

Medicine

Essentials

BM BS degree

Medicine

See also

Biochemistry (p35), Biology (p37), Biomedical sciences (p39), Neuroscience (p102), Psychology (p115)

What A levels do I need?

BSMS offers are made to interview-selected candidates only. International students may be able to be interviewed via video link at a British Council Office. A level offers normally require AAA or A*AB grades (360 UCAS tariff points) to be obtained in three A levels. You must have studied both Biology and Chemistry, gaining an A grade in both of these subjects. General Studies A level is not included

What else do I need?

GCSE grade B (or equivalent) in Mathematics and English

You will need to take the UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT) before application. The deadline for taking the test is before the UCAS application date. For more information, visit www.ukcat.ac.uk

Other qualifications

If you are taking Scottish Highers, the International Baccalaureate or other international qualifications, or are considering a graduate or mature student entry route, visit www.bsms.ac.uk or contact BSMS Admissions at the address below for more information

Fees

Refer to pages 137-138 for information on fees. For up-to-date fee information, visit www.bsms.ac.uk

What scholarships are there?

A number of bursaries are available. For details, visit www.bsms.ac.uk

Additional Government funding

For details, visit www.nhsstudentgrants.co.uk

English language requirements

IELTS 7.5 overall and not less than 7.0 in each section. For alternative English language requirements, contact BSMS Admissions at the address below

How do I find out more?

Full details on the curriculum, entry requirements, eligibility, and admissions are published in the Brighton and Sussex Medical School prospectus, available from:

BSMS Admissions, Checkland Building,
University of Brighton, Falmer, Brighton BN1 9PH, UK
E medadmissions@bsms.ac.uk
T +44 (0)1273 643528
www.bsms.ac.uk

When can I visit?

BSMS runs three Open Days, likely to be held on 6 and 27 July and 10 August 2011. Visit www.bsms.ac.uk for further details and to book a place

Applications to study medicine must reach UCAS by 15 October 2011



Brighton and Sussex Medical School

Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS) accepted its first intake in 2003 and now has over 650 students across five years. BSMS is a partnership between the Universities of Sussex and Brighton and NHS trusts across the Surrey and Sussex region. Our students are full members of both universities and enjoy access to the academic and recreational facilities of each.

Why medicine?

Medicine is a demanding profession, but one that repays the hard work and dedication it involves through the rich variety of career opportunities it offers and the satisfaction of knowing that you are making a positive contribution to society.

Why medicine at BSMS?

- Medicine at BSMS scored 85 per cent in the student satisfaction category of the 2010 National Student Survey (NSS).
- Integrated degree combining academic knowledge and clinical experience from Year 1.
- Student-centred personal approach to learning with small class groups.
- Real cadaver dissection practised as part of the degree programme.
- BSMS research features significantly in the curriculum. We believe that your decision-making must be informed by up-to-date clinical evidence. We also encourage our students to present at local, national and international meetings.
- Wide variety of teaching and learning methods – from lectures and small-group work to self-directed, problem-based learning. This means students with different aptitudes can develop a range of additional skills throughout their studies.
- Combined expertise of two universities and the Brighton and Sussex University Hospital NHS Trust. We also work closely with a number of other local NHS trusts.
- Application of latest technology to aid learning, such as handheld computers for all students who are in their third, fourth and fifth year.

What sort of career could I have?

- Our Medicine degree equips you with the knowledge and clinical skills to successfully complete your foundation training and qualify for registration with the General Medical Council (GMC).
- As a graduate, you are entitled to provisional registration with the GMC with a licence to practise, subject to demonstrating to the GMC that your fitness to practise is not impaired. Graduates are then able to undertake the further postgraduate training necessary to become a general practitioner or medical consultant in a clinical speciality.



BSMS uses a range of interactive learning tools and gives all third-, fourth- and fifth-year students access to personal digital assistants (PDAs) packed with relevant medical resources

Imran's perspective

'I chose to study medicine at BSMS because of its friendly, close-knit atmosphere. With small-class teaching I've been able to build close relationships with my lecturers and professors, as well as getting to know most students in my year – something not possible at bigger medical schools. The degree is built around a systems-based approach but with ample clinical exposure from Year 1. Being taught history-taking, examination skills and the science behind health and disease stands you in great stead for the clinical years, while studying anatomy through full-body dissection prepares you for clinical rotations like surgery. State-of-the-art technology and simulators also allow you to keep up to date with the ever-changing world of medicine. Links with numerous hospitals in our area provide you with a varied and broad clinical experience, and plans to make the Royal Sussex County Hospital in Brighton into a major trauma centre and leader in surgery mean it's an exciting place to be a student. My own interest lies in surgery and I've had every opportunity to get great experience in theatre by being able to scrub in and assist the surgeons, giving me a taste of what a surgical career would involve.'

Imran Mahmood
BM BS Medicine





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At BSMS, you have the chance to join in pioneering staff research and develop projects of your own. You could conduct your study at the local hospital or research laboratory – and you might even find your name in print

How will I learn?

We offer a variety of teaching and learning methods from lectures and small-group work to self-directed problem-based learning. This means that whatever aptitudes you already bring to your studies, you can be sure of developing a range of additional skills throughout the degree.

What will I achieve?

- The degree develops key personal skills and attitudes including learning how to learn and understanding the need for lifelong learning; reflective practice; communication and IT skills; working effectively in multi-professional teams; the personal and ethical attitudes essential for good professional practice; and an appreciation of doctors' responsibilities to their patients, to professional colleagues, to society and to themselves.
- You also develop clinical skills in history-taking, physical examination, diagnosis, and effective communication with patients. Experience of medical practice in hospital settings includes visits to a busy accident and emergency unit and other clinical settings.
- In Year 3, you are introduced to research methodology, essential for the practice of evidence-based medicine, and join a BSMS, Brighton or Sussex research team to carry out an individual research project in Year 4.

Year 4 includes a medical elective, in the UK or abroad, offering the opportunity to experience medical practice in a different cultural and clinical setting. Recent destinations have included India, Cambodia, Peru, Jamaica and the Solomon Islands. You also undertake research projects, go on clinical placements in hospital and community settings, and develop your primary care experience.

Subject to satisfactory academic performance, you have the opportunity to take an intercalated BSc in order to study a subject of your choice in greater depth. This is taken in one year between Years 3 and 4 of your BM BS studies and provides the necessary academic background for those wishing to embark on a career combining medical practice with medical research. You might choose global health, neuroscience, molecular medicine, pharmacological sciences or experimental psychology.

Year 5 prepares you for your first postgraduate year as Foundation Year (FY) doctors under the Foundation scheme. It is organised in regional attachments comprising clinical placements in district general hospital and community settings in Sussex and its adjoining counties, including periods spent work-shadowing an FY doctor.

In Years 3, 4 and 5, you will have access to hand-held computers (PDAs), so you can access relevant information resources at the point of need while working on the wards or in clinics. BSMS is a leading medical school in the UK in the development of technology-based learning support.

A range of learning styles prepares you for a career in medicine. Among other teaching methods, BSMS practises real cadaver dissection, so you can gain a real understanding of human anatomy

Degree

Medicine

BM BS, 5 years UCAS Code: A100

Institution code B74

In the first two years, academic and clinical studies are based on both Universities' campuses at Falmer. You will gain clinical experience in both primary care and acute care settings and carry out two individual family studies – in Year 1 with a family looking after a new baby, and in Year 2 with a family including a dependant requiring continuing care.

Academic studies are based on a series of systems modules focused on the normal and abnormal functioning of the human body. These include the core material that every doctor must know, together with student-selected components enabling the exploration of selected topics in depth.

In Years 3 and 4, your studies will be based at the Education Centre at the Royal Sussex County Hospital in Brighton, and in the teaching hospitals of the Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust.

In Year 3, you undertake four eight-week specified clinical attachments in medicine, surgery, elderly medicine, mental health or women's and child health, as well as student-selected components and weekly teaching sessions on the scientific basis of medicine.

You also maintain a logbook and personal portfolio, which will be used to assess progress, and help you reflect on how your personal strengths are developing alongside your clinical experience.

