



Scottish Funding Council  
Comhairle Maoineachaidh na h-Alba

SFC Announcement

Reference: SFC/AN/10/2023

Issue date: 25/04/2023

# Intake Targets for Medicine in AY 2023-24



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## Intake Targets for Medicine in AY 2023-24

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Issue Date:	25 April 2023
Reference:	SFC/AN/10/2023
Summary:	Announcement of university intake targets for the controlled subject of Medicine in Academic Year 2023-24
FAO:	Principals / Directors of Scotland's universities, and the general public
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## Intake targets for Medicine in AY 2023-24

### Purpose

1. I am writing to announce the university intake targets for the controlled subject of Medicine for Academic Year (AY) 2023-24. The targets are set out in Table 1 below.

### Background

2. SFC receives annual guidance from the Scottish Government's Health Workforce Directorate, providing recommended intakes for medical schools in Scotland. This letter of guidance for AY 2023-24 is provided in Annex A.
3. Consideration of medical undergraduate numbers for AY 2023-24 has taken place against a complex background and proposals were discussed at the Medical Undergraduate Group and presented to the Scottish Medical Schools Board.

### Key changes in AY 2023-24

4. The following areas have changed for AY 2023-24, from the published AY 2022-23 intake targets:
  - The core intake target has increased by 75, to a total of 1,039 students.
  - The intake target for Widening Access students has been set at 110 students with an additional 25 Widening Access places being allocated.
  - In AY 2022-23 the University of Edinburgh delayed increasing their HCP-Med intake by 5 students for one year, instead taking a further 5 Widening Access places. For AY 2023-24 their HCP-Med intake targets has increased by 5 with a corresponding reduction in Widening Access places.

### AY 2023-24 intake targets

5. SFC has received guidance from the Scottish Government advising that the recommended intake for Medicine for AY 2023-24 will be 1,417 students.
6. The intake target is split between an intake of 1,339 students with 'Home Fee', rest of UK (rUK), and Republic of Ireland (RoI) status, and an intake of 78 students with 'International' fee status. The intake target for AY 2023-24 is an increase of 100 students from the 1,317 target published in AY 2022-23. AY 2023-24 represents the third year of the Scottish Government's commitment to increase medical school numbers by at least 100 per year over the course of the current parliament.
7. The intake targets for the Gateway to Medicine programmes at the University of

Aberdeen and the University of Glasgow have been maintained at 70 students for AY 2023-24.

## Widening Access places

8. The total number of places reserved for Widening Access (WA) students in AY 2023-24 has increased by 20 to a total of 110 students. The University of Edinburgh has, as planned, reduced their WA intake by 5 with a corresponding increase to their HCP-Med intake. A further intake of 25 WA students was then allocated to the medical schools. Following consultation with the Scottish Medical Schools Board and the individual universities, SFC has reallocated some of the Widening Access intakes between the medical schools in order to set individual targets that are challenging but realistic.
9. WA students must be from SIMD 20 areas and/or be from a care-experienced background to meet Ministerial aims and aspirations on widening access and participation.

## Scottish-domiciled policy

10. Once again, in AY 2023-24 there will be no specific Scottish domicile targets. Whilst Ministers remain committed to increasing the numbers of Scottish-domiciled students studying Medicine, the focus on delivering this outcome has shifted to increasing Widening Access places and other interventions targeted at Scottish-domiciled students, rather than setting a minimum target.
11. The Scottish Government recognises the significant increase in intake targets over the last few years, and has agreed that, for AY 2023-24 only, 38 additional rUK students may be recruited by the medical schools compared to AY 2022-23. This will be reflected in the allocation of funded places, and these will be shared with universities prior to being published in our Final Funding Allocations for AY 2023-24.
12. The Scottish Government, universities, NHS Education for Scotland and SFC are jointly taking forward a piece of work to support increasing the Scottish-domiciled and WA applicant pool for Medicine. On behalf of the Scottish Government, SFC will continue to monitor the number of Scottish-domiciled students, including as a proportion of overall medical school intake.

## Funding and funded student places

13. SFC may recover funds from universities who under-recruit eligible students against the annual core intake target for students with home fee status and rUK students by more than 3% and apply financial penalties to universities who over-recruit and exceed their intake target for all home fee and rUK entrants by more than 10%, subject to the consideration of any mitigating evidence presented by the university. Specific allocations of funded places will be provided in the final university funding announcement for AY

2023-24.

## Further information

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



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Table 1 – Intake targets for AY 2023-24

Institution	Core intake target							Total International	Total Intake Target for AY 2023-24	Gateway to medicine
	Final AY 2022-23 core intake target	Adjustment to core intake target	AY 2023-24 core intake target	Widening Access Places	ScotGEM	GP Track	HCP-Med			
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)			
Aberdeen, University of	185	15	200	24		55		19	<b>298</b>	<b>30</b>
Dundee, University of	165	15	180	24				16	<b>220</b>	
Edinburgh, University of	230	15	245	25			35	21	<b>326</b>	
Glasgow, University of	254	15	269	25		30		22	<b>346</b>	<b>40</b>
St Andrews, University of	130	15	145	12	70			-	<b>227</b>	
<b>Sector</b>	<b>964</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>1,417</b>	<b>70</b>