

## University Intake Targets for Medicine in AY 2025-26



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Issue Date:	2 May 2025
Reference:	SFC/AN/11/2025
Summary:	Announcement of university intake targets for the controlled subject of Medicine in Academic Year 2025-26.
FAO:	Principals / Directors of Scotland's universities, and the general public.
Further Information:	<b>CONTACT:</b> Duncan Condie <b>JOB TITLE:</b> Senior Funding Policy Officer <b>DIRECTORATE:</b> Finance <b>TEL:</b> 0131 313 6671 <b>EMAIL:</b> <a href="mailto:dcondie@sfc.ac.uk">dcondie@sfc.ac.uk</a>

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## University intake targets for Medicine in AY 2025-26

### Purpose

1. I am writing to announce the university intake targets for the controlled subject of Medicine for Academic Year (AY) 2025-26. The targets are set out in [Table 1](#) below.

### Background

2. SFC receives annual guidance from the Scottish Government's Health Workforce Directorate, providing recommended intakes for medical schools in Scotland, following consideration of medical undergraduate numbers by the Medical Undergraduate Group. The letter of guidance for AY 2025-26 is provided in Annex A.

### AY 2025-26 intake targets

3. In line with Scottish Government guidance, the university intake target for Medicine for AY 2025-26 is 1,417 students.
4. The target for AY 2025-26 is split between an intake of 1,339 students with Scottish domicile 'home fee', rest of UK (rUK), and Republic of Ireland (RoI) status, and an intake of 78 students with 'international' fee status.
5. Ministers remain committed to increasing the numbers of Scottish-domiciled students studying Medicine and we will continue to monitor the number of students eligible to pay 'home fees' studying Medicine in Scotland.
6. In addition, the total intake target for the Gateway to Medicine programmes at the universities of Aberdeen and Glasgow has been maintained at 70 students.

### Widening Access places

7. The intake target for Widening Access (WA) students in AY 2025-26 will remain at 110 students. The distribution of the WA intake target also remains unchanged.
8. WA students must be from SIMD 20 areas and/or be from a care-experienced background to meet Ministerial aims and aspirations on WA and participation.

### Scottish Community Orientated Medicine Programme

9. In July 2023, the University of St Andrews was given approval to launch the Scottish Community Orientated Medicine Programme (ScotCOM). In AY 2025-26 a transition cohort, drawn from the university's existing A100 programme, will move on to year 3 of the ScotCOM programme at the clinical price group with a further transition cohort moving on to year 3 in AY 2026-27.

10. For the first time in AY 2025-26 St Andrews can recruit up to 55 students directly to Year 1 of the ScotCOM programme. Students recruited to ScotCOM should be students who would have otherwise commenced on the Scotland route A100 programme.
11. If St Andrews is unable to fill its intake target of 55 students for ScotCOM then it should make up the difference by recruiting additional students to the core A100 programme.

## International students

12. The Scottish Government has expressed concern regarding the over-recruitment of international students and is considering how the situation can be managed. For AY 2025-26, SFC will continue to monitor the number of international students and report these numbers to Scottish Government.

## Funding and funded student places

13. SFC may recover funding from universities who under-recruit eligible students against the annual core intake target for Scottish-domiciled/home fee status, rUK and RoI students by more than 3%. SFC may also apply financial penalties to universities who over-recruit and exceed their intake target for all Scottish-domiciled/home fee, rUK and RoI entrants by more than 10%. Any action will be subject to the consideration of any mitigating evidence presented by the university. Specific allocations of funded student places will be provided in the final university funding announcement for AY 2025-26 in May.
14. Should Medical Schools foresee any difficulties in meeting the intake targets for AY 2025-26 beyond normal tolerance levels (as set out above), they should make this known to SFC at the earliest opportunity, using the contact details below.

## Further information

15. Please contact Duncan Condie, Senior Funding Policy Officer, tel: 0131 313 6671, email: [dcondie@sfc.ac.uk](mailto:dcondie@sfc.ac.uk).



**Tiffany Ritchie**  
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Table 1 – Medicine intake targets for AY 2025-26

Institution	Core intake target for AY 2025-26	Widening Access	ScotGEM <sup>1</sup>	GP Track	HCP-Med	ScotCOM	International	Total intake target for AY 2025-26	Gateway to Medicine
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Aberdeen, University of	200	24		55			19	298	30
Dundee, University of	180	24					16	220	
Edinburgh, University of	245	25			35		21	326	
Glasgow, University of	269	25		30			22	346	40
St Andrews, University of	90	12				55	0	157	
ScotGEM <sup>1</sup>			70					70	
<b>Total</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>1,417</b>	<b>70</b>

<sup>1</sup> ScotGEM is a collaboration between the universities of Dundee and St Andrews. Students study at St Andrews in years 1 & 2 and at Dundee in years 3 & 4.