator and mentor in Medicine and Adviser of Studies in science.
- Financial support in the form of a scholarship may be available for students as well as the opportunity to apply for bursaries and scholarships for entry into Medicine or other named degree programme after the Gateway year.
- Entrants can apply for SAAS funding for the Gateway as normal with the degree pathway stated as General Science.
- Reach officer support will be available for such things as UKCAT testing, if required.
- Extra tutorial support in biology and chemistry will be provided.

 Jakub – Medical Student

The Gateway to Medicine has had a tremendous impact, not only on my academic life but also on me as a person. It allowed me to pursue my dream field of studies as well as providing me with valuable life experience of independence and a solid basis in the sciences creating an incredible base that I plan to build my medical career on. None of this would be possible without the Gateway to Medicine programme, for which I will be eternally grateful.

What’s next?

Who can apply?

Only applicants who have just completed S5 will be considered.

To be eligible for the Gateway programme, applicants should meet some of the following criteria:

- Have attended the Sutton Trust Summer School at St Andrews or have engaged with the Reach project.
- No background of progression to higher education in the family.
- Reside in an area of socio-economic disadvantage.
- Eligible for free school meals.
- Are being looked after (or have been looked after) as a result of a local authority order.
- Receive an Education Maintenance Allowance.
- Attend a school which has low numbers of pupils who progress to higher education.

How can I apply?

- Potential applicants should email a note of interest to the Schools Access Team who will confirm eligibility to apply: schools.access@st-andrews.ac.uk
- On the day that Scottish Higher results are published University staff will contact potential applicants who have indicated an interest, to ascertain what Higher grades they have achieved and advise if the pupils could apply for the Gateway programme.
- Application (by a direct application form) will take place immediately after the Scottish Higher results are published.
- Suitable applicants will be called to interview.
- Offers will be made in time for applicants to enter the programme in September of the same year.

If you have any questions regarding this programme or would like more information please see our contact details on the back cover.
As a research intensive institution, the University ensures that its teaching references the research interests of its staff, which may change from time to time. As a result, programmes are regularly reviewed with the aim of enhancing students’ learning experience. Our approach to course revision is described at: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/media/teaching-and-learning/policies/course-revision-protocol.pdf

Curriculum Development

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