

Applying for Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary

An Introductory Guide

Key Points

- Apply early - mid October
- Relevant work experience essential
- Highest grades needed
- A Level science(s) essential
- If not - possible Foundation year
- Good people skills essential
- Selection interviews important
- Lots of people apply - few are accepted

Dentistry

- 13 schools to choose from
- A Level Sciences essential - check details
- Need 320 to 340 UCAS points
- Need good health (declare anything serious)
- Might need to do BMAT or UKMAT test
- Normally takes 5 years plus a year's vocational training
- First 2 year are preclinical - theory, case studies, relating to patients
- The 3 years of clinical (medical tasks)
- Assessment by exams, coursework and observation of clinical examination
- Possible Intercalated degree
- Dentists are usually self-employed
- Or you might work in a hospital or in community health (employed by NHS)
- Salary - no formal scales for self-employed but around £70,000 +
- Work experience essential (eg care home, hospital, assisting nurses, dentist, hospice)

Medicine

- 30 medical schools to choose from
- A Level Sciences essential - check details
- Need 320 to 340 UCAS points
- Need good health (declare anything serious)
- Might need to do BMAT or UKMAT test
- Normally takes 5 years
- First 2 year are preclinical - theory etc
- The 3 years of clinical (medical tasks)
- Assessment by exams, coursework and observation of clinical examination
- Possible elective year (maybe abroad)
- Possible Intercalated degree (you get an extra science degree by doing extra year)
- Read medical stuff - newspapers, books, journals, visit
- Work experience essential (eg care home, hospital, assisting nurses, hospice)
- Visit a local GP
- Know what the following mean: BMA, NICE, AIDS, SARS, MMR, MRSA, causes of death in UK

Veterinary

- 6 veterinary schools to choose from
- A Level Sciences essential - check details
- Need 320 to 340 UCAS points
- Need good health (declare anything serious)
- Might need to take an aptitude test
- Normally takes 5 years
- First 2 year are preclinical - theory etc
- The 3 years of clinical (medical tasks)
- Assessment by exams, coursework and observation of clinical examination

- Possible Intercalated degree (you get an extra science degree by doing extra year)

Resources

- "Getting into Medical School" (ISBN: 1-84455-030-3)
- CRAC degree course Guide (ISBN: 0-85660-936-6)
- Health Care Courses (ISBN: 1-84455-048-6)
- See these in L5

Also websites - www.ukmat.ac.uk, www.bmat.org.uk