

Personal Statement

- Up to 4000 characters or 47 lines limit (including spaces)
- Component of UCAS application (deadline 15 October)



What to include

- Why medicine?
- How your previous studies and academic subjects relate to medicine?
- Relevant aspects of placements, volunteering and experiences - how they have influenced you as a person and your decision to be a doctor;
- Further steps you took to investigate deeper or read around the subject;
- Other achievements, activities or training that demonstrate you have the qualities or potential to succeed;
- Other co-curricular activities and interests.

How to write it

- *Introduction:* Begin with an opening that encourages admission officers to read on (an experience, a personal story, a quote, etc)!
- *Content:* Don't just list out medical placements and experiences, instead reflect about the effect of these experiences on you (this should make up the bulk of your statement). You can also include a paragraph on your academics and on extra curricular activities, but again elaborate on the links to medicine or to the qualities that allow you to be capable medical student or future doctor.
- *Conclusion:* Summarise the qualities that make you a good candidate. Reinforce your commitment and enthusiasm in pursuing medicine.

* Be sure to check for spelling, grammar and punctuation mistakes.

** Leave enough time to get feedback on the draft from parents, teachers and counsellors.

Useful Resources

BMAT www.admissionstesting.service.org/for-test-takers/bmat/

Personal Statement

- **Timeline:** www.ucas.com/sites/default/files/ucas-personal-statement-timeline.pdf

- **Guideline:** www.ucas.com/sites/default/files/personal-statement-mind-map.pdf

UCAS www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate

UKCAT www.ukcat.ac.uk

Other resources www.medschoolsonline.co.uk/

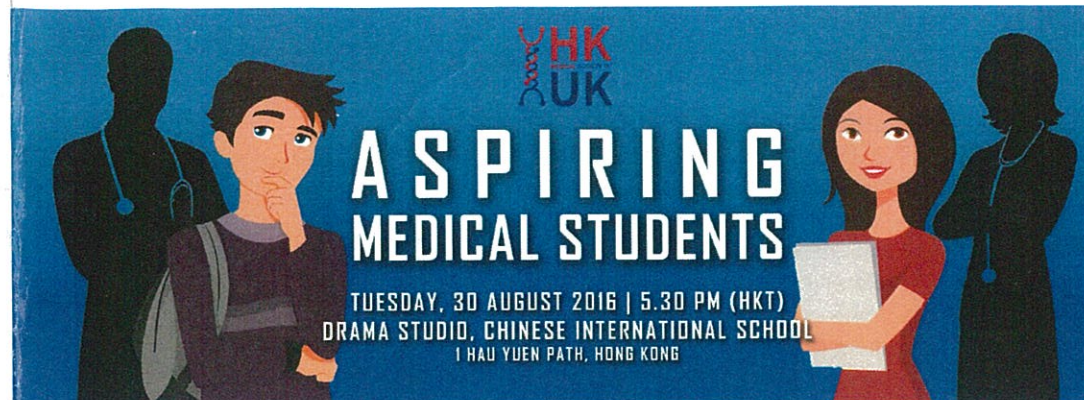
Did you enjoy the event? Tell us more!

Thank you for attending the Aspiring Medical Students event. We hope you found this session informative and helpful. This is our first time hosting an event for high school students and we would love to have your feedback. Please refer to the QR code or the link below: <http://tinyurl.com/aspiringmedics2016>



Disclaimer:

This information has been prepared for international student applicants. It relates to 2017 applications, and is our personal interpretation of published information.



Guide to Medical School Application in the United Kingdom (2017 Entry)

The Hong Kong Medical Society of the United Kingdom (HKMSUK) is a newly-founded student led non-profit organisation. We represent the interests of Hong Kong students receiving medical education and training in the United Kingdom.

We aim to connect medical students in the UK who undertook part of their education in Hong Kong or identify themselves as Hong Kong Chinese. Our objectives include forming a support community for freshers, creating networking opportunities for older students, and providing information about working as a doctor in HK compared to in the UK.



The Hong Kong Medical Society of the United Kingdom
英國香港留學生醫學會

Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)

- Application submission body
- Submit personal details, education background (MYP/GCSE), tests (UKCAT) and employment information (internship),
- Include a personal statement,
- 5 choices of universities and courses (4 medicine courses and 1 non-medicine course),
- Track your application after submission.

UCAS Key Dates 2016 and 2017 (2017 entry)	
Application submission begins	6 September
Application deadline (Oxford, Cambridge and most courses in medicine)	15 October (18:00 UK time)
Deadline for other undergraduate courses	15 January
Extras opens (if students have used up all five choices and are not holding any offers, you might be able to add another choice)	25 February
Respond to offers (select your firm and insurance choice)	4/5 May
Clearing opens (students who have missed their offers can apply to courses with vacancies directly to the university)	5 July

Choosing Universities

Course structure and teaching style

Traditional: preclinical and clinical years: subjects such as anatomy, physiology and biochemistry taught separately. (*Oxford and Cambridge*)

Integrated: system-based teaching - anatomy, physiology and biochemistry of a particular system taught together. (*Most medical schools*)

PBL (problem-based learning): student-directed group work based on medical cases. (*Barts, St. George's, Newcastle, Manchester*)

5 years: some offer the option to add an intercalated BSc.

6 years: intercalated BSc included.

Entry requirements

Subjects: Chemistry usually required; another science subject (often biology) required in addition. Some may require maths too.

Grades: Varies depending on university, often a particular grade in the sciences will be required.

University fees

Pre-clinical: around £20,000

Clinical: around £35,000

The fees may vary annually.

Living costs

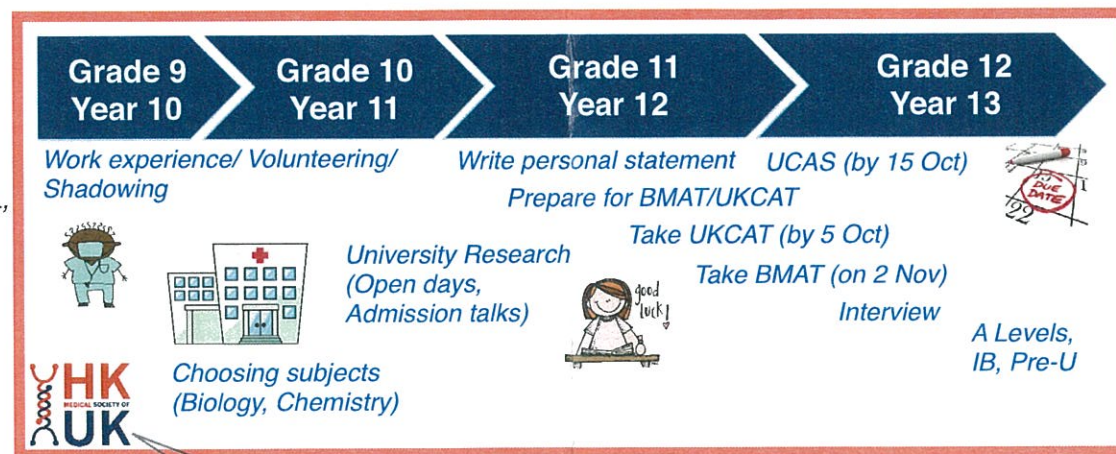
London tends to cost far more than elsewhere in the UK.

BMAT (Biomedical Admissions Test)

- 2 hour written test at school or at the British Council
- **Prepare by** covering GCSE sciences and math, and do practice questions
- One test per year and valid for one year;
- **Required by:** *Cambridge, Oxford, UCL, Imperial, Keele, Lancaster and Leeds.*
- 3 sections and time pressured.

BMAT Key Dates 2016 (2017 entry)

Registration opens	1 September
Registration deadline	1 October
Late registration	15 October
Test date	2 November
Results date	25 November



Universities that don't require either UKCAT or BMAT:
Bristol, Queen's Belfast and Liverpool

UKCAT (United Kingdom Clinical Aptitude Test)

UKCAT Key Dates 2016 (2017 entry)

Registration opens	3 May
Testing begins	1 July
Registration deadline	21 September
Rescheduling deadline	4 October
Last testing date	5 October

- 2 hour computer test at a Pearson centre;
- Choose the date at your convenience;
- **Prepare by** doing practice questions;
- One test per year and valid for one year;
- Use results to guide your university choices;
- **Required by most medical schools:** *Aberdeen, Barts, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Dundee, East Anglia, Edinburgh, Exeter, Glasgow, Hull York, King's, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Queen's Belfast, Sheffield, Southampton, St. Andrews, St. George's.*



Interviews

Interview Formats	Multiple Mini Interviews (King's, Aberdeen, Bristol, Leeds, etc) Panel Interview (UCL, Imperial, Exeter, etc) Oxbridge (Oxford and Cambridge)
Sample Interview Questions	Why medicine? Why [particular school]? Personal statement (work experience, books you have read) Ethical/ Value-based questions Current affairs and healthcare issues
Advice	Interview books (use questions but not answers for reference) Practice (by yourself, with family, friends, teachers and counsellors) Best interview is a dialogue! You want to find out more about the university, and they want to find out more about you.