Scottish Graduate Entry Medical Programme (ScotGEM)
The medical schools at the universities of St Andrews and Dundee have been chosen by the Scottish Government to run a graduate entry programme for Medicine and it is expected that the first cohort will enter in 2018. We are currently unable to provide information about the application deadline or entry requirements but details will be available when particulars are finalised. Please check online for updates: http://medicine.st-andrews.ac.uk/teaching/bsc-hons-medicine/medical-admissions/entry-requirements/uk

Do I need previous knowledge of this subject? – No.

Contact for prospective applicants
(including queries regarding entrance requirements)
E: admissions@st-andrews.ac.uk
http://medicine.st-andrews.ac.uk

Non-academic entrance requirements
To be a successful applicant you must be able to show evidence of the following:
• Personal qualities such as empathy, good communication and listening skills, leadership skills and the ability to work in a team.
• A well-informed understanding of what a career in Medicine involves.
• A commitment to Medicine demonstrated by organising work experience or shadowing. Experience of working with ill or disabled people, preferably in a health care setting.
• Commitment to academic study, staying power, perseverance and intellectual potential.

In considering the commitment involved in becoming a doctor, the following provide important guidance:
General Medical Council, www.gmc-uk.org
Medical Schools Council, www.medschools.ac.uk

Degree options in the Faculty of Medicine

BSc (Single Honours degree)
Medicine

Likely grades considered for an offer
We consider all aspects of every application, including context, equivalent qualifications, the Personal Statement and UKCAT scores. However, it is likely that successful applicants will have met, or are likely to meet, the academic standards described below.

SQA Highers
AAAAAB, including Chemistry (A grade) and one other of Biology, Mathematics or Physics. These grades should normally be obtained at the same sitting. If Mathematics, Biology and English have not been passed at Higher, each must normally have been passed at National 5 (A or B) or Intermediate 2 (A or B).

No direct entry from fifth year (S5): If you are a Scottish candidate you will not be admitted in the academic year immediately following your fifth year at school. Offers made will be conditional and based on S6 programmes of study. Applicants must be studying three subjects in S6 and likely conditions required will be BBB in either Advanced Highers or new Highers.

GCE Advanced (A2) Level
AAA, at the same sitting, including Chemistry and one other of Biology, Mathematics or Physics. If Biology, Mathematics and English are not being offered at Advanced (A2) level, each must normally have been passed at GCSE grade B or better.

International Baccalaureate
38 points including, at Higher level, three passes at grade 6, including Chemistry and one of Biology, Mathematics or Physics. If Mathematics or Physics and at Standard level, three passes at grade 6. If Mathematics, Biology or English are lacking at Higher level they must be offered at Standard level.

Applicants presenting other qualifications are expected to have attained these at a level which is equivalent to that expected of applicants offering Highers, Advanced (A2) Levels or the International Baccalaureate.

HNC Applied Sciences ‘Pathway to Medicine’ at Perth College
The School of Medicine has formed a partnership with Perth College whereby a small number of students following a specified pathway in the Higher National Certificate (HNC) Applied Sciences at Perth College will be eligible to join the Medicine degree at St Andrews. More information can be found on the School of Medicine webpages or from Perth College. T: 0845 270 1177 or E: pc.admissions@perth.uhi.ac.uk

Gateway to Medicine
The School of Medicine offers this one year programme taught in the Faculty of Science but with contributions from staff in Medicine. Entrants to the Gateway who pass the year at an appropriate level and meet the other requirements for progression will transfer into the Medicine degree. http://medicine.st-andrews.ac.uk/teaching/bsc-hons-medicine/gateway-to-medicine
What will I study?

The School of Medicine at St Andrews offers an integrated curriculum within a strong clinical context. In addition to exploring the foundations of medical science, it encourages the development of the professional attitudes, ethical understanding and decision-making skills required by the GMC and detailed in ‘Outcomes for Graduates’ and ‘Promoting Excellence’. The curriculum addresses the following core principles:

• **Accomplishment** – understanding of the scientific basis of medicine and an extensive anatomical and physiological understanding of the human body.

• **Professionalism** – development of clinical skills, personal values, interpersonal skills and ethical awareness.

• **Reflection** – monitoring self-awareness and decision-making through the completion of a portfolio.

• **Independence** – encouragement of self-directed learning and an ability to cope with uncertainty.

The teaching is designed to encourage the application of medical sciences to clinical problems. The clinical teaching is integrated with the basic science learning and spans first to third years, running throughout the entire course. Clinical skills teaching, including communication skills, takes place in simulated wards and examination rooms with communication skills being taught as an integral part of the course. Clinical experience is also offered in the form of patient contact through primary care initiatives in the community from first year. Professionalism and patient safety are key components of the entire course.
Indicative programme information

First year
The medical course at St Andrews takes the form of an integrated spiral curriculum. In the first year of the course the modules Foundations of Medicine 1 and 2 emphasise the interrelationships between the pre-clinical sciences and form the first turn of the spiral. During subsequent turns of the spiral, topics will be revisited at a more advanced level and with increasing clinical application.

Foundations of Medicine 1
For this module and subsequent modules, vertical strands like microbiology, public health and health psychology run in parallel with the systems being taught. This module:
- reviews fundamental aspects of molecular and cellular medicine.
- gives a general overview of the structure and functions of the body systems from the microscopic to the macroscopic level, including cadaveric dissection.
- gives a preliminary introduction to medical ethics and communication skills relevant to medicine.
- uses clinical problems to develop an understanding of the levels of consciousness and the assessment of health status.
- provides opportunities to speak to patients with chronic health problems in the Medical School environment.

Foundations of Medicine 2
This module continues the introduction of fundamental topics into the curriculum, including the principles of disease mechanisms and therapy, and the development of communication skills. The first body system (the musculo-skeletal system) is visited in detail. This module:
- provides an in-depth study of the musculo-skeletal system, including nerve and muscle physiology. The anatomy of the upper and lower limbs will be studied by dissection and lecture.
- develops an understanding of principles of disease mechanisms and therapy.
- introduces particular topics in behavioural sciences e.g. stress, coping and pain.
- introduces concepts of pharmacokinetics and pharmacy.
- reviews genetics and the effects of genes on development and disease.
- provides further opportunities for exposure to clinical problems relevant to the teaching.

Second year
The Honours programme, which runs through both second and third year, focuses in detail upon the normal function and dysfunction of specific physiological systems.

The two modules in second year form the second turn of the curriculum spiral taking an integrated approach to the scientific basis of medicine in Honours. They build upon the material curriculum spiral taking an integrated approach to the scientific basis of medicine in Honours. They build upon the material delivered in the first year and introduce new concepts.

Medicine Honours 1
This module covers the structure and functions of the cardiovascular and respiratory systems.

Medicine Honours 2
This module covers the renal, gastrointestinal and reproductive systems.

Both second year modules:
- introduce the disease mechanisms and therapy of disorders pertinent to the body systems covered.
- cover the body systems through cadaveric dissection, including the integration with clinical imaging.
- use relevant clinical problems and clinical skills to provide a clinical context.
- integrate the ethical, moral and behavioural aspects relevant to these systems.
- provide a series of community attachments in primary health care settings.

Third year
In third year there are three learning blocks (one in Semester 1 and two in Semester 2). Semester 1 of this year deals with the most complex integrative physiological systems (central nervous system and endocrine organs). The first module of Semester 2 is a significant Student-Selected Component and the second module of Semester 2 is Applied Medical Science.

Medicine Honours 3
This module continues the strategy of the spiral curriculum by revisiting foundation knowledge and progressing to more complex systems. This module:
- provides in-depth coverage of normal structure and function of the central nervous system and endocrine systems. The anatomy of the head and neck will be studied by dissection and lecture.
- introduces diseases and possible therapies pertinent to these important control systems.
- presents case studies associated with the central nervous system and endocrine systems to highlight appropriate clinical skills for the identification of neurological and endocrinological disorders.
- utilises cadaveric dissection, including covering aspects of radiology.
- integrates ethical issues and behavioural science with clinical medicine.
- provides hospital attachments.

Medicine Honours 4 (Student-Selected Component)
You will undertake a Student-Selected Component (SSC) in the form of a research project. The SSC will enable you to pursue an area of your own particular interest at an advanced level and further develop critical appraisal skills. SSCs provide the opportunity for:
- developing an understanding of scientific methods.
- gaining competency in using literature-searching methods.
- developing an inquisitive and questioning attitude and ability to apply rational thought processes.
- preparing a scientific research dissertation demonstrating critical thinking and analysis.
- giving an oral presentation on the research findings.
- developing reflective practice using a portfolio for a significant learning event.
“Studying Medicine at St Andrews has given me the perfect balance of scientific knowledge and clinical experience that will help me to excel in my future career. Throughout my time here, the staff have been exceedingly helpful; they are always willing to make time to talk. Due to the fairly small year groups, it is really easy to get to know everyone on the course which makes it an even more enjoyable experience!”

Catriona (Glasgow, Scotland)

**Medicine Honours 5 (Applied Medical Science)**

Knowledge acquired in the earlier parts of the curriculum will be consolidated. This course is taught primarily by clinicians (including Honorary staff) and case studies will be used extensively to direct student learning. This module:

- reviews clinical anatomy in preparation for later clinical training.
- provides the opportunity to significantly advance student clinical and communication skills in terms of patient examination techniques and associated procedures.
- provides an opportunity for multi-disciplinary team working through a ward-simulation scenario involving other health professionals.
- develops the ability to recognise disease patterns and clinical reasoning.

**Typical methods of assessment**

First, second and third year modules are assessed by written examinations (multiple choice and short written answers), anatomy practical examinations (APEs) and observed structured clinical examinations (OSCEs). Also in third year, students will complete a dissertation in an area of their own interest. In order to progress to a Partner Medical School for completion of their medical training, students must achieve the award of BSc (Honours) Medicine from the University of St Andrews.

**Additional information**

**Application deadlines**

UK and EU applicants must apply by 15 October and international applicants (i.e. non-EU) by 31 January.

**Selection procedures**

When assessing your application we shall take into account academic achievement (or predicted achievement), your UKCAT result and all the other information on the UCAS form. There is considerable competition for places and so the academic qualifications indicated are considered to be the minimum entrance requirements and will not automatically guarantee the offer of a place. Further information on competitive entry is detailed online: [http://medicine.st-andrews.ac.uk/prospectus](http://medicine.st-andrews.ac.uk/prospectus)

Only those applicants who meet our UKCAT requirement, have a very strong academic record and obtain a positive assessment of their non-academic qualities and experience (see section on page 126) will be called for interview.

**Disability**

A disability need not be a barrier to becoming a doctor but those who have a disability will need to consider carefully what effect that will have on their capacity to function as a medical practitioner (fitness to practise).

In the first instance, if you have a disability (including dyslexia) or relevant health concerns, you should explore what support we can make available to you by contacting the University’s Disabilities Adviser in Student Services before submitting your application. See page 40.

**Immunisation and other conditions of offer**

For information about immunisation and other conditions of offer, such as satisfactory criminal record screening, please see details online: [http://medicine.st-andrews.ac.uk/prospectus](http://medicine.st-andrews.ac.uk/prospectus)

**Additional costs**

You will have to cover the costs for a lab coat, protective glasses, mask and a stethoscope as well as specific clothes for clinical training. For information on dress code see: [http://medhandbook.st-andrews.ac.uk/blog/category/students/professionalism](http://medhandbook.st-andrews.ac.uk/blog/category/students/professionalism)

The Scottish Government has introduced a mandatory new national levy for overseas medical students for each year of study to cover the costs of NHS clinical teaching. Further information can be found at: [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/ug/fees-and-funding/rest-of-world](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/ug/fees-and-funding/rest-of-world)