Financial support for medical and dental students - England

Students on university courses in medicine (recognised by the General Medical Council) and dentistry (recognised by the General Dental Council) may be eligible for financial help from the NHS as part of their course.

Funding for medical and dental courses varies between England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland. This page describes the funding arrangements for those studying medicine or dentistry on standard five year and accelerated courses in England.

Find out more about the system in Wales [1], Scotland [2] and Northern Ireland [3].

The information here is for guidance only. In all cases, make sure you contact the relevant funding authority as regulations can change and individual circumstances vary.

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If you are accepted onto an approved course, you might be eligible to receive financial support from the NHS. The timing of when this is provided depends on the type of course you are doing.

Funding for undergraduate students on standard five-year courses

Gaining admission to the standard five-year courses means you are entitled to receive student loans from Student Finance England for maintenance and tuition fees in the first four years.

From year five onwards, tuition fees will be paid by the NHS Student Bursary Scheme [4] and you will be eligible to apply for a means-tested NHS bursary to cover maintenance costs and a reduced maintenance loan from Student Finance England.

Students will also have access to a non-means tested grant of £1,000 as part of their NHS Bursary award.

Graduates on five year courses in medicine and dentistry

The arrangements for graduate medical and dental students on a five year course are different. In the first four years of the course, they would not be eligible to receive a loan for tuition fees or a maintenance grant
regardless of whether or not they have previously received funding. However, students may be able to apply for a full, income based, maintenance loan from Student Finance England. From year five of the training, graduate medical and dental students receive the same support as undergraduate medical and dental students (see above).

Find out more about student finance (including Student Finance England) on the Gov.uk website [5]

- Funding for accelerated courses

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  Graduate-entry students starting an accelerated 4-year course will have to self-fund the first £3,465 of their tuition fees in the first year. In the subsequent years of their course, the NHS Bursary scheme will pay £3,465 towards their tuition fees.

  In all years of the graduate programme, a loan of up to £5,535 will be available to students from Student Finance England [6] to cover the difference between £3,465 and the tuition charges of their universities, to a maximum charge of £9,000 (in 2016/17).

- Funding for 2019/20

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  Funding for 2019/20 is not known yet.

  This page will be updated when information becomes available.

- Further information

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  Contact the university/universities you are planning to apply to, to find out if the course you are applying to is an approved course and attracts NHS financial support. Use our course finder [7] to search for approved courses.

  To be eligible for financial support from the NHS, you must meet certain criteria. Please visit the NHS Student Bursaries' website [4] for more information including:

  o eligibility requirements
  o the financial support available
  o an online bursary calculator
  o how the process of applying for financial support works
  o frequently asked questions
  o the latest rates
  o details of the adoption award
  o details of the maternity support award

  You may also find the following publications giving sources for financial help at your local library.

  o The Education Grants Advisory Service, c/o Family Welfare Association, 501/505 Kingsland Road, Dalston, London E8 4AU
  o Charities digest: Chapman M., Waterlow Information
Additional information for prospective medical students

See also the Medical Student Finance Guide on the British Medical Association website [8]. This explains the financial arrangements as they apply to medical students including the payment of tuition fees, student loans and other support for maintenance costs.

Which funding authority do I apply to for NHS financial support?

This table sets out which funding authority to apply to, depending on where your usual residence is and where you plan to study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>My usual residence</th>
<th>University location</th>
<th>Funding authority</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>England</td>
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<td>England</td>
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At present, EU residents can apply to NHS BSA for fees only in the same way as UK residents. EU applicants do not pay fees to Scottish universities at present and this will continue for the 2016/17 academic year.

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Source URL: https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/career-planning/study-and-training/considering-or-university/financial-support-university/financial-support-medical-and-dental-students-england

Links