



University of  
St Andrews

# Scottish graduate entry medicine (SCOTGEM) MB ChB programme regulations 2024-2025 (Version 1.8)

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# **SCOTTISH GRADUATE ENTRY MEDICINE (SCOTGEM) MBChB PROGRAMME**

## **REGULATIONS 2024-2025 (Version 1.8)**

### **1. Introduction**

1.1 The purpose of this document is to detail the regulations unique to the Scottish Graduate Entry Medicine programme (ScotGEM). The innovative ScotGEM programme is a joint four-year Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) studied full time at the University of St Andrews and the University of Dundee. The ScotGEM programme includes extended placements across Scottish NHS Board areas and is operated in partnership with the University of the Highlands and Islands.

1.2 The Universities of Dundee and St Andrews are jointly accredited by the General Medical Council as the bodies awarding the ScotGEM MBChB.

### **2. Governance**

2.1 ScotGEM utilises existing management and governance structures across both Universities and both Schools of Medicine. In addition, new cross-institutional structures have been established to aid partnership working:

2.1.1 ScotGEM Strategic Board: To provide a strategic overview of the programme and endorse decisions regarding governance, in addition to providing guidance and direction regarding NHS partnership.

2.1.2 ScotGEM Joint Programme Board: To provide operational overview and direction regarding operational joint degree partnership.

2.1.3 ScotGEM Joint Assessment Board: To provide operational overview of assessment strategy, oversee creation of formative and summative assessment and convene ScotGEM Joint Exam Boards.

2.1.4 ScotGEM Joint Exam Boards (one for each year of the Programme): To review examination results to assure the quality of assessment content and delivery, student performance and make decisions on progression, and degree classifications and graduation status according to 16.2 and Appendix D guidelines.

2.1.5 ScotGEM Joint Progress Committee: To ensure that both institutions are represented when decisions are being made around students' academic engagement and progression.

### **3. Definition of Primary Matriculation**

3.1 Students will be registered at both the Universities of Dundee and St Andrews for the duration of the ScotGEM Programme. In this context, they will have access to the services offered by both Universities throughout their studies.

3.2 In addition, students will have an Institution of Primary Matriculation for each year of the Programme. In Year 1 and Year 2, St Andrews will be the Institution of Primary Matriculation, while in Year 3 and Year 4, Dundee will be the Institution of Primary Matriculation. The rules and regulations of the Institution of Primary Matriculation apply to

all students, except where ScotGEM MBChB Programme Regulations supersede local rules.

3.3 The ScotGEM MBChB Programme Regulations will apply to students throughout the Programme. The most up to date Programme Regulations will apply, rather than the Programme Regulations in place at time of matriculation, each year, without detriment to students.

#### **4. Information and communication**

4.1 The Universities make every effort to ensure that the information it provides on the ScotGEM webpages are accurate at the time of publication. All information that is subject to change after publication, such as course content, selection criteria, University processes and financial matters, is available and kept up-to-date on our website and communicated as appropriate: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/medicine/scotgem-mbchb/> and <https://www.dundee.ac.uk/undergraduate/scotgem>. In the event of force majeure, including pandemic, clear additional guidance will be given to students and staff.

4.2 Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the ScotGEM regulations and University policies at each institution, and to ensure that they follow the ScotGEM programme requirements.

4.3 ScotGEM applicants, entrants and students should note that information, communications and decisions will be shared between the Universities of St Andrews and Dundee, as well as with other partner organisations as appropriate to support the student's progress, programme delivery and evaluation.

4.4 The security of all information held at University of St Andrews is covered by Data Protection legislation, a guide to which can be found at: [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/rules/dataprotection/](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/rules/dataprotection/)

4.5 Security of all information at University of Dundee is also covered by Data Protection legislation, a guide to which can be found at: <https://www.dundee.ac.uk/information-governance/dataprotection/>

#### **5. Monitoring and review**

5.1 The ScotGEM Programme Regulations and policies are reviewed annually to ensure any changes in legislation, University regulations, or partnership arrangements are reflected and communicated.

#### **6. Related documents and information**

6.1 Information about applying to the Programme: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/medicine/scotgem-MB ChB/>

6.2 Information about ScotGEM: <http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/medicine/scotgem-mbchb/>

6.3 University of St Andrews Undergraduate Course Catalogue: [Modules - Subjects - University of St Andrews \(st-andrews.ac.uk\)](#)

6.4 University of Dundee Undergraduate Course Catalogue: <https://www.dundee.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses>

6.5 Students are also directed to: The ScotGEM Programme Guide for detailed structure of the ScotGEM programme: <https://medhandbook.st-andrews.ac.uk/scotgem-programme-guide-and-regulations/> and the ScotGEM Student Contract: <http://medhandbook.st-andrews.ac.uk/category/student/professionalism/>.

## **7. Admissions and Registration**

7.1 Applicants to the ScotGEM Programme apply to the University of St Andrews through the UCAS process. This programme is only open to applicants who are classed as Home, RUK (rest of UK), or Islands (Channel Islands and Isle of Man) for fee purposes. Those who are classed as Overseas for fee purposes are not eligible to apply for this course. Transfer credits from other universities will not be accepted, nor will advanced standing credits be awarded. Applicants who are on, or have been on, a medicine degree course will not be considered, including any intercalating degree. Applications for deferred entry are not accepted. Candidates can make a maximum of two applications to ScotGEM. Full University of St Andrews admissions policy is available here: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/policy/student-administration-admissions/admissions-policy.pdf>.

7.2 Full detail of current entrance requirements are available here: <http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/medicine/scotgem-mbchb/>

7.3 The selection process for applicants to ScotGEM includes an assessment of all information on the application form including academic performance and predicted grades, completion of relevant medically related work experience, a reference and aptitude test results.

7.4 Based on the above information, applicants may be selected for interview. Applicants will be required to complete an online questionnaire, elements of which will be included in the interview process.

7.5 Decisions to make offers will be based on the multiple mini interview system. Successful candidates may be given unconditional offers or conditional offers if they are still awaiting the outcomes for some entry requirements such as degree classification. Applicants will be notified of decisions via UCAS.

## **8. Occupational Health**

8.1 ScotGEM students may only access Occupational Health support, associated with their degree course, through a single portal at their Institution of Primary Matriculation. These services include support to students requiring occupational advice, treatment or assessment and inoculations and tests for communicable diseases in order to protect students, staff and NHS patients. Students who have been made an offer will be sent a pre-entry questionnaire to allow Occupational Health to prepare a health record prior to matriculation.

8.2 Students are required to engage with occupational health and to ensure that they follow occupational health guidelines as per the relevant ScotGEM Programme Handbook throughout their programme or as stated by their institution.

8.3 Students will be required to demonstrate Exposure Prone Procedures (EPP) clearance by engaging with occupational health. Students who require remedial inoculations during periods of clinical placement must make arrangements through their Institution of Primary Matriculation.

8.4 Under the guidance of the Occupational Health service students may be required to complete appropriate workplace-based risk-assessment tools. Occupational Health provide advice regarding students at increased risk of serious complications. Students on clinical placements and participating in clinical skills teaching are required to follow the infection control procedures that are in place for local clinical staff.

## **9. Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG)**

9.1 In addition to any statement made during the UCAS application process, all undergraduate medical students are required to join the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme, for children and vulnerable adults operated by Disclosure Scotland. Students are advised to have all required information and identity documents available during Orientation Week.

## **10. Registration**

10.1 All students must complete the matriculation process at the institution of Primary Matriculation in order to become registered students. This includes completion of the academic advising process, completion of online matriculation (including verification of personal details, confirmation of financial arrangements, and completion of the Matriculation Agreement) and attendance at the matriculation event during Orientation Week. Entrant students who fail to complete the matriculation process on time will be classed as “No show” and will be required to re-apply through the normal admissions route. All students will be expected to follow the relevant matriculation procedures of the institution of Primary Matriculation in subsequent years of the Programme and must matriculate with both Universities in every year of the 4-year programme.

10.2 ScotGEM is a full-time, in-person degree programme only; it is not possible to enrol on a part-time basis.

10.3 Students have access to the same facilities and services that are available to other registered students at the Universities of St Andrews and Dundee throughout their degree programme and are subject to the same rules and regulations as all other students.

## **11. Tuition Fees**

11.1 Tuition fees for 2023-2024 are available online: For Years 1 and 2, at: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/money/fees/feestable/> and for Years 3 and 4, at: <https://www.dundee.ac.uk/undergraduate/medicine/fees-and-funding>

11.2 Students will be liable for tuition fees at the University of St Andrews in Years 1 and 2 and at the University of Dundee in Years 3 and 4.

11.3 The ScotGEM programme is a graduate entry Medicine programme, which meets the criteria for tuition fee funding. For students assessed as Home (Scotland) tuition fees will be paid by the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) directly to the University of Primary Matriculation, providing the student progresses through the programme satisfactorily. Students with Home (Scotland) fee status do not have to apply to SAAS for tuition fee funding. Students with a fee status of RUK or Islands should check eligibility with their funding body (e.g. Student Finance England).

11.4 Aside from the tuition fees that are paid to the University, students will incur some additional costs in relation to their studies. Some of these costs are compulsory, others are optional. A summary of compulsory additional costs associated with this degree programme can be found at: [https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/medicine/scotgem-mbchb/additional\\_compulsory\\_costs](https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/medicine/scotgem-mbchb/additional_compulsory_costs). In addition, all students will be liable for the 'General Council and Graduation Fee or Completion Fee', payable at first matriculation.

## **12. Location of study**

12.1 Teaching will take place in both the Universities of St Andrews and Dundee and information will be provided in advance through handbooks and teaching timetables. The ScotGEM programme is designed to allow students to participate in the comprehensive care of patients over time. To achieve this, they will be required to undertake clinical and non-clinical placements. These will vary in duration and will require extended periods in placements out with Dundee and St Andrews, including remote and rural locations. Careful consideration will be given to ensure that students with additional requirements undertake placements that maximise their experience.

12.2 It is expected that all students studying on the ScotGEM programme will be present for required in-person teaching. Remote online learning for medical students will not routinely be approved due to the requirement for practical teaching.

12.3 Students should comply with the relevant University policies regarding location of studies to ensure that a residence is maintained. For Years 1 and 2: <https://www.st->

### **13. Leave of Absence**

13.1 Students who wish to take a Leave of Absence on medical and/or personal grounds must obtain permission from the Institution of Primary Matriculation (University of St Andrews or University of Dundee), and that institution's regulations will apply. All relevant information will be shared with the other institution for the completeness of records.

13.2 Normally, the institution which granted the Leave of Absence and to which the student is expected to return, will approve a student's request to return after a Leave of Absence. The regulations of that institution will apply, though the other institution will be consulted. Support is available to students throughout the Leave of Absence process (see also Appendix A: Student Support and Advice).

13.3 Due to the specific requirements of progression between the institutions, it will normally only be possible to take a Leave of Absence to the start of the following academic year.

13.4 Leave of absence may have implications for tuition fee funding and eligibility for Scottish Government bursary. Further advice and support will be provided to students as required.

### **14. Re-engaging with studies**

14.1 In some circumstances, students may be required to take Leave of Absence from the programme and return to their studies after a period of time away. The General Medical Council (GMC) mandates that students must keep their skills and knowledge up-to-date and that medical schools should not allow students to progress who cannot demonstrate this. Therefore, if Leave of Absence extends beyond six months, evidence may be required that the student has retained both knowledge and competencies appropriate to their year of study, this may take the form of a re-entry exam. The specific requirement to demonstrate this will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the ScotGEM Joint Progress Committee. Outcomes may be:

14.1.1 Students returning from Leave of Absence due to personal reasons in years 2-4, who have therefore not attempted assessment for their current year of study, may be required to retake the end of year assessments (both written and practical) for the last year of study they fully completed. Failure to do so may result in the student being required to re-enter the programme in the year below where they left on Leave of Absence.

14.1.2 Students who have been required to take Leave of Absence due to the impact of academic adjustments must be able to demonstrate recent competency in both written and practical assessments. This may require a student to retake assessment for a component they had previously passed, should this have been more than six months ago.

14.1.3 Students returning from Leave of Absence on medical grounds may require an Occupational Health report.

14.1.4 A student who has had a Leave of Absence from the course for a period of greater than one academic year may be required on return to enter an earlier year of the programme, even if this year(s) has previously been successfully completed.

## **15. Transfers**

15.1 Students admitted into ScotGEM may not normally transfer to a regular degree programme at either institution, though exceptional cases may be considered within the framework detailed below:

### **15.1.1 First year**

15.1.1.1 Transfer to an alternative degree programme is not possible prior to completion of the first year of the ScotGEM programme.

### **15.1.2 Second year**

15.1.2.1 Students who have completed Year 1 and wish to apply to transfer to another degree programme at the University of St Andrews or Dundee must apply for transfer by the published deadline (for St Andrews, within five working days of the publication of Year 1 results).

15.1.2.2 Further opportunity to apply for transfer will be dependent on gaining credits in the reassessment diet. If no credits are gained in the reassessment diet there will be no opportunity for transfer.

15.1.2.3 Based on entry requirements for ScotGEM and credits obtained, relevant School(s) may choose to waive some, or all of the first year modules taken within their new programme. All applicants will be expected to demonstrate a strong academic record in ScotGEM, good reasons for seeking to transfer to their chosen degree programme, and that they meet the Honours entry requirements for their intended degree programme.

15.1.2.4 Where a transfer application is successful, there is no guarantee that credits obtained in ScotGEM will transfer in full to an alternative degree programme. Students may require longer to complete programme requirements. Tuition fees for years completed in ScotGEM will not be refunded. Students in receipt of scholarships should also note that these may not be transferable.

### **15.1.3 Third year and fourth year**

15.1.3.1 Transfer to an alternative degree programme is not possible upon completion of the second year of the ScotGEM programme.

## **16. Academic Regulations**

### **16.1 Programme requirements**

16.1.1 The general requirements are 700 credits from an approved programme over four years of study, where 360 credits are from approved modules at the University of St Andrews (180 credits at SCQF level 8 and 180 credits at SCQF level 9) and 340



credits are from approved modules at the University of Dundee (180 credits at SCQF level 10 and 160 credits at SCQF level 11).

## 16.2 Progression Criteria

16.2.1 In order to progress to the next year of the programme, students must pass all assessed components (i.e. written exams, portfolio and skills (OSCE)) associated with their current year of study. Progression on the programme is also dependent on professionalism, and significant concerns may halt progression regardless of academic performance (see section 16.6 Professionalism and Fitness to Practise).

16.2.2 Students who fail a component (or components) on the first attempt will be entitled to reassessment. Reassessment will place a cap upon the score a student can receive for that component. Students with outstanding reassessments may be allowed to engage with inductions for the next year of the programme. A fee may be incurred for requiring reassessment, which will be payable at the time of registration for the reassessment.

16.2.3 Students who do not pass a component (or components) upon reassessment may be entitled to repeat that academic year. Such students would be required to retake and pass all required teaching and assessment, regardless of which component(s) they did not pass at reassessment. Students cannot normally retake more than one year of the programme.

16.2.4 In instances where the timing of the scheduled programme assessment diet requires students to engage with the following year's studies, they may be considered to be extending their current year with provisional enrolment in the subsequent academic year. This will also apply if the student is scheduled to take either reassessment or deferred first attempt of assessment within the programme reassessment diet. If such a student has not passed all assessed components by the end of the programme assessment diet, then their progression will be subject to standard rules, and they may either be required to re-enter a failed academic year or take Leave of Absence if eligible for further repeat assessment.

16.2.5 Students who are required to repeat an academic year may be liable for tuition fees and may not be eligible for a Scottish Government Bursary.

## 16.3 Academic adjustment

16.3.1 Academic adjustments refer to any adjustment made to mitigate for a student's personal circumstances that might otherwise impact on their ability to engage or best represent their academic ability. Academic adjustments are different to reasonable adjustments and are not covered by the Equalities Act 2010. Any academic adjustment is discretionary and will be granted on a case-by-case basis, only when the relevant committee judges admissible grounds and evidence for adjustment exists.

16.3.2 Academic adjustments include extensions for assignments, deferral of written or practical exams or special consideration of module / assessment performance by the ScotGEM Joint Exam Board prior to graduation.

16.3.3 With the exception of minor extensions to coursework submissions (which must be requested via the Year Lead), all requests for academic adjustments must be formally submitted to the relevant committee. The Committee will consider all evidence (including previous adjustments) when reaching a decision. Once an academic adjustment has been applied, no further academic adjustments will be applied to the affected assessments without exceptional circumstances. All students must successfully

pass all requirements to progress, regardless of academic adjustment.16.3.4  
Compensation and condonements are not normally permitted, in compliance with the General Medical Council: [GMC R3.15 Outcomes for Graduates](#).

## 16.4 Deferred assessments

16.4.1 Deferrals refer to the rescheduling of any aspect of an assessment beyond the normal reporting deadlines for the year. Awarding of deferred assessment is not a right, it must be requested and evidence to support the request provided. If requests for deferrals of any assessment are made and granted the assessment affected would normally be scheduled for the next available examination period for the programme:

16.4.1.1 Deferral of the mid-year assessment in Year 1 or Year 2 would result in the assessment being taken in the end of year programme diet.

16.4.1.2 Deferral of any end of year assessment(s) would result in the first attempt(s) being taken during the programme reassessment diet.

16.4.1.3 Deferral of any assessment(s) scheduled during the programme reassessment diet would result in the assessment(s) being taken during the main end of year programme diet for the next academic year. Such students would not be allowed to progress to the next year of study until all assessment was passed and may therefore be required to take Leave of Absence and to retake all assessments for that year, possibly including any previously passed.

## 16.5 Special consideration

16.5.1 Special consideration of a module may be applied if a student has been unable to fully engage with their studies due to their personal circumstances; for the purposes of ScotGEM a module is a full year of study. This may only be applied to a maximum of one module while primarily matriculated to University of St Andrews, plus a maximum of one module while primarily matriculated to University of Dundee. Special consideration of a module requires substantial evidence of disruption and there must be good reason why other academic adjustments (such as deferrals) or leave of absence were not requested. A second instance of special consideration of a module must not be for the same reasons as the first instance. Special consideration of a module must be applied for prior to the release of year results, and retrospective application will not be considered unless there are exceptional circumstances, approved by both Deans of Medicine (Universities of Dundee and St Andrews).

16.5.2 Upon special consideration of a year:

16.5.2.1 A student who passes all initial attempts at assessment, after being granted special consideration of a module, will have their programme degree classification calculated both with and without the affected module(s), and the higher classification will be awarded to the student.

16.5.2.2 If a student who has special consideration for a year fails a component of assessment, they will be entitled to reassessment with no cap applied to their grade (i.e. their reassessment will be treated as if it is their first attempt).

16.5.2.3 If such a student subsequently does not pass reassessment, they will be entitled to retake assessment during the main end of year diet for the next academic year. Such students would not be allowed to progress to the next year of study until all assessment was passed and may therefore be required to take Leave of Absence.

## 16.6 Professionalism and Fitness to Practise

16.6.1 The GMC mandate that, in addition to academic performance, a student's graduation and qualification is dependent on being fit to practise.

16.6.2 Each institution has separate, but complementary, regulations for Fitness to Practise proceedings based on guidance from the GMC. Findings of a Fitness to Practise panel may include warnings, undertakings, conditions, suspensions or expulsion.

16.6.3 In the case of a student whose conduct, clinical ability, knowledge or health gives rise to concerns that patient safety or the student's personal well-being could be compromised, the relevant Dean of Medicine, following consultation with relevant staff, may temporarily debar the student from all or any work on the course. Formal Fitness to Practise processes will be the responsibility of the Institution of Primary Matriculation in which the student is or was when the situation commenced. Professionalism and Fitness to Practise concerns originating in the Institution of Primary Matriculation will be shared with the other institution.

16.6.4 Students are referred to <https://www.gmc-uk.org/education/undergraduate/studentftp.asp>

16.6.5 Students are expected to engage fully with the taught elements of the programme so attendance will be monitored. Absences from studies must be self-certified by the appropriate mechanisms at the Institution- of Primary Matriculation.

16.6.5.1 During Years 1 and 2 of the programme any student who has been absent from either the period from the start of teaching to 31st December of the same calendar year or the period from 1st January to the end of teaching of the same calendar year for more than 10 consecutive teaching days, or a total of 15 non-consecutive teaching days shall not be permitted to continue in the programme, save in exceptional circumstances and with the consent of the AVP Dean of Learning and Teaching at the University of St Andrews.

16.6.5.2 During Years 3 and 4 of the programme, students are required to attend more than 80% of teaching in order to be eligible to sit the end of year assessments. However, if there are certain circumstances that prevent a student from attending, they can discuss compensatory or catch-up arrangements with their Year Lead. If all reasonable options have been exhausted and the student's attendance is still poor, they will be referred to the ScotGEM Joint Progression Committee. In such cases, it would be up to the relevant Dean of Medicine to decide whether to allow the student to sit examinations.

## 16.7 Academic Intervention

16.7.1 The ScotGEM Programme operates an academic intervention process at an overall degree programme level. The principle is to help students recognise when their academic progress may be at risk, at a sufficiently early stage that they have opportunities to take action to address any underlying problems. Risks to studies include module results below those consistent with satisfactory academic progress; failure to progress and in the most severe cases, termination of studies. The early academic intervention process will be concordant with that in use at the Institution of Primary Matriculation. <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/policy/academic-policies-student-progression-early-academic-intervention/early-academic-intervention.pdf>

## 16.8 Placement supervision and support

16.8.1 Students will be expected to undertake clinical and non-clinical placements during their studies. Many of these placements will be of significant duration and will require re-location to undertake the placement. Placements may take place in primary, secondary or community healthcare, social care settings or third-sector services. Students

will receive information prior to their placement that outlines the learning opportunities and required outcomes. Students will also have a named supervisor for each placement and will continue to have access to student support services. Wherever feasible, students with additional support requirements will be assisted in ensuring a suitable placement is found that maximises their experience on placement.

## 16.9 Assessment and Feedback

16.9.1 Students' skills, knowledge and professionalism are assessed against the outcomes set by the GMC in the Outcomes for Graduates document ([https://www.gmc-uk.org/education/undergraduate/undergrad\\_outcomes.asp](https://www.gmc-uk.org/education/undergraduate/undergrad_outcomes.asp)). Details of these outcomes and the programme-specific outcomes can also be found in the ScotGEM Programme Guide: [https://medhandbook.st-andrews.ac.uk/scotgem-programme-guide-and-regulations/?asl\\_highlight=scotgem+progra&p\\_asid=1](https://medhandbook.st-andrews.ac.uk/scotgem-programme-guide-and-regulations/?asl_highlight=scotgem+progra&p_asid=1)

16.9.2 Professionalism is continually assessed via the Portfolio. Lapses in professionalism may result in interview, enhanced supervision or other interventions designed to encourage reflection. Failure to engage with the system or failure to show improvement may result in debarment from the exams and/or Fitness to Practise proceedings.

16.9.3 A student shall be assessed at such times and by such means as the programme ScotGEM Joint Assessment Board may determine. Core summative assessments are split into three components: knowledge-based exams (including written and online assessments), practical exams (OSCE) and professionalism-based assessments (portfolio elements). Students will be required to meet the standard required in each component to progress to the next stage of the programme. Details of the assessment programme can be found in the Programme Handbook.

16.9.4 Students will receive feedback on all components of assessment. Students will also receive formative feedback opportunities throughout the programme.

16.9.5 Students who do not successfully complete an assessed component are entitled to reassessment. Students required to take reassessment exams may be required to pay a fee. For further information on reassessments, see section 16.2 Progression Criteria.

16.9.6 Students will also be required to take national medical assessments as defined and required by the General Medical Council. Students due to graduate from 2025 will not be permitted to graduate without passing the Medical Licensing Assessment.

## 16.10 Credit and grade transfer

16.10.1 No advanced standing or transfer credits may be applied to the ScotGEM degree.

16.10.2 All module results will be converted using an agreed Conversion Table and published to the student record at both institutions (see Appendix B: Grade Conversion Table).

## 16.11 Exit Awards

16.11.1 All students are admitted to the programme with the expectation that they will graduate with the Degree of MBChB. If a student wishes to leave the course or is

prevented from progressing and completing the course, the student will be eligible for the following exit awards:

16.11.1.1 After successful completion of Year One, a student would be eligible for the award of Certificate of Higher Education.

16.11.1.2 After successful completion of Year One and Year Two, a student would be eligible for the award of Bachelor of Science (BSc) (General) degree.

16.11.1.3 After successful completion of Years One, Two and Three, a student would be eligible for the award of Bachelor of Science (BSc) (Hons) degree in Medical Studies.

16.11.2 All module results will be converted using an agreed Conversion Table and published to the student record at both institutions (see Appendix B: Grade Conversion Table).

## 16.12 Classification

16.12.1 The ScotGEM Degree Classification Algorithm uses as the primary determinant of degree classification the weighted mean (and weighted median) of all grades awarded during all years of the ScotGEM degree programme. The recommended degree classification outcomes will be presented to the final year ScotGEM Joint Exam Board for consideration.

16.12.2 Only one decimal place is used in the calculations of means and medians.

16.12.3 The ScotGEM MBChB can be awarded with following classifications: with Merit or with Distinction.

16.12.4 Where an assessed component is failed with right to reassessment and passed at reassessment, the capped (pass) re-assessment result is entered into the ScotGEM Degree Classification Algorithm (not the original failed grade).

16.12.5 Where a student has been required to retake a year they have failed upon reassessment, the average of the initial fail grade and their subsequent grade for the re- take year will be taken and entered into the ScotGEM Degree Classification Algorithm.

16.12.6 In the case where no credit is obtained at reassessment for a failed assessed component, the original fail grade is entered into the ScotGEM Degree Classification Algorithm (see Appendix D).

16.12.7 A student who received Special Consideration for assessed components will have their degree classification calculated both with and without the affected assessments, and be awarded the better of the two outcomes by the ScotGEM Joint Exam Board.

16.12.8 The MBChB can be awarded as with or without merit or distinction based on student performance across all four academic years of the course. The grades required for awarding a merit or distinction are provided on the Degree Classification Algorithm (see Appendix D).

## 16.14 Award

16.14.1 Upon successful completion of the ScotGEM Programme, students will receive a joint MBChB degree, detailed on one degree certificate bearing the crests and seals of both Universities of St Andrews and Dundee.

16.14.2 In addition, students will receive transcripts from each institution detailing modules taken at both institutions.

16.14.3 The ScotGEM Graduation ceremony will rotate between St Andrews and

Dundee. Graduation ceremonies for students with reassessments may not be at the same location as the main graduation.

## **17. Appendices**

- A. Student Support and advice
- B. Grade Conversion Scheme for ScotGEM
- C. Degree Classification Algorithm

## Appendix A: Student Support and Advice

### Student Support and Advice

1. The study of Medicine, as a professional discipline, places specific requirements on medical students and medical schools in that the GMC requires the School measures student achievement, conduct, health, knowledge, skills & attitudes ([GMC Achieving Good Medical Practice](#)).
2. In many cases health, welfare, professionalism and academic progress are linked or overlap. Providing support and advice is integral to the ScotGEM programme and there are a range of support structures designed to enhance health and wellbeing and to allow students to achieve their full potential.
3. All staff with direct student contact are able to signpost students to appropriate sources of support. Monitoring of attendance, low level concerns (e.g. lateness) and engagement with student-led tasks allows opportunity for early supportive intervention by senior staff should concerns arise.
4. Every student is entitled to support through respective universities' systems, as well as access to School and University level support services. This combination of support may:
  - 4.1 Provide knowledgeable, individual counsel for students.
  - 4.2 Support the student as required for educational, pastoral and health needs.
  - 4.3 Support the student in goal setting
  - 4.4 Empower the student to achieve their full potential.
  - 4.5 Signpost students to relevant available support.
5. A record of meetings will be kept, allowing effective transfer of information and continuity of support. Please see "[Who will know what about me?](#)" for details about student data shared within the ScotGEM programme.
6. Outwith the immediate ScotGEM programme both the University of Dundee and the University of St Andrews have mature and established Student Support services able to offer advice on all aspects of student welfare separate from the Schools of Medicine. It is important that students with problems relating to health, or any other matter that affects University life seek help at an early stage. Both the University of St Andrews and University of Dundee have privacy notices: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/terms/data-protection/ug-pgt-privacy/> and <https://www.dundee.ac.uk/corporate-information/privacy-notice-students>) Student support data is held confidentially unless there is a risk to the student or another person, when there is a duty of care to share this information.
7. It is required that students engage only with the service provided by the Institution of Primary Matriculation. Students on remote placement may engage with regional medical education teams in cases of immediate need however students are required to inform and engage with the Institution of Primary Matriculation as soon as possible.

## Appendix B: Grade Conversion Scheme for ScotGEM

### Grade Conversion Scheme for ScotGEM

Dundee Reporting Scale	Dundee Aggregation Scale	St Andrews Reporting Scale	Qualitative Reference Standard
A1	23	20	Excellent/ Outstanding
A2	22	19	
A3	21	18	
A4	20	17	
A5	19	16.5	
B1	18	16	Very good
B2	17	15	
B3	16	14	
C1	15	13	Good
C2	14	12	
C3	13	11	
D1	12	10	Satisfactory
D1	12	9	
D2	11	8	
D3	10	7	Marginal pass
M1	9	6	Marginal fail
M2	8	5	
M3	7	4	
CF	5	3	Clear fail
CF	4	2	
BF	2	1	Bad fail
QF	-	0	

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## **Appendix C: Degree Classification Algorithm**

### **ScotGEM MB ChB Degree Classification Algorithm**

1. The degree classification is determined by the performance of a student across their four years of study on the MBChB programme based on a combination of examination, Portfolio and awards of distinctions within each year of study.

#### **2. Rules for deriving the final MB ChB ranking**

2.1 For each year of study a numerical score is awarded for the knowledge-based examinations, OSCE and Portfolio examinations. Both the Universities of St Andrews and Dundee utilise different institutional Common Assessment Scales (CAS), but grades can be converted based on an accepted conversion table provided in the ScotGEM Programme Regulations document.

2.2 The overall credit weighted mean MB ChB score is derived by combining the four yearly scores using the following weighting:

Year 1:	20%
Year 2:	20%
Year 3:	30%
Year 4:	30%

2.3 The final numerical score is then converted to a grade according to the CAS.

#### **3. Degree classification**

3.1 Distinction: typically awarded to students who achieve distinction in at least three years of study, including year 4, and achieve a weighted excellent/outstanding grade average over all four years of study (i.e. an A grade on the Dundee CAS scale, or 16.5 or greater in the St Andrews scale).

3.2 Merit: typically awarded to students who achieve distinction in at least two years of study and achieve a weighted excellent/outstanding grade average over all four years of study (i.e. an A grade on the Dundee CAS scale, or 16.5 or greater in the St Andrews scale).

3.3 The final year ScotGEM Joint Exam Board will, however, have discretion to consider minor variations on the above.

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**Version Control Record** (expand table as required)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Revision Description</b>	<b>Major Changes</b>
26/03/18	Published version	
15/03/19	Published version	
10/03/20	Published version	
12/03/21	Published version	Temporary Covid-19 adjustments
29/03/22	Published version	
13/03/23	Published version	Special considerations, Student Support and Advice
05/02/2024	Published version	EPM Framework

