

UKWPMED (2025)

Widening participation in Medicine: a collaboration of UK Medical Schools

This collaboration provides an exciting opportunity for school leavers from particular under-represented backgrounds to improve their chances of gaining a place at one of the participating medical schools.

Advantage of the scheme for students

Eligible students will automatically receive an interview at any of the participating schools, and if successful at interview will be given a reduced offer, which is currently two grades below the most common standard offer but may include specific subject grade requirements. This may be subject to change, so candidates are advised to check Medical School websites before applying. At Birmingham and HYMS, the grade reduction is contingent on a firm acceptance of the offer.

Who can apply?

Any student who completes any of the WP programmes from the table below:

| Participating Medical School | WP Programme |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Birmingham Medical School | Routes to the Professions: Medicine |
| Brighton & Sussex Medical School | BrightMed |
| Hull York Medical School | Pathways to Medicine |
| Keele University School of Medicine | Steps2Medicine |
| Leicester Medical School | AccessLeicester: Medicine |
| Manchester Medical School | Manchester Access Programme (Medicine strand) Preston Widening Access Programme (for Medicine) |
| Peninsula Medical School (Plymouth) | Peninsula Pathways |

- Successful completion is defined by each WP programme
- Applications may be made to one or more of the participating medical schools
- The pre-A level academic requirements for each school to which an application is made must be met in full
- All students will be required to meet the UCAT requirements for each medical school they apply to; these might differ from the medical school's UCAT cut-off for standard applicants, so please check carefully before choosing where to apply

Applying through UCAS

All applications by UKWPMED students must be made through UCAS.

The screenshots below show the section of your UCAS application where you must enter the relevant data in the [Diversity and inclusion](#) menu which includes “**Activities in preparation for higher education**”. Please note that the [Diversity and inclusion](#) menu is only added to the side menu once you have completed the [Contact and residency details](#) and recorded under “**Postal address**” that your “Address type” is “UK address” and added your full UK address and saved the page.

Contact and residency details

Education

Employment

Nationality details

Supporting information

English language skills

Finance and funding

[Diversity and inclusion](#)

Activities in preparation for higher education

For example: summer schools, Saturday university, campus days, summer academies, taster courses and booster courses. If you have not taken any such course, please leave this section blank.

+
Add activity

Care support information

Add activity

Sponsor *

UKWPMED

Start date *

Month Year

10 2020

Duration (days) *

7

School year *

12

Location *

Keele University

When you click “**Add activity**” the screen below will open. You need to select **UKWPMED** from a dropdown list of Sponsors. The specific WP programme that you completed will not be listed. The Duration (days) refers to the number of events or contact days you have attended during the course with a max of 31. Search location for the Medical School who provided your course.

Please note

By applying as part of UKWPMED through UCAS, you are consenting to each medical school checking your eligibility by contacting the medical school where you completed your WP programme. This principle applies to any aspect of your application, which can be checked by the recipient universities.

Important information about the scheme

- The UKWPMED scheme as described here is open only to Medicine applicants who apply via the standard UCAS process in the 2025 application cycle
- Medical Schools will consider only UKWPMED applicants who are eligible for home (UK) tuition fees, and each medical school will follow their own procedures for determining this status
- The scheme is only applicable to standard-entry medicine (usually course code A100), not to foundation/preliminary/gateway years or graduate-entry programmes
- Medical schools may not consider applicants as part of the UKWPMED scheme if they have already completed year 13 at the time of application (check with medical school before applying)
- All medical schools will follow their own admissions procedures
- An interview at one medical school does not guarantee an interview at another
- Although the benefits of the scheme are largely similar between schools there may be some differences

FAQs

I am enrolled on one of the above WP programmes, how can I get more information about UKWPMED?

The organisers of your WP course should be able to give you advice about the scheme and answer any questions you might have.

I am a year-11 student; how do I find out if I am eligible for one of the WP programmes?

These programmes normally cater for local widening participation students. If there is a course local to you then use the links to check your eligibility and who to contact.

If I am on the Keele Steps2Medicine course and I apply to Manchester, for example, will students on the Manchester WP programme get preferential treatment?

No, as part of the collaborative project all students will get the same consideration whether they are from the host WP course or from another.

I am doing a WP course from a medical school that is not listed. Can I still apply to UKWPMED?

No, unfortunately we can only offer the benefits of the scheme to students from a participating university medical school.

We hope in time to add more schools to the collaboration. However, depending on your WP credentials, you might still get some benefits from the above medical schools. Check their websites for details.

I am considering a gap year; will I still be eligible for the scheme?

If you wish to take a gap year, either you should apply for deferred entry, or, if your application is successful, request that your offer is deferred. For deferral requests received after an application is submitted, each medical school will consider those requests according to its own policy.

Do I need to advise each medical school in the scheme that I am applying as a UKWPMED candidate?

No, this will be picked up from your UCAS application.

What should I do if I think my UKWPMED course has not been taken into consideration at one of the participating schools?

Speak to your WP course organiser about it and if they agree that this is likely then the medical school should be contacted to check what has happened.

What if I have to re-sit my level-3 qualifications (A-Levels)?

Each medical school has its own policy regarding resits. You will need to discuss with the school you are applying to whether they will be able to offer you any benefits under the scheme.

What happens if I apply to a medical school that is not part of the scheme?

You will not be entitled to the benefits of this scheme. However, depending on your WP credentials, they may be able to offer you some benefits. The details should be available on the website of the school.

Will the scheme continue in the future?

Each year the programme will be reviewed and may change as a result. Also, the Medical Schools and WP programmes involved may change.

Will I have to attend for an interview?

All participating medical schools require medicine applicants to be interviewed. Each medical school will have its own interview format, and some will interview face-to-face and others will interview online. Please check individual medical schools' web sites for details.