

MBChB Medicine with Foundation Year and MBChB Medicine Admissions & Selection Supplement to Edge Hill University Admissions Policy

Introduction

The Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) with Foundation Year (FY) and MBChB Medicine Programmes at Edge Hill University aim to develop a new generation of doctors who have patient safety at the core of their practice. Graduates from the Programmes will understand the needs of the local communities they serve and will respond appropriately to drive forward new models of patient care. As a whole, the ethos of the Medical School aligns closely with the University's core values of celebrating diversity and of engagement with the local region, building on its commitment to widening access from local communities and its substantial expertise in providing high quality postgraduate medical and healthcare education to the benefit its local communities. Alongside an emphasis on biomedical science, therapeutics and diagnostic skills, exposure to general medicine / surgery and a range of hospital specialties, our curriculum promotes a greater understanding of the health and social care needs of our communities, the role of prevention and the diverse environments in which patients receive health care. By embedding resilience, medical leadership and professionalism and emphasizing preparedness for practice, it aims to develop doctors who will make a major contribution to the healthcare services of today and tomorrow. Furthermore, Edge Hill University is committed to widening access to medicine. The MBChB Medicine with FY Programme is designed to facilitate and support this.

Aim - Selection and Admission

Edge Hill University Medical School aims to have a selection process which is open, fair and consistent. Our admission process aligns to Health Education England's Values-based Recruitment Framework (2016) and is informed by the Medical Schools Council's 'Selecting for Excellence' Report (2014). During the process of selection, we will carefully consider students who demonstrate the ability, character, attributes and values to become doctors who deliver excellent patient-centred, competent, compassionate, effective and safe care.

In considering all applicants, the Medical School will take into account the General Medical Council's standards in Outcomes for Graduates (2018), and the guidelines on Medical Students: Professional Behaviour and Fitness to Practise (2016).

Selection and admission of students aligns to the Edge Hill University Equality and Diversity Policy www.edgehill.ac.uk/documents/equality-diversity-policy/.

The selection and admissions criteria will be reviewed annually by the Edge Hill Medical School Admissions and Selection Committee. Those involved in the selection process will also include individuals from health, clinical, academic and lay backgrounds, all of whom will receive procedural and equality and diversity training prior to any involvement.

Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)

Applications for both the MBChB Medicine with FY and the MBChB Medicine should be made via UCAS by the 15th October deadline. Applications made after this date will not normally be considered. Actual or predicted academic grades must be clearly stated on the UCAS form. Whilst the personal statement and academic reference are not routinely used in selection for interview and offer of a place, they may be used to differentiate between candidates if there are ties in ranking at cut points/thresholds for interview or selection, and to check for predicted grades or clarification of qualifications studied. Only information provided on the UCAS form can be considered. Incomplete forms will not normally be considered. We will not consider any applications sent directly to the Medical School.

Additional Requirements

1. University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT)

All candidates are required to undertake the UCAT prior to application to either the MBChB Medicine with FY or MBChB Medicine Programmes. UCAT scores can only be used to support an application in the relevant cycle. Further detail on UCAT may be obtained from www.ucat.ac.uk. If candidates are reapplying, they will need to sit the UCAT test again. We will be unable to consider applications to Edge Hill University Medical School without the completion of a year relevant UCAT. The UCAT Consortium offer a bursary for some candidates. Applications should be made via the UCAT website: <https://www.ucat.ac.uk/ucat/bursary-scheme/>. Prior to undertaking the test, candidates are advised to make full use of the UCAT preparation resources available, for example, at: <https://www.ucat.ac.uk/ucat/practice-tests/candidate-advice/>.

2. Health and Character

All applicants are expected to meet the GMC Outcomes for Graduates (2018). To achieve these, applicants must be of good character and must be open and honest about health conditions or disabilities to ensure and uphold public trust. It is essential that any issues

which may prevent future registration or impact on a student's practice are declared at the time of application. For example, this includes health, disability, criminal conduct or restrictions on practice imposed by a professional regulatory body. Whilst such declarations will not be taken into consideration in the initial stages of selection, any offers made will be subject to appropriate clearance as detailed below. Applications should be completed as honestly as possible and without omissions. The University reserves the right to withdraw any offer of interview or place on the MBChB with FY or MBChB Programmes if it becomes aware of any dishonesty or failure to disclose. Edge Hill University may verify an applicant's health and character by sharing the applicant's details with the Medical Schools Council for checking against the Medical Schools Council Excluded Students Database (ESD).

3. Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)

Applicants must disclose any criminal convictions, reprimands, warnings, cautions or fixed penalty notices on their UCAS application form. Whilst such disclosures are not taken into consideration during the initial selection stage, all applicants should be aware that any offers made will be subject to satisfactory DBS enhanced screening. Here, applicants must meet the mandatory requirement: '*Clearance to Work with Children and/or Vulnerable Adults*'. If a DBS outcome shows no disclosures, the University will confirm an offer subject to any outstanding medical / academic requirements.

If any disclosures are evident, a panel will be conferred as detailed in the Edge Hill University Admissions Policy to assess whether it / they impact(s) on the applicant's suitability to practice. The panel may ask for additional information from the candidate to help inform their final decision. Final offers are conditional upon satisfaction of the panel of the applicant's suitability to practice.

Applicants should be aware that the GMC will also require disclosure at the time of GMC registration, and will investigate as appropriate. Edge Hill University cannot predict or preempt any decision of the GMC in relation to any such disclosures at the time of registration with them. Candidates are directed to the Edge Hill University Admissions Policy for further information about DBS: <https://www.edgehill.ac.uk/documents/files/admissionspolicy.pdf>

4. Occupational Health

Those applicants who confirm their offer will be required to complete and submit a confidential University health screening form. The information provided will be assessed by the Occupational Health Service at Edge Hill University, and this will include immunisation status (e.g. hepatitis B). Further to the assessment, medical students will be required to fulfil any requirements identified to ensure suitability for undertaking / completing the Programmes, with all reasonable adjustments considered on a case-

bycase basis by the Medical School Reasonable Adjustments for Disability Panel. The Panel will consider any reasonable adjustments that support students in meeting the GMC Outcomes for Graduates (2018). Occupational Health Assessment will be conducted prior to commencement (or within early stages) on the MBChB Medicine with FY and MBChB Medicine Programmes. This process will confirm fitness to proceed and will help to highlight requirements for support as necessary.

5. Minimum Age

Candidates for both the MBChB Medicine with FY and MBChB Medicine Programmes must be at least 18 years old on the date the Programmes start.

6. International Applications

Applicants who are considered international students for fees purposes are currently not eligible to apply. Applicants who have stated a nationality, residency status or country of birth that could indicate they could be an International rate fee payer will be asked to complete a fee assessment questionnaire and supply supporting information. Fee assessment is undertaken using the guidance available on www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Fees-and-Money/England-fee-status#layer6082. Applicants who are assessed as International for fee purposes will be notified and advised that we are not currently able to take international applicants on the programme.

7. International English Language Testing System (IELTS)

- Applicants who have studied overseas and who do not have GCSE English (first) Language at B/6 or above or recognised equivalent, must gain IELTS at the required level.
- These levels are currently IELTS of 7.5 overall (with no element below 7.0) for entry onto the MBChB with FY and the MBChB Programmes. IELTS do not need to be gained prior to application but must be listed as pending on the application form and achieved prior to interview.
- IELTS cannot replace GCSE English Language for students that have studied GCSEs.

Entry Requirements

Academic entry requirements are stated on the University's website:

- MBChB Medicine with Foundation Year :
<https://www.edgehill.ac.uk/courses/medicine-with-foundation-year/>

This document should be read in conjunction with the Edge Hill University Admissions Policy.

The information supplied herein is supplemental to the standard admissions criteria.

See: <https://www.edgehill.ac.uk/documents/files/admissions-policy.pdf> May 2020

- MBChB:
<https://www.edgehill.ac.uk/courses/medicine/#gref>

Graduate Entry

1. MBChB Medicine with FY.

We do not accept applications from graduates onto the MBChB Medicine with FY Programme. However, applications from mature students, or students who are in the early stages of another non-medical degree programme and wish to withdraw before the end of their degree programme, and / or have not completed a previous degree, as long they meet the standard entry criteria will be welcomed. There is no requirement for the academic qualifications in the entry criteria to have been completed in the past two years.

2. MBChB Medicine Programme

Applications will be accepted from graduates who have studied a science related degree including Psychology achieving a 2:1 or above, which has been awarded within 2 years of application or have undertaken postgraduate study within 2 years of application. Candidates must also have achieved ABB at A level to include A in Chemistry or Biology and one other subject. General Studies and Critical Reasoning will not be accepted. There is no graduate entry point onto the MBChB Medicine. Graduates will be required to undertake the full Programme.

We will consider applications from students who are in the early stages of another nonmedical degree programme and wish to withdraw before the end of their degree programme and / or have not completed a previous degree, as long they meet the standard entry criteria. Applicants should detail the circumstances relating to this and provide an academic reference from their last university. Whilst this will not be taken into consideration in the initial selection stages it will be considered before an offer is made. No recognition of prior learning will be considered on this basis.

For both the MBChB with FY and MBChB Medicine Programmes we do not consider applications from candidates who have previously started a medical degree but who have failed to progress and withdrawn from this.

3. Transfers from other medical programmes

We will not accept applications from students who wish to transfer from other medical programmes.

Deferred Entry

Deferred entry will not be offered to applicants. Applicants who wish to defer will be advised to undertake a full re-application for the subsequent year. A full re-application will

also include the need to be re-interviewed if the applicant reaches stage 3 of the selection process (see below).

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Edge Hill University Medical School is committed to upholding the principles of equality, diversity and inclusion as laid out in the Equality Act 2010. There are a number of Protected Characteristics within the Equality Act which may be engaged during admission to study medicine, including age, disability, ethnicity, sex, gender reassignment, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity. Our aim is to support all students to reach their potential, within the requirements of the GMC for doctors in training.

1. Disability and Medical Conditions

Applicants who have a disability or medical condition that may impact on their ability to practice should disclose this on their UCAS application. Such disclosure has no impact on the selection process. The University will consider requests for reasonable adjustments for any candidates selected for interview to allow them to participate in the interview process.

All offers are subject to satisfactory health clearance. All candidates made a provisional offer will be required to complete a Declaration of Health questionnaire including immunisation history. Candidates may be contacted by the University's nominated Occupational Health Service provider and / or be required to attend an appointment with them to assess their ability to practice. The University will assess via the Medical School Reasonable Adjustments for Disability Panel whether any disability or medical condition will impact negatively on an applicant's ability to meet the requirements of the course and the GMC's 'Outcomes for Graduates' (2018). Final offers are conditional upon satisfactory medical-based ability to practice.

Edge Hill University Medical School has a named Disability Liaison Lead (DLL) who can advise potential students and staff on all matters related to disability including the Reasonable Adjustment Policy and procedure at all stages through the application process. Potential applicants will be able to contact the DLL prior to the admissions cycle via AsKMedSchool@edgehill.ac.uk.

2. Requesting time away from the programme

The MBChB with FY and MBChB Medicine Programmes have fixed schedules for academic teaching, clinical placements and assessments. Students may wish to request time away from their Programme to have children, undergo medical and/or surgical procedures, attend religious festivals etc. There is a formal request process to interrupt studies or have reasonable adjustments made. We aim to support students where

possible, balancing the need to avoid discrimination with meeting Programme and GMC requirements. Edge Hill University Medical School has a named Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Lead (EDIL) who can advise students and staff on matters relating to equality and diversity. Potential applicants will be able to contact the EDIL prior to the admissions cycle via AskMedSchool@edgehill.ac.uk.

Please see Appendix 1 for further information.

Widening Participation (WP)

We are committed to support and encourage widening participation to our undergraduate MBChB Medicine with FY Programme. Candidates who meet specific widening participation criteria and the minimum academic criteria will be ranked according to their UCAT scores. A UCAT threshold will be set depending on the number of interviews to be held.

Applicants who meet the UCAT threshold will be invited to interview. The UCAT threshold set by the University may differ from year to year as it is dependent on the scores achieved by those who apply to us in each admissions cycle. Any candidate scoring within band 4 in the Situational Judgement Test will be automatically rejected

Widening participation criteria is stated on the Edge Hill University website:

- MBChB Medicine with FY:

<https://www.edgehill.ac.uk/courses/medicine-with-foundation-year/tab/entrycriteria/>

Applicants are required to provide details regarding any widening participation criteria that are indicated as being met by them within their UCAS application and will be expected to provide evidence of these at a future date, prior to offer.

Selection Processes

The selection processes for the MBChB Medicine with FY and the MBChB Medicine Programmes are aligned, and involve 3 stages as detailed below:

Stage 1 - Application screening against the standard eligibility and academic criteria

All applications will be screened to determine whether they meet the standard eligibility and academic criteria. Applications that do not meet the minimum eligibility and academic criteria will not be progressed to the next stage. All applications that meet the minimum eligibility and academic criteria for the Programme applied for will be progressed onto the next stage. Applications to the MBChB Medicine with FY must meet the widening participation criteria for eligibility.

Stage 2 – UCAT ranking

Applicants who meet the minimum eligibility and academic criteria will be ranked according to their UCAT scores. A UCAT threshold will be set depending on the number of interviews to be held. The number of interviews to be held will be set each year prior to the admissions cycle. Applicants who meet the UCAT threshold will be invited to interview. The UCAT threshold set by the University may differ from year to year as it is dependent on the scores achieved by those who apply to us in each admissions cycle and the number of places available on each Programme. The threshold is based on the total UCAT score. Any candidate scoring within band 4 in the Situational Judgement Test will be automatically rejected.

Stage 3 – Multiple Mini Interviews (MMIs)

All candidates who progress from stage 2 will be required to attend interview. The interview will take the form of MMIs which will assess a range of skills and attributes including the following (mapped onto [The NHS Constitution Values](#) and the [Vision and Values of Edge Hill University](#)).

- Motivation for wanting to join the MBChB Programme at Edge Hill University
- Verbal communication skills
- Integrity/probity
- Teamwork/leadership
- Empathy and compassion
- Awareness of current health challenges
- Ethical awareness
- Awareness of self and others
- Prioritization/decision making
- Interpretation of data

A score will be given for performance at each MMI station and individual scores combined. Applicants will be ranked according to their overall MMI score and offers made to the top-ranking students.

Offers will be made to candidates who have the highest combined scores subject to satisfactory references. No offers will be made without an interview. The personal statement and reference may be used to differentiate between candidates if there are ties in ranking at cut points/thresholds for interview or selection, and to check for predicted grades or clarification of qualifications studied. Final offers are subject to appropriate DBS and health clearance. Offers may also be subject to academic achievement conditions.

The top-ranking students will be made offers soon after the interviews. The Admissions and Selection Committee will set thresholds and manage offer making against the recruitment targets. Decision making may be marginally delayed for a few applicants, and reserve lists may be used. The Programmes may open in UCAS Extra or Clearing to recruit additional students if places become available, either due to lower than anticipated acceptances or Alevel achievement.

Feedback

Applicants who are not selected for interview may request general feedback as to why they were not selected, and applicants who have undergone interview may also request feedback on their performance. However, only general feedback on performance at interview will be supplied, and scores from individual MMI stations will not be released. Edge Hill University will not enter into discussions relating to the professional judgement underlying the scoring at interview. Feedback will not be given until all interviews have finished and offers made.

Feedback must be requested in writing or by e-mail by the candidate. Edge Hill University cannot enter into any correspondence / communication relating to an individual's application or interview with anyone other than the individual themselves, unless given explicit permission to do so in writing by the individual in question.

Appeals Process

Edge Hill University recognises that applicants who are not successful in securing a place on their chosen Programme will be disappointed. The University aims to provide constructive feedback to those not offered a place. However, unless there is generic complaint about the conduct of an MMI or the interview process, the selectors' decisions are final.

An appeal can only be considered if there is evidence that procedure was not followed, new evidence is available and there are valid reasons as to why this was not previously made available, or if there is evidence that the University demonstrated bias or prejudice in the consideration of the application. If an appeals application is lodged the Edge Hill University Medical School Admissions Appeals Panel will be convened and chaired by a senior academic independent of the Admissions and Selection Committee and involve appropriate and relevant members of that committee. See Undergraduate Medical School Admissions Appeals Procedure (www.edgehill.ac.uk/medicineappeals) and the University Complaints Procedure for further details - (www.edgehill.ac.uk/documents/complaints-procedure/#gref).

Re-Application and Re-Sits

Unsuccessful candidates are welcome to re-apply the following year provided they meet all application criteria at the time of re-application. We accept applications from those who have re-sat GCSEs or A levels (or equivalent) either with or without mitigation. We will not accept mitigating circumstances in lieu of appropriate entry requirements. All applicants must meet minimum entry requirements. Candidates who feel that mitigating circumstances may impact on their A Level (or equivalent) results must inform their education provider and examination board as soon as possible for appropriate action.

Applicants invited to interview with mitigating circumstances which they feel may influence their ability to perform at interview should contact Edge Hill University Medical School as soon as possible, and always before interview. We will not accept any retrospective information about mitigating circumstances relating to interview performance. Edge Hill University reserves the right to request additional information relating to mitigation.

After Graduation

Candidates should be aware that, upon graduating with an MBChB, they must currently apply to the GMC to obtain a licence to practice medicine in the UK. Initially students will apply for provisional registration with the GMC. The GMC has a legal obligation to make sure that they only register doctors whose fitness to practise is not impaired. Candidates should be aware that they will be required to declare that they are fit to practice medicine as part of this application process.

Provisional GMC registration with a licence to practice allows doctors to work in approved Foundation F1 posts. The law does not allow provisionally registered doctors to work in any other type of post. The Foundation Programme following graduation is a two-year generic training programme which forms the bridge between medical school and specialist / general practice training. Students need to apply for a Foundation Year 1 post during the final year of the MBChB through the UK Foundation Programme Office selection scheme, which allocates these posts to graduates on a competitive basis. So far, all suitably qualified UK graduates have found a place on the Foundation Year 1 Programme, but this cannot be guaranteed.

Doctors can hold provisional registration with the GMC for up to three years and 30 days. After successful completion of the Foundation Programme they can apply for full GMC registration. Candidates should consult the GMC website for further details (www.gmc-uk.org/).

The GMC has indicated that it will introduce a Medical Licensing Assessment (MLA) from 2022. This is to demonstrate that those who obtain registration with a licence to practise medicine in the UK meet a common threshold for safe practice. Applicants should be aware that to obtain registration with a licence to practise, medical students will need to pass both parts of the MLA, pass university finals and demonstrate their fitness to practise. The MLA will be in two parts: there will be a knowledge test, which will be set and run by the GMC, and an assessment, delivered by medical schools, that will evaluate students' clinical and professional skills.

Candidates should be aware that regulations may change and should consult the GMC website for further details and for any updated information (www.gmc-uk.org/).

Appendix 1

Further Information:

Age <https://www.medschools.ac.uk/studying-medicine/faqs>

Disability

<https://www.medschools.ac.uk/studying-medicine/applications/applicants-with-disabilities>

<https://www.gmc-uk.org/education/standards-guidance-and-curricula/guidance/welcomedand-valued>

<https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/your-wellbeing/reasonable-adjustments/makingreasonable-adjustments>

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/career-opportunities-doctors/doctorsdisabilities>

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Reallife%20story%20%E2%80%93%20doctor%20with%20a%20disability.pdf>

Ethnicity (including race, colour and nationality)

<https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/blog/2020/02/diversity-medical-workforce-progress>

https://www.gmc-uk.org/static/documents/content/SoMEP_2017_chapter_2.pdf

Sex

https://www.gmc-uk.org/static/documents/content/SoMEP_2017_chapter_2.pdf

<http://www.medicalwomensfederation.org.uk/about-us/facts-figures>

Gender Reassignment

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/students/policies/equality-and-diversity/students-transitioning-gender>

<https://www.gmc-uk.org/ethical-guidance/ethical-hub/trans-healthcare>

Religion or Belief

<https://www.gmc-uk.org/ethical-guidance/ethical-guidance-for-doctors/personal-beliefs-andmedical-practice>

<https://www.cmf.org.uk/> <https://www.muslimdoctors.org/meet-the-team>

<https://britishima.org/our-team/>

<https://jewishmedicalassociationuk.org/student/>

<http://www.sdda.org.uk/>

Sexual Orientation <https://www.gladd.co.uk/>

<https://www.rcgp.org.uk/about-us/news/2020/january/rcgp-launches-trailblazing-lgbtelearning-suite-for-family-doctors.aspx>

Pregnancy and Maternity

<https://archive.bma.org.uk/news/2013/april/mixing-medicine-with-motherhood>

<https://www.edgehill.ac.uk/registry/interruption-taking-time-out/>