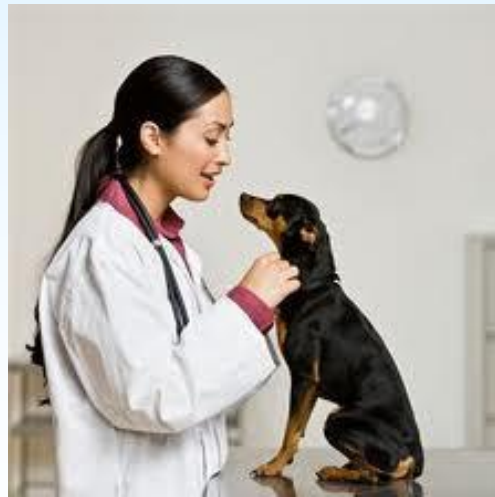


Applying for Medicine, Dentistry & Veterinary Medicine



Why We Are Here

1. Timeline for applications
2. What applicants need to do
3. School support for applicants
4. How parents can help

Timeline

by June 2018 ↓	Register with UCAS Research and choose courses and Universities
By 6 September 2018 ↓	Write and submit 1 st draft of personal statement Form completed apart from Personal Statement
By 20 September 2018 ↓	Draft personal statement returned with comments
By 8 October 2018 ↓	Final Deadline - Personal statement completed and submitted on UCAS form.
By 11 October 2018	School will send application form to UCAS.

What needs to be done?

1. Register for UKCAT now however sit the test at a later date

- Start preparing now
- Familiarise yourself with the questions and practice, practice, practice!
 - www.ukcat.ac.uk
 - Question bank
 - Official mobile app
 - 3 Practice tests

<https://www.ukcat.ac.uk/media/1254/preparation-plan-2018.pdf>



My UKCAT 2018 Preparation Plan

TOP TIP

Our highest scoring candidates said they spent 25-30 hours preparing for the UKCAT and that it's better to build up your preparation by doing just an hour or so each day.

TOP TIP

Get familiar with the 'Flag' and 'Review' functions within the test which can help you manage your time and practise using the on-screen calculator too.

TOP TIP

Consider creating a mnemonic to help you remember some of the key things to look for in Abstract Reasoning (e.g. shape, number, position, symmetry, reflection).

TOP TIP

Browse the GMC's Good Medical Practice to inform your responses in the Situational Judgement Test.

+6 weeks to go

Visit the UKCAT website or read our [Official Guide](#) to find out the key information you need to know

Use the [Interactive Question Tutorial](#) to guide you through each subtest and learn strategies on how to approach and answer questions

4 weeks to go

Check out advice from high scoring candidates on our website and on the [Official UKCAT YouTube channel](#)

Take [Practice Test A](#) on the UKCAT website; these tests closely mimic the test experience and questions are of equivalent standard to the actual test

3 weeks to go

Take [Practice Tests B & C](#) - step up your practise by sitting the timed versions to improve your speed as you get closer to sitting your test



Use the [Tour Tutorial](#) to understand the format of the UKCAT and learn the functions of the computer-based test

Use our [FREE question banks](#) to practise hundreds of example questions

Download the [Official UKCAT App](#) to practise some additional questions in your spare time

TOP TIP

Challenge yourself by reading newspapers or articles to improve your speed reading and critical reasoning skills which will help with Verbal Reasoning.

TOP TIP

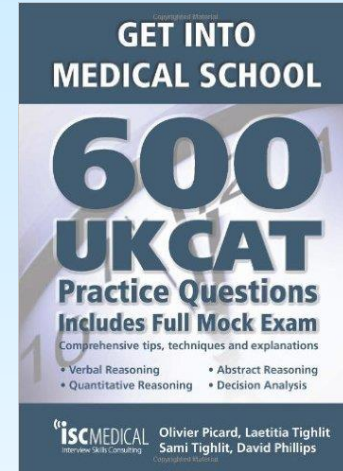
Brush up your Maths skills (percentages, ratios, fractions, etc.) as this will help with the Decision Making and Quantitative Reasoning sections. Practise your mental arithmetic too as this can save you valuable time.

TOP TIP

Make sure you know where your test centre is (print off a map) and ensure you have the correct ID to take with you; otherwise you will not be permitted to test.

Additional UKCAT preparation (optional)

- Question Book
 - Other practice tests
 - <https://www.themedicportal.com/e-learning/ukcat/>
 - Medify (£40 for 1 month, £45 for 2 months)
 - Courses - Kaplan (2 day course £330)
- After school support classes



UKCAT Fee

The following UKCAT test fees apply in 2018:

Tests taken in the EU between 2 July and 31 August 2018	£65
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Tests taken in the EU between 1 September and 2 October 2018	£87
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Bursary Scheme

- Deadline for applications: **18 September 2018**
Bursary voucher expiry date: **16 October 2018**
- Candidates need to meet one of the criteria and be able to provide relevant evidence to support their application.

Bursary Criteria

Evidence Required

In receipt of **Free School Meals**.

Please provide a letter from your school/college confirming you receive free school meals (local authority funded only).

In receipt of a **16 to 19 Bursary** in England or **Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)** in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland.

Please provide an official award letter for academic year 2017/18 or 2018/19. We do not accept evidence that relates to scholarships/bursaries at independent or fee-paying schools.



What needs to be done ?

2. Arrange a placement / work shadowing

- GPs – nurses – hospitals- hospices
- S6 service: Community placements
 - Care homes
 - Isobel Mair School
 - Stroke Unit
 - Cosgrove Care
- Buddy, Paired reading, Student tutor etc
- Health and Wellbeing Group
- Reflect on your experience – journal/ log /diary – be prepared to give details about this both in your personal statement and during the interview.

Experience is ESSENTIAL,
not voluntary

What needs to be done ?

3. Research the different courses

- Find out about the differences between the courses
- Each medical school has its own methodology and its own strengths / specialisms that you should be aware of

Traditional
or
Problem Based Learning
or
Integrated

Additional things to do

- Read Broadsheet newspapers such as the Independent and the Guardian
- Also topical magazines and journals such as New Scientist/The Student BMJ/BBC Health/The Spectator
- Compile a database of articles you have read, summarizing the main points, ethical issues, potential links
- This is a great skill for the *Verbal Reasoning* section of the UKCAT, and the knowledge you gain will help in your interviews.
- The aim is to show that there is an awareness of the issues.
- Interviewers are not looking for ‘the right answer’ – they are looking for interest and awareness as well as an ability to reflect on and state a point of view.

Additional things to do

- <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/categories/health-and-psychology>
- These are FREE online courses which have relevance for prospective medical applicants. They are usually 2-3hrs per week and spread over 6 weeks. A certificate is available for a fee on successful completion of the course.

School support for applicants

- Support with the application form
- Pastoral Support teachers will write the reference
- Provide advice on personal statements
- Example interview questions
- Interview Workshop
- Individual interviews where possible (November onwards)
- Advanced Higher Tutorials
- Talks in school

How Parents Can Help

- Ensure your son or daughter continues to work hard in S6
- Ensure they register for appropriate tests eg UKCAT, BMAT etc
- Ensure that they are arranging work experience / placements
- Make sure they keep to the timeline
- Read their personal statement before it is submitted
- Make it clear that they are embarking on a career
- Ensure this is one of their priorities over the next few months
- Contact us if you have questions