Welcome

The Universities of Brighton and Sussex are immensely proud of how successfully our medical school has developed in its second decade.

Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS) graduates are now developing their careers, undertaking specialty registrar training at hospitals and in GP practices across the UK.

The medical school’s research reputation has also developed significantly. In areas such as biomedical science, neuroscience, global health and infection, we are looking to make a rapid and real difference to people’s quality of life.

We are committed to high academic and professional standards, as well as to meeting the needs of students as individuals. We welcome you in considering BSMS.

A career in medicine represents a unique opportunity to make a real difference to the lives of individual patients and their families and carers. Medicine is a profession that provides a multitude of varied career opportunities and at Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS) we welcome students from diverse backgrounds who have the enthusiasm, dedication, compassion and commitment to become outstanding doctors.

BSMS offers a distinctive and innovative course that prepares its graduates to enter an ever-changing and developing world of healthcare. We are proud of the quality of our teaching, as reflected by our position among the top medical schools in the National Student Survey table 2016.

Our course incorporates early clinical contact with patients and carers and interactions with health professionals both in the hospital and community settings. This helps you build crucial interpersonal, teamwork and communication skills and the essential knowledge underpinning clinical practice in medicine.

BSMS has a strong sense of community and there is a close relationship between our academic staff and students.

We work closely with our partner NHS hospitals, general practitioners and other providers, and our students are well received and supported in all of their placements. You will have an academic tutor and access to a student support coordinator throughout your degree, reflecting our commitment to providing personal and academic support for our students.

BSMS is a partnership between the Universities of Brighton and Sussex and you will have access to the outstanding academic and recreational facilities of both universities. The two campuses are situated close together in a beautiful area just outside Brighton, a vibrant and diverse city on the south coast just an hour from London.

My own experience in medicine has been a privilege and highly rewarding. Being involved in a young and highly successful medical school gives me a great opportunity to help ensure that the next generation of doctors are prepared for a similarly fulfilling career in whatever branch of medicine they choose.

I hope we will see you undertaking your medical studies in Brighton in the coming years.

Professor Malcolm Reed
Dean of BSMS

The BSMS experience

The BSMS experience

A first-year student’s diary

A fourth-year student’s diary

My finances

International students

What qualifications do I need?

What will my application be processed?
Since opening in 2003, BSMS has produced more than 1,000 new doctors who now work across the UK. They are equipped with the knowledge and skills to practise the challenging and varied role of the modern doctor. In 2023, this could be you.

James Harley, Foundation Year 2 doctor
bsms.ac.uk/james-harley

Fit to practise

BSMS gave me a firm foundation on which to build my career. The medical school really equips you with the modern day skills set you need to work as a junior doctor in an ever-evolving, modern day NHS.
Our five-year medical degree, awarded jointly by the Universities of Brighton and Sussex, leads to the qualification of Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (BM BS).

The course is designed to help you become a highly competent, strongly motivated doctor, committed to the highest standards of clinical practice, professionalism and patient care.

By the time you graduate, you will have developed the knowledge, professional and key personal skills and attitudes necessary to pursue a successful medical career.

How is the course organised?

Phase 1: Years 1–2
Your academic and clinical studies will be based primarily at both Brighton and Sussex University campuses at Falmer, using purpose-built teaching facilities including a modern anatomy laboratory, small and large group teaching spaces, clinical science laboratories and IT resource suites.

The academic year is organised into three terms of 10 weeks each. About 25% of your learning at this stage will be clinically based and will include gaining experience in hospitals and primary and community medicine. You will start to develop clinical skills in history taking, physical examination, diagnosis and effective communication with patients in a classroom setting and by spending time with a family looking after a new baby (Year 1), and carrying out a longitudinal clerkship following a patient with dementia (Years 2 and 3).

You will also study the normal and abnormal functioning of the human body using a system-based approach, with integrated modules covering the core biomedical and psychosocial sciences. Student-Selected Components (SSCs) will allow you to undertake individual studies and explore selected topics in depth, informed by the latest research.

Apart from core lectures and symposia, most Year 1 and 2 classes are taught in small groups. You will be supported by an academic tutor throughout Phase 1.

Phase 2: Years 3–4
Years 3 and 4 are based mainly in Brighton at the Royal Sussex County Hospital and Audrey Emerton Education Centre, and in Haywards Heath at the Princess Royal Hospital. The Audrey Emerton provides comprehensive learning facilities, including a fully stocked medical library, computer suites, a clinical skills training area and teaching rooms for large and small group study. You will be supported by a clinical academic tutor throughout Years 3 to 5.

Year 3
At the heart of Year 3 are three 10-week, ward-based attachments in Medicine, Surgery, and Elderly Medicine and Psychiatry. You will consolidate your increasing clinical experience with your understanding of the underlying clinical, social science and public health issues through weekly teaching sessions on the scientific basis of medicine throughout Year 3, building on the core knowledge gained in Phase 1.
### Phase 3: Year 5

Year 5 provides intense clinical and professional preparation for your foundation years. Throughout the year, you will develop your clinical skills through direct patient contact and by using clinical skills laboratories and simulators.

As a student assistant, you will undertake clinical attachments in different regional locations including Chichester, Eastbourne, Hastings, Haywards Heath, Redhill, Worthing and Brighton. Your learning will be based on a close involvement with musculoskeletal cases, acting as a member of the clinical team in medicine, emergency medicine, elderly medicine, surgery, general practice and psychiatry. Central to your study will be the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of patients presenting to these different areas of practice.

You will take part in a seminar programme and a range of mini conferences, which cover topics such as NHS structure, patient safety, leadership skills and advanced communication and ethical skills.

Following your final examinations, you will undertake a four-week clinical elective period to experience healthcare in another environment in the UK or abroad. You will then undergo a Preparation for Practice module that will build on all you have done in the previous years so you are well prepared for life as a foundation doctor. At the start of Year 5 you will also apply for your foundation year training posts, and later in the year take the national Situational Judgement Test and Prescribing Safety Assessment.

### Foundation Year training

Your degree in medicine will equip you with the knowledge and clinical and personal skills you need to progress to the next stages of your training.

Wherever you undertake foundation training, you will have close educational supervision and continue with your ePortfolio.

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### Knowledge, skills and attitudes

#### During your academic studies and clinical training

You will gain knowledge and understanding:

- **the fundamental medical sciences**
- **the structure and function of the healthy human body, and how it alters in disease**
- **pregnancy, childbirth, development and ageing**
- **the causes, patterns, treatments and outcomes of common acute and long-term medical conditions**
- **the principles of population and environmental health, showing the wider determinants of disease and the impact of ill health on society**
- **the principles of health promotion, disease prevention and therapy**
- **human relationships in the context of the family, community and culture in health and disease**
- **the organisation and provision of healthcare in the UK**
- **the ethical and legal responsibilities of doctors**

#### You will develop the skills to:

- take a detailed historical record
- identify the clinical signs of disease
- use a patient's history and clinical examination to reach a diagnosis
- design an appropriate treatment plan, working with a multi-disciplinary team
- carry out specified clinical procedures with confidence
- deal safely with medical emergencies
- listen to, and work in partnership with, patients, relatives and carers across a range of organisational settings, in order to make shared decisions about the maintenance or improvement of the patient's health
- make effective use of laboratory and other diagnostic services
- understand clinical pharmacology/therapeutics and prescribing.

### As your academic and clinical knowledge progresses, you will also develop:

- an understanding of your responsibility for lifelong self-education
- the habit of critically evaluating your professional performance
- an awareness of the need to involve patients and their relatives in decisions about their treatment and care
- the critical use of scientific evidence for medical practice
- a recognition of the need for you to work as part of an effective multi-professional team
- the judgement to recognise when you have reached the limits of your own knowledge or skills and need to seek assistance.

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### Year 5 (39 weeks)

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- **Clinical Practice 1**
- **Foundations of Health and Disease**
- **Nutrition, Metabolism and Excretion**
- **Musculoskeletal and Immune Systems**
- **Neuroscience and Behaviour**
- **Reproduction and Endocrinology**
- **Student-Selected Components**
- **Pharmacology and Therapeutics**

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### Year 2 (39 weeks)

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- **Clinical Practice 2**
- **Medical Research MSc**
- **Cardiology MSc**
- **Dementia Studies MSc**
- **Leadership and Commissioning MSc**
- **Public Health MSc**
- **Medical Education MSc**
- **Global Health MSc**

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### Year 1 (33 weeks)

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- **Neuroscience and Behaviour**
- **Reproduction and Endocrinology**
- **Student-Selected Components**
- **Pharmacology and Therapeutics**

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### Interchange

**BSMS intercalated degrees**

- **Global Health MSc**
- **Medical Education MSc**
- **Public Health MSc**
- **Leadership and Commissioning MSc**
- **Dementia Studies MSc**
- **Cardiology MSc**
- **Medical Research MSc**

See table opposite: Objective Structured Clinical Examination. *Knowledge Test. All exam results will take place in August except Year 5, which will take place in May. Please note: a revised curriculum for Years 3–5 is still being finalised and may change by 2016. Check at bsms.ac.uk/undergraduate
At BSMS, our emphasis is on small group academic and clinical teaching. We help you develop into an excellent doctor by offering a range of teaching and learning methods, including cadaveric dissection and e-learning. We believe in supporting you with relevant technology and learning resources, so you can realise your potential.

The BSMS experience

The highly supportive, close-knit community of staff and students at BSMS allows each individual to realise their own potential, within an ever-growing innovative teaching environment. Early clinical experience coupled with traditional teaching methods fully prepare students for the challenges posed by modern medicine. The dedication, support and enthusiasm of all those at BSMS allowed my knowledge and confidence to grow exponentially during my years of study, and I am certainly proud to be a graduate of BSMS.

Sarah Gomes, GP trainee, Brighton, and BSMS graduate

Developing you as a doctor

The BSMS learning method

BSMS uses a wide variety of learning methods in the medical course. Lecture-based learning is supported by skills-based, problem-solving and self-directed approaches with strong IT and academic support to help you maximise the effectiveness of your learning. At BSMS, our emphasis throughout the degree is on small group academic and clinical teaching. Teaching methods include practical classes in our anatomy and biomedical science laboratories, seminars, guided individual study, clinical skills practice and clinical symposia.

We practise cadaveric dissection as a part of the course from Year 1, so you can get a real understanding of human anatomy to enhance your learning experience. Along with other IT-based learning, MRI, CT and X-ray images are uploaded digitally from the Royal Sussex County Hospital and used in interactive sessions. All these methods are supported by regular tutorials.

Individual patient studies, in which you relate clinical findings and treatment to the underlying clinical and social sciences for your patient portfolio, develop your understanding of the practice of medicine.

The early patient contact at BSMS breaks down the apprehension that many students have about communicating with patients. It allows us to develop our communications skills massively over five years and gives BSMS graduates an advantage over those from many of the other medical schools when placed in the real world.

James Williams, Year 3

bsms.ac.uk/james-willans
BSMS has an integrated curriculum designed that all doctors use throughout their careers. You will use an ePortfolio through your understanding of the underlying biomedical, integration of your clinical experience with your formal assessments occur throughout the year. Other assessments include essays and poster presentations. Individual module assessments vary from short answer and single best answer questions that assess knowledge and understanding, to the practical assessment of communication and clinical skills, and case presentations. Other assessments include essays and poster presentations. Formal assessments occur throughout the year. Each includes elements that test the integration of your clinical experience with your understanding of the underlying biomedical, clinical and social sciences.

You will use an ePortfolio through your training and some elements of this will be assessed. The ePortfolio is an important part of continued professional development that all doctors use throughout their careers. A wide range of digital learning resources, including videos, quizzes, interactive cases and case-based tutorials, are also provided. Use of mobile devices is encouraged to support learning, such as the CAPSULE clinical cases quiz app and an iPad anatomy interface in the dissection lab. Virtual microscopy allows active evaluation of microscopic anatomy and pathology in lectures, helping provide a full perspective on a patient’s illness, and can be accessed for further study or revision through StudentCentral via your PC, tablet or smartphone. All university campuses and hospital sites have computer clusters (most with Wi-Fi) providing connections to both the university and hospital networks, ensuring you are always in touch with your learning resources.

BSMS has a real sense of community – everyone knows everyone in their year by halfway through first year. One of the best things at the medical school is the full body cadaveric dissections from Year 1. These sessions allow you to view the 3D arrangements of the structures while nurturing your surgical skills.

Patrick Tano, Year 2

bsms.ac.uk/patrick-tano

Above/opposite: BSMS students have a wide range of opportunities for learning, from dissection and living anatomy, to clinical placements, lectures and small group learning.

How will my progress be measured?
BSMS has an integrated curriculum designed to develop your knowledge, academic, and clinical skills, and instil a professional approach throughout the degree. The variety of assessment methods used reflects this. Individual module assessments vary from short answer and single best answer questions that assess knowledge and understanding, to the practical assessment of communication and clinical skills, and case presentations. Other assessments include essays and poster presentations. Formal assessments occur throughout the course. Each includes elements that test the integration of your clinical experience with your understanding of the underlying biomedical, clinical and social sciences. You will use an ePortfolio through your training and some elements of this will be assessed. The ePortfolio is an important part of continued professional development that all doctors use throughout their careers.

Feedback
You will receive feedback on your progress on a regular basis, both in the classroom and in the clinical environment. Feedback will be verbal or written and will help you define your strengths and areas for development. You will have simulated GP surgeries in Years 4 and 5 and a video OSCE to help you prepare for final examinations. Your clinical academic tutor will help you define your personal development plan. BSMS also has an extensive and very successful programme of teaching delivered by student tutors.

IT resources to support learning
Today's doctors need to be confident in the effective use of information technology. Your degree will include training in digital literacies, information management, electronic patient records and the principles of bioinformatics. Our web-based virtual learning environment, StudentCentral, provides you with online access to digital learning resources and study support tools. This enables lecturers to post presentations online along with lecture recordings and direct links to the online library system.

Libraries
In addition to the two large university libraries at Falmer, further libraries are located at all of our partner hospitals. They cater for the needs of students and staff and are equipped with a full range of materials (printed and electronic), study spaces, and computer suites with extended opening hours.

Information for applicants
At the end of the undergraduate course you will receive your BMBS degree, which is a primary medical qualification (PMQ). Holding a PMQ entitles you to provisional registration with the General Medical Council (GMC), subject only to its acceptance that there are no Fitness to Practise concerns that need consideration. Provisional registration is time limited to a maximum of three years and 30 days (1,125 days in total). After this time period your provisional registration will normally expire.

Provisionally registered doctors can only practise in approved Foundation Year 1 posts. The law does not allow provisionally registered doctors to undertake any other type of work. To obtain a Foundation Year 1 post you will need to apply during the final year of your undergraduate course through the UK Foundation Programme Office selection scheme, which allocates these posts to graduates on a competitive basis. So far, all suitably qualified UK graduates have found a place on the Foundation Year 1 programme, but this cannot be guaranteed, for instance if there were to be an increased number of competitive applications from non-UK graduates. Successful completion of the Foundation Year 1 programme is normally achieved within 12 months and is marked by the award of a Certificate of Experience. You will then be eligible to apply for full registration with the GMC. You need full registration with a licence to practise for unsupervised medical practice in the NHS or private practice in the UK.

Although this information is currently correct, students need to be aware that regulations in this area may change from time to time. There is some discussion about whether to remove provisional registration for newly qualified doctors. If this happens, then UK graduates will receive full registration as soon as they have successfully completed their medical degree. It should be noted that it is very likely that UK graduates will still need to apply for a training programme similar to the current Foundation Programme and that places on this programme may not be guaranteed for every UK graduate.

In addition, the GMC is currently considering whether to introduce a formal assessment that all doctors would need to pass in order to be granted full registration. Although no firm decision has been taken as to whether or when such an assessment will be introduced, applicants should be aware that the GMC envisages that future cohorts of medical students will need to pass parts of a new UK Medical Licensing Assessment before the GMC will grant them Registration with a Licence to Practise.
Making your mark

At BSMS, you will have the chance to join in with pioneering research and develop projects of your own. You could conduct your study at the local hospital or in a research lab, or use your elective placement to explore developments in medicine across the world — and you might even find your name in print.

There are many opportunities to embark on scientific research, at one of the BSMS labs or one of the partner universities. You can explore which scientific field you are interested in, and then develop this in your Individual Research Project which every student does in Year 4.

Ella Shalit, Year 5

Our research reputation
Making a difference

At BSMS, we believe tomorrow’s doctors should be fully involved in shaping the future of healthcare through cutting-edge research. We provide you with up-to-date clinical evidence to inform your learning and decision making. We also encourage you to conduct research and present your findings in local, national and international meetings, as well as publish papers in medical journals.

From trialling new chemotherapy drugs to investigating genetic susceptibility to Alzheimer’s, our research has an international reputation. It aims to improve medical treatment, answer fundamental biomedical and clinical questions and deliver more personalised healthcare to patients.

Your participation in research

You could participate in research in your Year 1. In Year 4, you will conduct a research project under the supervision of a faculty member. You might choose to join research teams in laboratories, hospitals or the community, investigating biomedical sciences or epidemiology, or assessing clinical and community interventions.

You will graduate with enhanced teamwork, research methodology, technical and project management skills, and could even take an intercalated degree in a biomedical subject later in life.

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You will graduate with enhanced teamwork, research methodology, technical and project management skills, and could even take an intercalated degree in a biomedical subject later in life.
Student Support staff are on hand throughout your time at BSMS, to help you achieve your full potential, whatever difficulties you may encounter. We offer advice and a supportive space for students facing a range of problems.

Sue Johnson, Student Support Coordinator

Supporting you to succeed

Medicine is a demanding course physically, intellectually and emotionally. During your five years here you may experience problems with which you need help, but there is no need to struggle alone. Whether you need study help or financial advice, medical facilities or just a listening ear, the services below are on hand to assist you.

Academic tutors
Your academic tutor will be your academic advisor throughout your first two years, encouraging you to set your own learning goals and advising you on your academic progress. They will lead your weekly tutorials during term 1 and ensure that you develop the necessary study skills.

In Year 3 you will be allocated a clinical academic tutor who will provide ongoing academic support. They will help you talk through the difficult clinical and ethical issues that every aspiring doctor encounters, and support your academic progression into foundation training.

Support through teaching
Important skills such as self-reflection and stress management are covered as elements of the course. Useful workshops and external resources are made available throughout the degree, via course information and announcements. Staff will be available to give further advice if necessary.

Subdeans
Clinical subdeans are on hand at each training hospital to provide you with advice and guidance during your Year 5 clinical attachments away from the main medical school.

Student Support Team
Our three student support coordinators are dedicated, non-academic staff available in all years of study, for you to discuss any personal problems that may affect you – emotional issues, financial difficulties, health problems and more. They offer confidential listening and advice, and can work with school colleagues and university services to alleviate any impact on your studies. They can also put you in touch with specialist support if necessary. Working closely with the director and deputy directors of Student Support, they ensure that students’ welfare is addressed in all aspects of school life.

Student Representatives
Each year BSMS students elect student representatives. These are current students from all years who sit on key decision-making bodies to influence life at BSMS, and liaise with staff on behalf of their fellow students.

Financial support
The University of Brighton’s Student Advice Service offers useful information and advice on additional sources of funding and money management. See page 32 for information on financial support specific to BSMS.

Disability and learning support
We welcome applications from students with disabilities. Services providing advice, guidance and personal and academic support are available to you. These include individual and group learning support for students with mental health issues, dyslexia and specific learning difficulties. To find out more, contact disability@brighton.ac.uk

Health services
The universities’ medical centres provide medical care under the NHS and there is also access to a dentist and pharmacist. All students are required to register with a local GP, and information is provided to help you do so.

Students’ Unions
The Students’ Unions of both universities run a full range of political, environmental, leisure and social activities. They also offer clubs and societies, including many that represent, support and promote the interests of students from different faiths and backgrounds (see page 23).

Personal counselling
The universities’ personal counselling services provide a safe, confidential environment to discuss concerns with qualified and experienced counsellors. These services are free to students.

Chaplains
Support and friendship are offered by the universities’ chaplaincies, which aim to help students – of any faith or none – to enjoy and enrich their time here. The chaplains organise group activities and worship, and can put students in touch with local churches and interested groups. They are also available for confidential advice or consultation.

Childcare facilities
Both university sites offer childcare provision. However, places cannot be guaranteed, and crèche and nursery applications should be made as early as possible.

See brighton.ac.uk/childcare and sussex.ac.uk/childcare
What BSMS offers you

**Early clinical experience**
Our integrated degree combines academic knowledge and clinical experience from Year 1. Students visit GP surgeries or clinics in hospitals from the first week of the course. This builds their confidence and communication skills with patients and other healthcare staff.

**Cadaveric dissection**
Cadaveric dissection is a key part of the degree from Year 1, giving you a real understanding of human anatomy. This will enhance your learning experience, while developing professionalism, skills and respect for the anatomical donor.

**BSMS students as researchers**
Research features significantly in the curriculum to ensure your decision-making is informed by up-to-date clinical evidence. You will have the opportunity to engage in primary research, including applying for a summer studentship. All Year 4 students take up an Individual Research Project. We also encourage students to participate in local, national and international research and publish where possible.

**Small group sizes**
BSMS students benefit from being taught in small groups. This allows for a close, friendly learning environment, where students get to know staff and fellow students well.

**Very satisfied students**
BSMS achieved a score of 95% student satisfaction in the 2016 National Student Survey, putting us among the top UK medical schools.

**The benefit of two universities in the same city**
BSMS students are students of both the Universities of Brighton and Sussex and have equal access to the academic and recreational facilities of each. Both university campuses are next to one another.
A home from home

As a first-year medical student, you will be guaranteed accommodation at Falmer, where the medical school is based. However, you must make BSMS your first choice when confirming places with UCAS, and submit your application for university residencies by the deadline in July 2018.

I’d definitely recommend living in halls. It’s great to live with other medics and we all help each other with our study. Everything is just a short walk away – the med school, the Co-op, the library, 24/7 access PC suites etc. It’s also easy to take the bus to the Brighton campus for free, or into town or to the hospital for placements.

Eleanor Deane, Year 1

bsms.ac.uk/eleanor-deane

Applying for accommodation

Halls of residence are provided by both the University of Brighton and the University of Sussex, and BSMS students are allocated evenly between the two universities. If you would like to live in halls, you should apply for accommodation via the University of Brighton Accommodation Office, whichever campus you prefer. They will send you advice on how to apply during the academic year before you arrive at BSMS, including all relevant deadlines. The office can also help you find accommodation off-campus, if you would prefer (see opposite page).

For more information, visit brighton.ac.uk/living-here/brighton/halls/falmer.aspx or contact +44 (0)1273 644100.

Halls of residence at Falmer

At the University of Brighton, you will normally be placed in Paddock Field residences. For more information, see brighton.ac.uk/living-here/brighton/halls/falmer.aspx or contact +44 (0)1273 644100.

At the University of Sussex, you will normally be placed in Lewes Court residences. For more information, see sussex.ac.uk/study/accommodation/on-campus or contact +44 (0)1273 678220.

Whenever residence you live in, at Falmer you will be part of a lively, stimulating and cosmopolitan student community, living alongside people from all over the world who are studying a wide range of subjects.

Most accommodation is in single study bedrooms, many of which have en suite facilities. There are also a few shared rooms and family flats (University of Sussex only), as well as housing designed for students with disabilities.

In Brighton

You might prefer to live in a house or flat for your first year, and after Year 1 all students move off campus. Brighton has several areas which are particularly popular with students and there is a wide range of rented accommodation available. Help with finding a suitable place to live is available from the University of Brighton and University of Sussex accommodation services. They provide advice on house hunting and contracts, and you can search on their websites for housing from approved landlords and potential housemates.

For information, see brighton.ac.uk/living-here/helping-you-find-your-home or contact +44 (0)1273 644100 (Brighton) or sussex.ac.uk/study/accommodation/off-campus/privately-rented or contact +44 (0)1273 678220 (Sussex).

Clinical commitments

In Years 3, 4 and 5, hospital accommodation is provided for on-call duties, where required. During Year 5, you will undertake attachments at different regional hospitals. Accommodation is provided at those centres not easily reached from your Brighton base.

Catered and self-catered options are available, and all residencies are provided with cooking facilities in communal kitchens. You can also buy anything from a sandwich to a three-course meal on campus, all at reasonable prices. Facilities at both universities are within easy reach, including:

- grocery shops
- catering outlets
- bar and cafes
- a launderette
- a newsagent
- a bookshop
- a bank
- libraries
- a post office
- sports facilities.

bsms.ac.uk/eleanor-deane
Join the club

As a BSMS student, there are plenty of activities available for when you are not studying. With clubs and societies from two students’ unions, whatever your interests, there will be something for you.

These are a great way to get to know people outside your year group, and many societies have a thriving social programme alongside their main activities.

MedSoc is the student-run umbrella society which looks after the social calendar at BSMS, including the many sports clubs and societies here. We are one of the largest societies at the Universities of Brighton and Sussex and aim to give BSMS students an unforgettable experience. We run weekly socials and sports fixtures, do charity fundraising through RAG and put on several annual balls. We’re here to listen to you and to help you have the best time at BSMS!

MedSoc
At the centre of student social life is BSMS MedSoc. MedSoc works with both students’ unions to organise teams and social events specifically aimed at medical students, such as balls, cabarets, talks and charity marathons. You’ll be able to find out exactly what’s on offer at the fresher’s fairs at the start of the academic year.

MedSoc aims to give BSMS students of Brighton and Sussex an unforgettable experience. We run weekly socials and sports fixtures, do charity fundraising through RAG and put on several annual balls. We’re here to listen to you and to help you have the best time at BSMS!

Raising and Giving
Raising and Giving (RAG) plays a huge role in the BSMS social calendar. Affiliated with MedSoc, the society puts on exciting events to raise money for the year’s chosen charities.

Other clubs and societies
Clubs and societies focusing on the performing arts are popular on both campuses. There are numerous choirs, choral societies, bands and orchestras, dance societies and drama clubs, catering for all tastes from the traditional to the experimental.

If you’re creative, there’ll be something for you too, from life drawing to design, photography and creative writing. You might decide to test out your circus skills, improve your chess or learn how to make films. Or you can join a society to support a cause, such as Médicins sans Frontières, Amnesty International or humanitarian aid projects around the world.

To find out more about both students’ unions visit brightonssu.com (University of Brighton) and sussexstudent.com (University of Sussex).

Entertainment on your doorstep
Campus cafés, pubs and bars, each with their own individual atmospheres, are popular meeting places for evening socialising. Whether you want a fun night out, cheap cocktails, live sports on TV or a quiet coffee, you will find somewhere to suit your needs and your pocket. The students’ unions organise several major events during the year, including fresher’s and summer balls, and big-name bands and DJs are also regular visitors to the campus.

Sport
Whether you want to keep fit, dance or are into serious sport, there are excellent sports facilities at Falmer including:

- courts
- dance studios
- squash and tennis courts
- football and rugby pitches
- roofed artificial turf pitches
- sauna
- more than 50 exercise and movement classes per week
- studio offering a sports injury clinic, sports massage, acupuncture, reflexology and beauty therapy.

Sports clubs
Student sports clubs, ranging from water sports to rugby, offer opportunities for serious participation. These include a number of watersports clubs, which benefit from Brighton’s seaside location. Clubs provide coaching and instruction and take part in British Universities’ Sports Association (BUSA) competitions, as well as local Sussex leagues.

Both universities have a good record of success at competition level in a range of team and individual sports. BSMS also has its own sports teams, enabling students to represent the school and continue playing sport throughout the demanding clinical years. The teams have very active calendars, and participate in a range of leagues. Teams include:

- Cricket
- Football – mens
- Football – womens
- Hockey
- Netball
- Rugby
- Tennis.

Find out more: bsmssmedsoc.co.uk

Join the club

As a BSMS student, there are plenty of activities available for when you are not studying. With clubs and societies from two students’ unions, whatever your interests, there will be something for you.
Arts, culture and events
Brighton and Hove has a rich, dynamic cultural life and the city attracts many of the best internationally recognised artists and performers. Brighton Dome, the Theatre Royal, the Old Market and many smaller venues provide a wonderful diversity of live entertainment including pre-London productions and fringe theatre. There are two multiscreen cinemas as well as the Duke of York’s and Duke’s at Komedia, which show art-house films.

The city boasts an impressive number of museums and galleries, including the Brighton Pavilion, Brighton Museum and Art Gallery and Hove Museum and Art Gallery. There are also numerous exhibitions at smaller venues, and specialist museums devoted to subjects such as fishing, toys and penny slot machines.

The November fireworks and the Burning of the Clocks solstice parade keep the pace going through the winter, while in August the Pride festival attracts visitors from around the country. The highlight of the Brighton and Hove cultural year is the Brighton Festival. Held in May, England’s brightest and biggest arts festival showcases every kind of art and performance, while the Fringe offers a range of exciting events all over the city, many of them free.

Eating out
With more than 400 cafés and restaurants to choose from, Brighton and Hove has more restaurants per resident than any town or city in the UK outside of London. There’s food for all tastes and budgets: Mexican, Chinese, Greek, Japanese, Indian, vegetarian, fish and chips, and more.

The North Laine area, which is very popular with students, is full of relaxed cafés and bars. When all the shopping gets too much, you can treat yourself to an all-day breakfast, relax with the papers over a coffee or head to one of the many pubs for a Sunday roast. Later on, you might head out to one of the city’s multitude of eateries for dinner, or stop in at an all-night cafe for a post-club snack.

Shoppers’ paradise
The only question is where to start! There’s everything here. All the familiar high street names are gathered under one roof in the Churchill Square shopping complex, while the North Laine area buzzes with independent shops selling everything from leather goods, old records and vintage clothes to vegan shoes and windchimes. Exploring the winding streets of the Lanes, you’ll find antique shoes, jewellers, second-hand bookshoppers and exclusive fashion outlets. If your bags are still light enough for you to walk along the seafront, you’ll pass all the beachfront artists’ studios, and there are also weekend car boot sales, arts and craft shows, street traders and seaside markets.

Well placed
BSMS is based over two campuses at Falmer, just four miles from central Brighton. You can easily get to the centre of Brighton by train (nine minutes), bus (20 minutes), bike (20 minutes) or car (10 minutes). In Years 3 and 4 your studies will be based around the Royal Sussex County Hospital in Kemp Town, Brighton.

In Brighton, the energy of the arts and cultural events, restaurants, shopping and clubs is balanced by the relaxed vibe, and you’ll find you can really be yourself. The campus is surrounded by the beautiful Sussex countryside with its historic villages, hiking trails and range of events, offering something for all. All this and just an hour from London.

Pubs and clubs
The city has over 300 pubs and wine bars, from quiet traditional drinking places to subterranean dives and stylish cocktail bars. And there are plenty of entertainment venues, such as Komedia, which specialises in alternative comedy, theatre and live music, as well as playing host to the comedy festival in October. Brighton has a reputation as the clubbing capital of the South Coast and there are dozens of clubs to choose from, whatever music you’re into. Big-name DJs are attracted to the scene and many London clubs bring specialist nights down to the seaside.

In Brighton, the energy of the arts and cultural events, restaurants, shopping and clubs is balanced by the relaxed vibe, and you’ll find you can really be yourself. The campus is surrounded by the beautiful Sussex countryside with its historic villages, hiking trails and range of events, offering something for all. All this and just an hour from London.

Renske McFarlane, Year 2

bsms.ac.uk/renske-mcfarlane
Music for all
Brighton is a city of music – up-and-coming bands fill the smaller venues nightly, and you can catch national and international acts at the Brighton Centre, while the Dome hosts a range of contemporary, world and classical concerts. The world-famous Glyndebourne Opera House is just a few miles away.

In summer, Brighton entertainment moves outside, with concerts and mini festivals in the city’s many parks, or you might catch the next big thing busking in the city’s streets.

Get active
In addition to the excellent sport facilities on campus (page 33), there are plenty of opportunities to get active in Brighton and Hove: swimming pools, golf courses, martial arts, yoga and dance classes where you can learn anything from salsa to swing dancing. You can play basketball, volleyball or pétanque on the seafront, or skate along the promenade on hired rollerblades.

I love Brighton as a city – it has so much to offer. There are amazing boutique shops, cafes, and restaurants and we’re so lucky to be close to both the seafront and the South Downs!"

Joanna Tung, Year 3

bsms.ac.uk/joanna-tung

Out and about in Sussex there are historic towns such as Lewes, Chichester and Arundel, abbeys and castles, vineyards and cider farms, vintage cars and steam trains, lakes and rivers. You can walk, cycle or horse ride along peaceful lanes and trails, or, if you are looking for adventure, you can mountain bike, kayak, windsurf or paraglide.

Further afield
For a day or evening in the capital, London is just over an hour’s journey away. Heading abroad? There’s easy access to Gatwick Airport (30 minutes from Brighton), Heathrow Airport (two hours by coach), several south coast ports serving continental Europe, and the Channel Tunnel.

Brighton and Hove Albion Football Club (the Seagulls) is based at the American Express Community Stadium next to the University of Brighton campus and Sussex County Cricket Club is in nearby Hove. Each year the Brighton Marathon attracts runners from around the UK to the city’s seafront.

The beach and water sports
Brighton and Hove’s seaside location means there are ample opportunities to get involved in water sports, including windsurfing, sailing, diving, kitesurfing and paddle boarding. The sea is perfect for a summer dip, and afterwards you can join friends for a BBQ on the beach.

The countryside
When you need a break from the bustle of the city, all you have to do is step off campus. The beautiful South Downs, offering picturesque villages, miles of mountain bike trails and country walks, including the South Downs Way, are literally minutes away from Falmer and easily accessible from Brighton.
Dissection, seminars, a teddy bear hospital and Medic Mayhem. Sahiti Siri Kalapu writes about a week in Year 1.

**Monday**

This morning, we have a psychology lecture on learning and memory. It’s really interesting as we get to learn about how our mind acquires and stores knowledge. Our psychology lectures help strengthen our clinical skills. Following the lecture, we break into our module tutorial groups to take a formative quiz, discuss lectures and fill any gaps in our knowledge.

After a couple more lectures, I walk back home to Padock Field with my flatmates. We have a relaxing tea break in our common room, then I retreat to my room to work on lecture notes. In the evening, I head to an African beats dance session run by the BSMS Dance society to unwind and relax after the long day.

**Tuesday**

Tuesdays are very exciting – clinical days! We kick start the day with a lecture, followed by seminar sessions in groups of 12 headed by a clinical facilitator. These sessions enable us to discuss and gain feedback on clinical material and often stimulate deep and thought-provoking discussions.

However, this week is slightly different as we explore interpersonal education. Following a brief lecture, we split into 16 groups along with students of pharmacy and social care. It’s a wonderful opportunity to get to know our professional peers, gain an understanding of multidisciplinary teams in medicine and develop our interpersonal skills.

In the afternoon, with my NHS medical student badge pinned to my chest and stethoscope around my neck, I’m off to Royal Sussex County Hospital for my Gastroenterology placement. I watch several endoscopy and colonoscopy procedures. Later, I sit in on consultations and practice my history-taking skills on real patients!

**Wednesday**

This morning, I’ve got my Academic Skills placement – my topic is ‘Zika Virus and its effects’. I’ve got quite bad stage fright but my groupmates are very encouraging and help me feel at ease, and it goes well.

In the afternoon, I volunteer to work with Teddy Bear Hospital – organised by the Paediatric society to go into local primary schools and teach the younger kids about first aid. It’s really gratifying watching the children engage in learning with such enthusiasm.

**Thursday**

In the morning, we have a symposium on imaging the human body. We learn about imaging techniques in greater detail than is strictly required, but this helps develop a deeper understanding of lecture material and appreciate developing research in the field.

In the afternoon, we have a dissection session. Dissection is one of the primary reasons why I chose BSMS and I’m really looking forward to this session. We observe anatomical structures from our previous anatomy lecture on the thoracic wall. Dissection greatly strengthens your understanding of the human body by bringing to life anatomical structures from lectures.

Later in the evening, I go to a history-taking workshop by the BSMS Association for Medical Education and Clinical Skills to prepare for my clinical placement. We get to develop history-taking strategies and practise them in several clinical situations.

**Friday**

Today, we have practical microbiology sessions on the Moulsecoomb campus. Being a kinesthetics learner, I love practical sessions as it gives me a much clearer understanding of microbiology by adding a whole new dimension to learning the concepts.

In the evening, I attend Medic Mayhem – the biggest of all medic events here at BSMS. What sets it apart from all other events is that we get to socialise with medical students from all years as well as Foundation Year 1 and 2 doctors! It’s an opportunity for us first year medics to get a glimpse of what the coming years will be like for us.

But it’s no boring ‘networking’ event. Medic Mayhem is a medic-themed party where you all dress up as a medical pun. My mates and I go as sister chromosomes with arms ‘cross linked’ at the ‘chiasma’.

*Top left: In a dissection session.*

*Top right: A virtual microscopy class.*

*Bottom: Studying with friends in the café.*

Find out more about Sahiti’s views of BSMS at: bsms.ac.uk/sahiti-siri-kalapu

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**Year 1 Timetable**

**Monday**

| 9am–2pm | Lectures and tutorial |
| 2–5pm | Lectures |

**Tuesday**

| 9am–10am | Clinical practice lecture |
| 10am–11am | Small group work with clinical practice facilitators |
| 11am–12pm | Primary care placement/secondary care placement/clinical skills workshop/personal study |

**Wednesday**

| 2–3pm | Student-selected Component (at the universities, hospital or other venues) |
| 3–4pm | Free time for study and/or extra-curricular activities such as sport |

**Thursday**

| 9am–10am | Symposium – e.g. patients come in to discuss how they have been affected by their condition and/or facilitated breakout sessions |
| 10am–11am | Practical class: the dissection room |

**Friday**

| 9am–2pm | Lectures |
| 2–5pm | Practical class: the laboratory |
Neurology, surgery, research and a GP clinic. Ivan Aganin writes about a week in Year 4.

### Year 4 Timetable (a typical week)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>08:00</td>
<td>Specialist rotations (Musculoskeletal Medicine and Surgery; Ophthalmology; and ENT, Infectious Diseases, HIV/GUM and Health Protection; Dermatology; Neurology and Neurosurgery; Oncology; Haematology and Palliative Care; Obstetrics and Gynaecology; Paediatrics). Work includes: ward rounds, clinics, lectures and seminars, clinical skills teaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09:00</td>
<td>Specialist rotations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>08:00</td>
<td>Individual Research Project. May include lab work, library research, data collection and analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09:00</td>
<td>Lectures and group work on general practice GP placement seeing patients with GP teacher</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Monday

At BSMS, the fourth year is divided into eight specialist rotations, each lasting five weeks. My second rotation this year is Neurology and Neurosurgery. Mondays start with small group seminars led by the neurology consultants who introduce us to the essential information on the subject. After covering the theory, a patient with a condition is invited to provide a unique opportunity to practise newly learned skills and focused history taking.

In the afternoon, I attend a neurology outpatient clinic. Under the observation of the consultant, I get to practise my freshly learned neurological examination. At first I feel under pressure, my hands are shaking and my technique is poor – not to mention the abnormalities that I miss... Nonetheless, with the encouragement from the doctor, I slowly gain confidence and my examination skills begin to look sleeker. Feeling uplifted after an encouraging clinic, I have a short break and get to the squash courts to join the University of Sussex squash team training.

### Tuesday

I’m scheduled to be in theatres today, which means an early morning start. My partner and I arrive at the neurosurgery unit at 8am to clerk the patients scheduled for surgery later in the day. First we attend a patient with chronic subdural, who is joined by a patient who has difficulties in his balance and speech. With the help of Dr Knibb, we examine the patient in small groups and come up with differential diagnoses. As a medical student it’s very rewarding to be able to create a list of differentials and start making diagnoses.

My afternoon is free, giving me the chance to write my GP case presentation, which I will present on Friday. Before the end of the working day, I meet with my clinical academic tutor to discuss my progress throughout the last few months and future career planning.

### Wednesday

Wednesday mornings start with seminars. After exploring the theory behind vertigo and ataxias, we are joined by a patient who has difficulties in his balance and speech. With the help of Dr Knibbs, we examine the patient in small groups and come up with differential diagnoses. As a medical student it’s very rewarding to be able to create a list of differentials and start making diagnoses.

### Thursday

Throughout the year, Thursdays are allocated to our Individual Research Projects (IRPs). The IRP can be an audit focusing on some aspect of clinical practice, a systematic review or an academic lab-based investigation. This is a great opportunity to involve yourself with research, get inspired by the different clinicians and potentially publish your work (and of course it is great for your CV!). Pursuing my interest in acute medicine, I’m undertaking an audit focusing on major elderly trauma across the Sussex trauma network, in which Royal Sussex County Hospital, as a major trauma centre, has a central role. Using different databases, I attempt to collect as much data as possible before meeting with my supervisor to discuss the next steps in the project, which hopefully will one day be published.

### Friday

Fridays are reserved for our GP placements, lectures and seminar groups. The lecture on general practice and population medicine is followed by small group seminars led by GP facilitators. In our groups we cover different clinical scenarios and share our experiences in a less formal setting. To finish off, one of the students presents the GP case from the current rotation, and this week it’s me. My presentation about the management of epilepsy in primary care goes as planned and I’m happy with it. After a quick lunch I drive to Eastbourne to join a GP for his afternoon clinic, where I get the chance to take histories and examine patients under his careful supervision and scrutiny. One of the patients has neurological deficit and I get to show off my newly learned neurological examination skills. Together with the GP we formulate differential diagnosis and discuss a management plan.
Money can be a concern when going to university. At BSMS, both school and university staff have help and advice to offer.

**Fee information**

BSMS provides opportunities for our students to earn money where we can. Students are paid to assist with admissions and open days, for example, and other jobs are available from time to time.

The University of Brighton’s Careers Service and the University of Sussex’s Careers and Employment Centre are experienced in helping students find part-time or vacation work, whether on campus or in the local area. From the third year onwards, it is anticipated that the demands of the course will be incompatible with paid employment during term time. Due to term lengths, it becomes increasingly difficult to rely on work as an income source in the latter years of the degree.

**Advice and additional funding**

The BSMS Student Support Team and the University of Brighton Student Advice Service offer information and advice on additional sources of funding, money management and debt counselling. For more information on fees and funding, please see:

- [brighton.ac.uk/studying-here/fees-and-finance](http://brighton.ac.uk/studying-here/fees-and-finance)
- [money4medstudents.org](http://money4medstudents.org)

**International students**

Please see page 34.

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**Money can be a concern when going to university. At BSMS, both school and university staff have help and advice to offer.**

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**Help and advice to offer.**

Channel Islands and Isle of Man students will pay £119,000 per year, with any possible rises in subsequent years capped at 5% per year.

Fees for international students are £29,000 per year, with any possible rises in subsequent years capped at 5% per year.

**Range of statutory financial support**

To assist new full-time home (UK/EU) students studying for their first degree, a range of financial support is provided by the UK Government:

- You can apply for a Tuition Fee Loan to cover your tuition fees in full, which you only start to pay back when you are earning over a certain threshold (currently £21,000 if resident in England or Wales, £17,495 if resident in Northern Ireland or Scotland).
- If you are a UK Home student, you can apply for a means-tested Maintenance Loan to help towards living costs such as food and rent. In addition, if you are a parent, there are other means-tested financial support packages, a Parents’ Learning Allowance and a Childcare Grant to help towards childcare costs. There may also be help if you support an adult dependent.

If you are Scottish, Welsh or from Northern Ireland, you will be offered a different package of support; please refer to the relevant funding bodies (the Student Awards Agency for Scotland saas.gov.uk, Student Finance Wales studentfinancewales.co.uk or Student Finance Northern Ireland studentfinanceni.co.uk).

Fees for 2018/2019 have not yet been agreed, and information on fees and funding for EU students has not been confirmed. Fees are subject to UK Government confirmation and to satisfying the Teaching Excellence Framework. Fees will increase throughout the period of enrolment on the course as the Government reserves fees levels.

In 2017, EU students may be eligible for similar support to UK students, but there may be differences depending on your circumstances. This will be established by your relevant residency funding body. Funding has not yet been agreed for EU students entering university in 2018.

For more details of student finances loans, see: gov.uk/student-finance

**University of Sussex First-Generation Scholars**

The University of Sussex First-Generation Scholars Scheme provides financial support to students from lower-income families. Eligible UK students will be entitled to the following in addition to any UK Government support:

- **Year 1** – a £1,000 cash bursary plus a £2,000 rent reduction if you live in university-managed accommodation (University of Brighton or Sussex) or a £2,000 fee waiver if you are not living in university-managed accommodation.
- **Years 2, 3 and 4** – a £1,000 cash bursary in each year

Further financial support may be available to care leavers. See: bmbs.ac.uk/fees-and-funding

**Eligibility**

You must qualify for a Home (UK) fee status, be joining undergraduate full-time courses from the academic year 2018/2019 onwards, and have a family income level validated by Student Finance England as under £42,875.

Students studying for a second undergraduate degree or equivalent are also eligible for the First-Generation Scholars Scheme, provided their household income is below £42,875.

**Application procedure**

Your eligibility for the First-Generation Scholars Scheme will be assessed by the University of Brighton when you make your application for student finance: gov.uk/student-finance

Please ensure that you have ticked the box authorising the sharing of income information to enable the university to make this assessment. For further information, please contact bursaries@brighton.ac.uk

**NHS Bursary**

From the fifth year of study, you may be eligible for an NHS Bursary, in place of your government funding. This may include:

- support with tuition fees
- grants towards living costs
- additional help, depending on your circumstances (e.g. Dependents’ Allowance).

For further information see: nhbsa.nhs.uk

**Students with a previous degree**

Students who already have a degree or equivalent qualification (including study undertaken abroad) can find funding difficult for the BM BS medical degree. You will not have access to a Tuition Fee or Maintenance Loan, and there may be fewer options for additional funding. Before you begin your studies, you should make sure that you have adequate funds to cover your living costs and tuition fees for the duration of your course. The following additional support may be helpful:

- You may be eligible for the University of Sussex First-Generation Scholars Scheme (see left) and from your fifth year of study, you may be eligible for an NHS Bursary to cover tuition fees and maintenance costs.
- The universities and external charitable organisations are, at times, able to make additional support available specifically for graduate students (such as tuition fee discounts or hardship loans/Grants), subject to eligibility. Although you may not be able to fund your studies wholly from these sources, they can prove helpful in lightening your financial commitments.
- Many graduate students choose to work to support themselves through the degree. See ‘Paid work while studying’, but bear in mind our advice about the demands of your studies from the third year onwards.
- Many students choose to work in the medical sector. The Medical Council of Great Britain offers a further source of funding, the First-Generation Scholars Scheme, provided their household income is below £42,875.
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**Private accommodation**

From the third year onwards, it is anticipated that the demands of the course will be incompatible with paid employment during term time. Due to term lengths, it becomes increasingly difficult to rely on work as an income source in the latter years of the degree.

**Advice and additional funding**

The BSMS Student Support Team and the University of Brighton Student Advice Service offer information and advice on additional sources of funding, money management and debt counselling. For more information on fees and funding, please see:

- [brighton.ac.uk/studying-here/fees-and-finance](http://brighton.ac.uk/studying-here/fees-and-finance)
- [money4medstudents.org](http://money4medstudents.org)

**Paid work while studying**

At BSMS we provide opportunities for our students to earn money where we can. Students are paid to assist with admissions and open days, for example, and other jobs are available from time to time.

The University of Brighton’s Careers Service and the University of Sussex’s Careers and Employment Centre are experienced in helping students find part-time or vacation work, whether on campus or in the local area. From the third year onwards, it is anticipated that the demands of the course will be incompatible with paid employment during term time. Due to term lengths, it becomes increasingly difficult to rely on work as an income source in the latter years of the degree.

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- [money4medstudents.org](http://money4medstudents.org)
BSMS offers international students the opportunity to study at a young, friendly medical school with an outstanding reputation, in the vibrant city of Brighton at the foot of the beautiful South Downs National Park.

Why study at BSMS?
At BSMS, we combine proven, traditional methods with the latest innovations in teaching and research. As a student at the medical school, you will work alongside an enthusiastic faculty dedicated to excellence in teaching and breaking the boundaries of medical research.

You will soon get to know everyone in your year, and you will receive personal attention from your tutors and small group teaching to ensure you get the best education possible.

Seminars will be complemented by your work in laboratories and lectures, where you will undertake group work, dissertation and research projects to give you the skills you will need as a doctor. Right from the start, you will also meet patients in the community and on the wards, developing your clinical skills.

You will graduate from the course at BSMS with a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (BM BS), a UK primary medical qualification recognised by the General Medical Council (GMC).

Great campus location
Based in Falmer, on the periphery of one of the sunniest campuses in the UK, you will have the tranquil Sussex countryside and picturesque villages minutes from your door. Brighton’s beach and lively social scene are four miles away or just nine minutes by train. You are guaranteed on-campus accommodation for the first year, provided you accept your place on the course and submit your housing application by the deadline.

Falmer is easily accessed by public transport, and can be reached by train in only 40 minutes from Gatwick Airport, two hours from Heathrow Airport and just over an hour from London.

Admissions
You need to apply through UCAS, the UK’s central application processing organisation, by 15 October 2017 to enter BSMS in September 2018. On occasion, we may accept applications after the UCAS deadline; please enquire by emailing medadmissions@bsms.ac.uk

Personal statements will be used to assess international applications. They should not merely list activities and attributes but clearly demonstrate why these enhance your application. You should reflect on your experiences to show insight and understanding. Personal statements will be available during the interview process. See page 36 for the attributes we are seeking in our students.

You are welcome to attend a summer open day to tour the campuses, and chat to students and staff. If invited for an interview, you should aim to attend this at BSMS, although a limited number of video link interviews may be available to students based overseas.

Qualifications
All applicants must have or be about to achieve qualifications that are equivalent to our standard A-level offer (AAA – including Biology and Chemistry) and must have grades B in GCSE Maths and English (or an equivalent). To check if any qualifications you may have already obtained are acceptable equivalents, please email medadmissions@bsms.ac.uk

English language requirements
International students must hold a qualification in English language received within three years of their BSMS enrolment date.

IELTS: 7.5 overall and not less than 7.0 in each of the 4 sections.

For a full list of acceptable qualifications, including English language qualifications, please go to bsms.ac.uk/international-entry-requirements

Finance
You need to ensure that you have the means to cover the cost of your fees and other expenses for the whole five years before you begin your course. Financial help is available from the universities. Details are liable to change and application deadlines vary, but as a guide, the University of Brighton offers around 10 international scholarships based primarily on merit.

These are currently worth a £3,000 tuition fee reduction for new, full-time entrants.

For up-to-date information, please check brighton.ac.uk/international or email internationalscholarships@brighton.ac.uk.

You will be sent further details about how to access financial help once you have firmly accepted the offer of a place at BSMS.

Support
BSMS and the University of Brighton provide an array of student support, academically and socially, and the university has a dedicated international office to advise those coming from abroad. Information ranging from immigration procedures to helpful tips about UK culture is available on the university’s website, so that you will feel well prepared when you arrive. The first weeks of term will be full of opportunities to meet local and international students from the two universities, through parties, walks, shows, balls and much more, organised by the international support offices.

You will meet your academic tutor and the student support coordinator, who will be your first points of contact if you experience any difficulties settling in. You will get to know your way around BSMS and have time to explore the campuses and Brighton.

International students’ societies at both universities provide a supportive environment to help you integrate into student life in the UK. They are open to all nationalities and, together with the universities’ international support offices, they arrange a diverse range of events during the year. See pages 16 and 17 for more details on student support.

Useful information
Applying to BSMS
If you have any questions about your application, please email medadmissions@bsms.ac.uk or call +44 (0)1273 643528.

You can apply online using the UCAS website: ucas.com/international

As an international student at BSMS, you can fit in seamlessly. Of course, there’s always special support available if you need it with settling in and getting around, and you can join your own country’s society if you want to find the feeling of home away from home. The location is perfect – it’s not too far from London!

Vanisha Victor, Year 1, from Malaysia

As an international student at BSMS, you can fit in seamlessly. Of course, there’s always special support available if you need it with settling in and getting around, and you can join your own country’s society if you want to find the feeling of home away from home. The location is perfect – it’s not too far from London!

Elizabeth Wong, Year 1, from Hong Kong

BSMS has brought me the feeling of a home away from home in just a few weeks. The staff here really value the importance of a work-life balance so there’s plenty of room for serious fun as well as studying. Living in halls is great – I’ve made so many new friends.

I’m really impressed by the closeness and support offered by BSMS. I am so pleased that I chose to come here and couldn’t imagine going anywhere else. The city of Brighton is very exciting with loads to do. I would highly recommend BSMS to any international students.

Imraan Mansoor, Year 2, from Canada

I’ve been very impressed by BSMS, I have received a lot of support from the international office. The city of Brighton is beautiful and friendly and the lifestyle is really great.

BSMS.ac.uk/vanisha-victor

BSMS.ac.uk/elizabeth-wong

bsms.ac.uk/imraan-mansoor

The British Council educationuk.org
University of Brighton international office brighton.ac.uk/international
If you have specific queries, please contact international@brighton.ac.uk or +44 (0)1273 642409

For information about Brighton: visitbrighton.com tourism.brighton.co.uk

For advice on how to apply for university accommodation, see pages 20 and 21.

You can find further information about campuses and accommodation at: sussex.ac.uk/study/accommodation brighton.ac.uk/living

For information about the University of Brighton: brighton.ac.uk/international

If you have any questions about your application, please email medadmissions@bsms.ac.uk or call +44 (0)1273 643528.

You can apply online using the UCAS website: ucas.com/international

You need to ensure that you have the means to cover the cost of your fees and other expenses for the whole five years before you begin your course. Financial help is available from the universities. Details are liable to change and application deadlines vary, but as a guide, the University of Brighton offers around 10 international scholarships based primarily on merit.

These are currently worth a £3,000 tuition fee reduction for new, full-time entrants.

For up-to-date information, please check brighton.ac.uk/international or email internationalscholarships@brighton.ac.uk.

You will be sent further details about how to access financial help once you have firmly accepted the offer of a place at BSMS.

Support
BSMS and the University of Brighton provide an array of student support, academically and socially, and the university has a dedicated international office to advise those coming from abroad. Information ranging from immigration procedures to helpful tips about UK culture is available on the university’s website, so that you will feel well prepared when you arrive. The first weeks of term will be full of opportunities to meet local and international students from the two universities, through parties, walks, shows, balls and much more, organised by the international support offices.

You will meet your academic tutor and the student support coordinator, who will be your first points of contact if you experience any difficulties settling in. You will get to know your way around BSMS and have time to explore the campuses and Brighton.

International students’ societies at both universities provide a supportive environment to help you integrate into student life in the UK. They are open to all nationalities and, together with the universities’ international support offices, they arrange a diverse range of events during the year. See pages 16 and 17 for more details on student support.

Useful information
Applying to BSMS
If you have any questions about your application, please email medadmissions@bsms.ac.uk or call +44 (0)1273 643528.

You can apply online using the UCAS website: ucas.com/international

As an international student at BSMS, you can fit in seamlessly. Of course, there’s always special support available if you need it with settling in and getting around, and you can join your own country’s society if you want to find the feeling of home away from home. The location is perfect – it’s not too far from London!

Vanisha Victor, Year 1, from Malaysia

Elizabeth Wong, Year 1, from Hong Kong

BSMS has brought me the feeling of a home away from home in just a few weeks. The staff here really value the importance of a work-life balance so there’s plenty of room for serious fun as well as studying. Living in halls is great – I’ve made so many new friends.

I’m really impressed by the closeness and support offered by BSMS. I am so pleased that I chose to come here and couldn’t imagine going anywhere else. The city of Brighton is very exciting with loads to do. I would highly recommend BSMS to any international students.

Imraan Mansoor, Year 2, from Canada

I’ve been very impressed by BSMS, I have received a lot of support from the international office. The city of Brighton is beautiful and friendly and the lifestyle is really great.

BSMS.ac.uk/vanisha-victor

BSMS.ac.uk/elizabeth-wong

bsms.ac.uk/imraan-mansoor
We are looking not only for academic ability but also for the personal qualities that people need and expect in a good doctor.

We expect our students to become committed and compassionate practitioners who are really in touch with their patients and committed to the core values of the NHS.

We believe that the BMAT allows applicants to put themselves in the spotlight. If you have the ability and talent to succeed in medicine, then the BMAT gives you the perfect opportunity to show us, regardless of your background.

We score the BMAT out of 28 (9 marks for Section 1, 9 marks for Section 2 and 5 marks for each section of Section 3). We then rank all applicants according to their total score and work down the rankings to fill our interview places. For 2016 entry, applicants who scored 16.1 or higher were invited for interview (the cut-off score varies each year).

To help you prepare for the test, BMAT has produced a number of useful resources including guides to the content of the test and past test papers, which we recommend you access. BMAT may also be used as a final discriminator if needed after interview. Please refer to the BMAT website (bmatsystemtesting.org) for key dates and additional information.

Literacy and numeracy
As evidence of the necessary literacy and numeracy, all applicants must have qualifications in English and Mathematics equivalent to at least GCSE grade C, or an IELTS score of 7.5 or above with at least 7.0 in each section. You will also need one of the higher qualifications listed on this and the following page.

Contextual data
BSMS is committed to widening participation into medicine, so along with assessing your academic profile, we will also be looking for any contextual data that may enhance your application. If you are identified as having any two from the following key pieces of data, then you will be considered separately from the rest of our applicants; we will also accept English and Mathematics at GCSE grade C.

Eligibility will be identified by BSMS Admissions.

Eligibility should be self-declared and evidence submitted via the BSMS website bsms.ac.uk/application

Please note that entry requirements may be subject to change. For the latest information please consult our website at bsms.ac.uk/application
Your application must be submitted through the UCAS system (ucas.ac.uk). This allows a maximum of four applications to UK medical schools. Applications must reach UCAS by 15 October 2017.

**UK/EU students**

We expect to have 128 places for new UK/EU entrants, in September 2018.

UCAS institution code name: BSMS
UCAS institution code: B74
Course code: A100

Open days
We plan to run open days on Friday 30 June and Friday 7 July 2017. These give you the opportunity to look around, meet students and staff and ask questions. For confirmation of dates, further details and to book online, please visit bsms.ac.uk/open-days

**Steps in the BSMS admissions cycle**

**Step 1**
Registration for the BMAT opens from early September 2017, and standard entry closes in early October. The last registration is 5pm (BST) on 15 October 2017; however late fees will apply. The BMAT takes place in early November 2017.

**Step 2**
Submit your application to UCAS by 15 October 2017.

**Step 3**
Our admissions office reviews applications. Qualifying applications which are flagged with contextual data are ranked according to their BMAT results, with the top ranking candidates invited to interview. BSMS aims to offer 30% of its interviews to candidates with contextual data flags. All remaining applications are then ranked according to their BMAT results, with the highest ranking candidates invited to interview.

**Step 4**
Multiple mini interviews (MMIs) are held during BSMS admissions days, which we aim to hold on Wednesdays and Saturdays between January and March.

**Step 5**
MMI results will be considered by the admissions board. The admissions board decides which candidates receive offers.

**Step 6**
Offers are made in March. Candidates choose to accept offers.

**Step 7**
Qualification results are confirmed in August. Candidates whose offers match their results are confirmed.

**International students**

We expect to have 10 places for new international (non-UK/EU) entrants, in September 2018.

UCAS institution code name: BSMS
UCAS institution code: B74
Course code: A100

Open days
We plan to run open days on Friday 30 June and Friday 7 July 2017. These give you the opportunity to look around, meet students and staff and ask questions. For confirmation of dates, further details and to book online, please visit bsms.ac.uk/open-days

**Steps in the BSMS admissions cycle**

**Step 1**
Submit your application to UCAS by 15 October 2017.

**Step 2**
Qualifying applications are ranked according to their academic score and the content of their personal statement. The admissions board will then select candidates with a high ranking to attend an interview.

**Step 3**
Interviews are held during BSMS admissions days, which we aim to hold on Wednesdays and Saturdays between January and March.

**Step 4**
Interview feedback will be considered by the admissions board. The admissions board decides which candidates receive offers.

**Step 5**
Offers are made in March. Candidates choose to accept offers.

**Step 6**
Qualification results are confirmed in August. Candidates whose offers match their results are confirmed.

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**Useful information**

- [Open days](bsms.ac.uk/open-days)
- [Virtual open day](bsms.ac.uk/virtual-open-day)
- [BSMS admissions cycle](bsms.ac.uk/admissions-days)
- [BMAT](bsms.ac.uk/admissions-days)
- [Contextual data](bsms.ac.uk/admissions-days)

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*Note: Information is subject to change.*
Getting here

Distance from BSMS:
Central London (Victoria Station): 53 miles / 1 hr 35 min drive / 1 hr 20 min train
Gatwick Airport: 28 miles / 35 min drive / 45 min train
Heathrow Airport: 64 miles / 1 hr 05 min drive / 2 hr 05 min train
Central Brighton: 4 miles / 15 min drive / 9 min train

See bsms.ac.uk for directions

Directions

If you can’t find the answer you need, please contact:
BSMS Admissions Registry, Checkland Building, Falmer Campus, University of Brighton BN1 9PH
T +44 (0)1273 643028 medadmissions@bsms.ac.uk Facebook: BSMSMedSchool Twitter: @BSMSMedSchool

Useful websites
Brighton and Sussex Medical School: bsms.ac.uk
University of Brighton: brighton.ac.uk
University of Sussex: sussex.ac.uk
Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust: bsuh.nhs.uk
General Medical Council: gmc-uk.org

January 2017
Brighton and Sussex Medical School makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of all information in this prospectus. However, at the time of going to press some finer points of curriculum planning and other school procedures remain under development. Any further developments will be shown on the medical school’s website: bsms.ac.uk

In accepting any offer of a place you consent to incorporation of this notice as a term of contract between you and BSMS. All students are required to abide by the regulations of the University of Brighton and the University of Sussex, which are available on request.

Open day dates
Friday 30 June, Friday 7 July 2017. These dates may change; please see the website for details.

Application deadline
15 October 2017

For more information visit the website at bsms.ac.uk

This prospectus is also available as a pdf at bsms.ac.uk/our-prospectus, and a larger printout is available upon request.

Imagery supplied by James Lewis, Clinical Media Centre, Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust; Lucy Thorn; Andy Weekes; University of Sussex (page 25: top; page 26: top and bottom right; page 27: top left); University of Brighton (page 25: bottom; page 27: top right); Dan Dennison (page 26: bottom left); Victor Frankowski (page 27: bottom left); visitbrighton.com

Printed using inks made from vegetable-based oil. Both the paper mill and printer are certified to the environmental management standard ISO 14001.
The early clinical exposure we receive at BSMS helps us apply theoretical knowledge to relevant clinical settings. This seamless blend of theory and practice is ultimately what will prepare us for life as junior doctors and beyond.

Shreya Badhrinarayanan, Year 3 (front cover)
bsms.ac.uk/shreya-badhrinarayanan

At BSMS, we encourage the use of mobile devices to support learning, including the CAPSULE clinical cases quiz app and an iPad anatomy interface in the dissection lab.

Please note: Not actual screenshots of the CAPSULE app.