



SFC Announcement

Intake targets for the controlled subject of Medicine in universities for academic year 2018-19

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Summary: Announcement of intake targets for the controlled subject of Medicine in universities for academic year 2018-19

FAO: Principals / Chairs of universities

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Intake targets for the controlled subject of Medicine in universities for academic year 2018-19

Purpose

1. I am writing to announce the academic year (AY) 2018-19 intake targets for the controlled subject of Medicine. This is set out in Table 1 below.

Intake targets

2. SFC has received guidance from the Scottish Government advising that the recommended intake for Medicine for AY 2018-19 will be 953 students, of which 50 places should support the existing widening access criteria outlined below, and 55 are for the new ScotGEM course in AY 2018-19. ScotGEM is run by the universities of St Andrews and Dundee and health boards in Fife and Tayside, in collaboration with NHS Highland, NHS Dumfries and Galloway, and the University of the Highlands and Islands.
3. A copy of the guidance from the Scottish Government is provided at Annex A, and details of individual intake targets are set out in the table below:

Table 1: Intake targets for Medicine for AY 2018-19

Intake Targets for Medicine for AY 2018-19					
Institution	Scots/EU/RUK Core Intake Target	Scots/EU Target for Widening Access Places	Scots/EU/RUK Target for ScotGEM	International	Total
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Aberdeen, University of	152	10		16	178
Dundee, University of	134	10		13	157
Edinburgh, University of	190	10		17	217
Glasgow, University of	210	10		18	238
St Andrews, University of	98	10	55		163
Sector	784	50	55	64	953

Additional Widening Access Places

4. We would draw universities' attention to the paragraph in the attached letter from Shirley Rogers, Director of Health Workforce and Strategic Change Directorate, which refers to the 50 Additional Widening Access Places. Universities should particularly note the requirement to "(i)... publish an access threshold for SIMD 20 postcode applicants which represents a significant adjustment from existing grades and (ii) Publicise that threshold with targeted schools specifically with a view to growing the SIMD 20 applicant pool. These obligations broadly align with actions set out in the Universities Scotland report: Working to Widen Access. Ministers would expect action in respect of (i)

and (ii) to be taken over the course of the next calendar year with a view to ensuring that outcomes are in place ahead of the 2019 intake of WA students.”

5. SFC will monitor the use of the 50 widening access places against the criteria outlined in AY 2016-17, as well as monitoring the existing performance of universities in relation to widening access criteria to ensure that aspirations to widen access to Medicine are met. In addition we will monitor whether universities are complying with the requirements set out in paragraph 4.
6. In line with the Scottish Government’s guidance, the 50 widening access places have been allocated equally across the five medical schools. This distribution will be kept under review for 2019 and beyond to ensure that recruitment to these places is in line with widening access aspirations.

Pre-entry medical places

7. We wrote to the University of Aberdeen and the University of Glasgow in November 2017, to advise them that they will each be funded for an intake of 20 students to the Pre-Medical Entry Programme for AY 2018-19.

International students

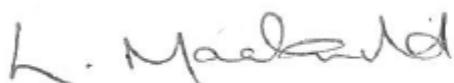
8. The Scottish Government recognises that international students make an important contribution to medical education in Scotland, however the expectation is that the number of international students should not increase beyond their current level.

Funding and funded places

9. We will provide further information with regards to funding and funded student places for the controlled subject of Medicine in the forthcoming announcement ‘Outcome agreement funding for universities - indicative allocations for AY 2018-19’.

Further information

10. Please contact Duncan Condie, Senior Funding Policy Officer, tel: 0131 313 6671, email: dcondie@sfc.ac.uk.



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