

MBChB

Foundation to Medicine (Year 0)

UCAS code 789S

Study mode

Full-time

Duration

6 years

Apply by: **30 June 2026**Starts on: **28 September 2026**

About this course

A year zero foundation programme, designed for mature students who have typically been out of formal education for some time or who have taken non-traditional qualifications, which leads to access onto a Medicine and Surgery MBChB programme.

Introduction

The University of Liverpool, in collaboration with local FE partners, has developed a year zero foundation programme for Home students that leads to access onto a variety of vocational Health Studies programmes. Our Foundation to Human and Animal Health Professions (Medicine) course is for students seeking entry to undertake the Medicine and Surgery MBChB (A100) programme.

Students seeking entry to Medicine will study a foundation year (year zero) at [Carmel College, St Helens](#), about nine miles from the university campus, where the class sizes are small and the standards of academic achievement high before joining the Medicine programme on the University of Liverpool campus in year one following successful completion of the foundation year.

This programme is specifically targeted at Home mature and non-traditional students, who typically have taken a break from studies.

Please note that we will not consider applications from prospective students who have multiple UCAS applications for a variety of programmes, as this does not demonstrate a clear commitment.

What you'll learn

- Skills needed for independent study at undergraduate degree level
 - Undertaking a variety of learning methods and assessment tasks
 - A breadth of patient-focused practical experience in a region with a particularly diverse population
 - Necessary knowledge, skills and professional behaviours to safely and ethically practice medicine
 - Ability to meet the core requirements set out by the General Medical Council
 - Become a lifelong learner committed to professional development
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Routes

- [Medicine and Surgery](#) MBChB

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Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

Year zero

In all modules at year zero, the study skills needed for independent study at undergraduate degree level are developed. Students are also introduced to a variety of learning methods, such as formal taught sessions, workshops and practical laboratory sessions, as well as a variety of assessment tasks, such as written assignments, in class data handling, written and practical examinations to provide a good grounding for vocational programmes.

There are some shared modules for all students, and then route specific modules to ensure the students are prepared for their chosen undergraduate programmes.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
BIOLOGY FOR HEALTH STUDIES 1 (HEAL001)	22.5
BIOLOGY FOR HEALTH STUDIES 2 (HEAL002)	22.5
CHEMISTRY FOR HEALTH STUDIES 1 (HEAL008)	22.5
CHEMISTRY FOR HEALTH STUDIES 2 (HEAL009)	22.5
FOUNDATIONS OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (HEAL005)	15
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE FOR MEDICINE/DENTISTRY (HEAL010)	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

The School uses an integrated teaching model. The learning of medical sciences is enhanced by the clinical context of a systems-based approach. The development of understanding of clinical practice is supported by a 'just in time' model of academic weeks that relate to each clinical placement and case-based teaching within each placement. Specialist clinical centres from across the region provide students with a wide range of exceptional placement experiences during which students complete structured learning activities as well as taking advantage of near patient learning opportunities.

The School is at the forefront of technology enhanced learning, utilising mobile learning, virtual reality, simulation and a personalised e-portfolio to provide our students with the best possible experience and prepare them for the technological developments that will shape their future careers in healthcare.

We take the development of clinical leaders seriously and use a programme of experiential learning opportunities to develop students' leadership and followership skills in a range of situational contexts.

The remainder of the course is delivered using a mix of interactive and didactic lecturing; case based learning, small group teaching, clinical skills and simulation workshops, Human Anatomy Resource Centre (HARC) sessions, communication skills practicals and a staged programme of research skills development.

The breadth of learning and teaching activities used within the Medical School ensures students have the underpinning knowledge and skills to become the safe clinical practitioners of tomorrow.

How you're assessed

Both formative and summative assessment take place within the programme.

There is an emphasis on assessment for learning through the use of subject specific tests such as quizzes, anatomy spotters and formative Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs).

Summative assessment takes place at the end of each year and includes written papers and practical exams in the form of OSCES and LOCAS.

We use technology to facilitate online marking and annotated feedback of written assignments, deliver formative online tests for students at the end of each teaching block

and collate and deliver OSCE data, providing students with more useful feedback as a result.

A bespoke electronic portfolio, integrated throughout the curriculum provides students with a personalised learning space where they can collect evidence and develop their skills through reflective activities. The e-portfolio charts the student learning journey over the course of the programme.

Liverpool Hallmarks

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.

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Careers and employability

Our programmes are for individuals who wish to become qualified medical practitioners. A diverse range of careers are open to you as a medical graduate, varying from medical science, perhaps laboratory-based research, through public health and the development of health care strategies to clinical practice in the hospital and community.

The programme offers considerable opportunities for students to learn, to practise and to be assessed in the following key (transferable skills):

- Adopt the principles of lifelong learning
- Retrieve, manage and manipulate information by all means, including electronically
- Present information clearly in written, electronic and oral forms, and communicate ideas and arguments effectively
- Effectively manage time and resources and set priorities
- Apply the principles of scientific research and audit
- Study topics in depth
- Deal with uncertainty and work within a changing environment
- Teach effectively and act as a mentor to others
- Work effectively within a team.

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Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, how to pay, and other costs to consider.

Tuition fees

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)

Full-time place, per year – £9,790

Foundation year fee – £9,790

Year in industry fee – £1,955

Year abroad fee – £1,465 (applies to year in China)

International fees

This course is not available to international students who require a visa to study in the UK. However, if you're a 'home' student and you've lived outside of the UK, you'll need to complete a fee status questionnaire as part of your application. We'll then assess your fee status and in some cases, home students who've lived outside of the UK may be required to pay the international fee rate. [Check your tuition fee status on our webpages.](#)

The fees shown are for the academic year 2026/27. Please be advised that tuition fees may increase each year for both UK and international students. For UK students, this will be subject to the government's regulated fee limits.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching, assessment, operating University facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support.

Additional costs

There are additional study costs to consider, such as replacement scrubs and lab coats, travel costs for placements, and equipment such as stethoscopes.

Year one – Students will be given their lab coats for use in the Human Anatomy Resource Centre free of charge. There is a £15 charge for any replacement white lab coats.

Year two – Stethoscope (approximately £80 upwards) and travel costs to placements at hospital trusts within the North West area (Aintree, Arrow Park, Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen and Whiston hospitals). Placement costs will vary from student to student.

Year three – Travel to placements. Placement costs will vary from student to student – see below for information on support which may be available from the School.

Year four – Four sets of scrubs are issued per student during the programme. They are issued as follows: 1 set in year 1 and the further 3 sets in year 2. If students require an additional set then they are required to purchase this themselves at a cost of £29.95. There are also elective costs which could include placement cost to the hospital, agency costs to find the placement, travel costs to the placement, accommodation and living costs, possible Public Liability Insurance costs. Placement and elective costs will vary from student to student – see below for information on support which may be available from the School.

Year five – Travel costs to placements. Placement costs will vary from student to student – see below for information on support which may be available from the School.

School travel fund and hardship fund

The School of Medicine manages a travel fund which allocates funding towards placement related travel, for those students who are not in receipt of any other placement travel related bursaries (eg from the NHS). The School fund does not cover all of the placement costs that students will incur on their clinical rotations in both secondary and primary care, from years 3 to 5. Funds are calculated on average public transport costs from the Liverpool campus to the placement site for secondary care placements only. A threshold is applied to the School travel fund and is established each year. In 2020/21 the threshold was £400 meaning some students self-funded the first £400 cost of travel to placements, after which they were able to access funding for any additional placement-related travel costs from the School's travel fund. In addition, there is a hardship fund for placement travel, which students can apply to in years 3 to 5, if they require additional funds towards the cost of placement travel.

[Find out more about additional study costs.](#)

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Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

A levels

This programme is designed for mature students who have typically been out of formal education for some time (5 years and above) or who have taken non-traditional qualifications. Please note that we will not consider A-Level students or School Leavers. However, consideration may be given to candidates who studied some time ago. In order to give all applicants an equal opportunity, applicants who have been rejected following an interview will not normally be considered again. Consideration will be given to extenuating circumstances that warrant candidates applying with more recent qualifications on a case-by-case basis.

T levels

T levels are not currently accepted.

GCSE

5 GCSEs at a minimum of Grade 6 (B) to include Maths, English Language, Biology and Chemistry or dual combined science.

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma

Students currently studying BTEC level 3 will not be considered; BTEC level 2 will not be accepted in lieu of GCSE

International Baccalaureate

Applicants currently studying for International Baccalaureate will not be considered

Irish Leaving Certificate

Applicants currently studying for Irish Leaving Certificate will not be considered

Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher

Applicants currently studying for Scottish Highers will not be considered

Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced

Applicants currently studying for Welsh Baccalaureate will not be considered

Graduate application

Applicants who hold degrees are considered ineligible to apply to this programme.

Access

Applicants currently studying for an Access Diploma will not be considered. Mature students who have recently studied an access course (that is not eligible for direct entry) or have work- related qualifications will be considered.

Declaration of criminal background

Applicants may be expected to complete either a Declaration of Criminal Background or have a full Disclosure Barring Service check as part of their application.

Disability information

Additional support is given to students who have declared a disability on their UCAS application.

Work Experience Requirements

Evidence of knowledge and insight into the profession with emphasis on learning from work experience/observation is required. NB: Further details on specific work based experience requirements is available on the relevant degree programme pages.

International qualifications

[Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.](#)

Many countries have a different education system to that of the UK, meaning your qualifications may not meet our direct entry requirements. Although there is no direct Foundation Certificate route to this course, completing a Foundation Certificate, such as

that offered by the [University of Liverpool International College](#), can guarantee you a place on a number of similar courses which may interest you.

Alternative entry requirements

- If your qualification isn't listed here, or you're taking a combination of qualifications, [contact us](#) for advice
- [Applications from mature students](#) are welcome.

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Generated: 19 Feb 2026, 13:44

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