UCC
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh
University College Cork, Ireland

UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH

UCC, RCSI, UCD, UL

2027 Graduate Entry

Medicine

Guidelines for CAO Applicants

UCD DUBLIN
University College Dublin
An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath

RCSI UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES

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Important Information for Applicants

This booklet applies only to Graduate Entry Medicine programmes at:

- University College Cork (UCC)
- University College Dublin (UCD)
- University of Limerick (UL)
- RCSI University of Medicine & Health Sciences (RCSI)

Before You Apply

Please read the following information carefully:

- All four institutions require a minimum Second Class Honours Grade 1 (2H1) honours bachelor's degree (or equivalent).
- Applicants presenting a qualification below a 2H1 are not eligible for consideration.
- Each institution has its own admissions policies and may have additional requirements.
- Applicants must ensure that their degree award and final classification have been formally approved and ratified by their awarding institution by 1 July 2027.
- Applicants whose graduation ceremony takes place after 1 July 2027 may still be eligible, provided their degree award has been formally ratified on or before 1 July 2027.
- Eligibility for EU fee status is mandatory and determined separately by each institution.

The admissions requirements for University of Galway Graduate Entry Medicine differ from those outlined in this booklet and should be consulted separately.

It is the responsibility of each applicant to ensure that they meet the entry requirements of the institution(s) to which they are applying before submitting a CAO application.

Admissions Criteria

1. Candidates must hold a minimum 2H1 (second class honours, grade one, or equivalent) award in their **first Level 8** undergraduate Bachelor Honours degree (equivalent to NFQ Level 8 https://nfq.qqi.ie), by July 1 2027.
2. Candidates must be eligible for EU fees to compete for a CAO place.
   If you now live, or have ever lived, outside the EU/EEA/UK you must:
   - Contact each Higher Education Institution you are applying to before submitting your CAO application to check if you qualify for EU fees.
   - Include a copy of the email or letter from the Fees or Admissions Office confirming your fee status with your application
3. For candidates who meet the above requirements (2H1 Honours Level 8 degree award and EU fees status), the GAMSAT (Graduate Medical Schools Admissions Test) will be the sole instrument to select students.
4. Applicants who previously started a medical programme must be in good academic standing at the institution previously attended. Applicants who have withdrawn from any other medical programme should contact the Admissions Office before applying.
5. ***CAO CANNOT verify your eligibility or comment on your documentation*.** Academic eligibility queries must be directed to the Admissions Office of the institution concerned and NOT to CAO.

Please Note: Candidates presenting a 2H2 level 8 degree award are not eligible for Graduate Entry to Medicine at University College Cork, University College Dublin, University of Limerick or Royal College of Surgeons.

GAMSAT

6. The GAMSAT test takes place in March and September each year. The testing window for the March 2027 sitting is 5-6 March and 26-28 March**. Application to sit the GAMSAT (Ireland) test in March 2027 should be made to the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) www.gamsat.acer.org before 10am GMT on January 25, 2027.
7. For entry to Graduate Medicine in 2027, only results from the following GAMSAT sittings are acceptable: September 2025, March 2026, September 2026, and March 2027. (Results of the September 2027 test cannot be used for courses commencing in 2027).
8. For your GAMSAT results to be forwarded to the CAO by ACER, you must indicate on your GAMSAT registration for any of these sittings that you are an applicant to an Irish programme.
9. You must also provide your correct 2027 CAO application number in your GAMSAT account. Failure to do so may affect the delivery of your GAMSAT results to the CAO and the institutions.
10. In late May 2027, GAMSAT results can be viewed under "My Application" at www.cao.ie. CAO will notify all applicants when GAMSAT results are available in their CAO account. If no score (or an incorrect score) is recorded for you, you will need to submit your results to CAO (by post) before July 1, 2027.
11. To be eligible for an offer in early August 2027, all GAMSAT results must be recorded at CAO by **July 1, 2027.**

* Achievement of this GAMSAT score did not guarantee an offer of admission

** Different components of the GAMSAT will take place during these dates – refer to https://gamsat.acer.org/

Application Process

12. Applicants must apply through the CAO (www.cao.ie) by 1 February 2027 at 5.15pm or by the late application deadline of 1 May 2027. A 2027 CAO number must be recorded in the applicant's GAMSAT account to enable ACER to release GAMSAT results to the CAO.

Supporting Documentation

13. Applicants must provide a complete set of original transcripts or a Diploma Supplement (certified photocopies are not accepted). Documentation must:
    - Cover all years of study and all third-level examinations taken.
    - Be issued on the institution's official headed paper.

    Include:

    - Degree award title.
    - Degree classification (minimum 2H1).
    - Award/conferring date.

    If the award/conferring date is not shown on the transcript, a certified A4 photocopy of the graduation parchment must also be provided.

    Documentation must be submitted to the CAO in accordance with the instructions below.

14. **Electronic Transcripts**

    An electronic transcript issued by the awarding institution where it can be securely and independently verified online is acceptable.

    Applicants must:

    - Ensure the transcript is accessible for viewing.
    - Provide written details of the verification process to CAO before the closing date.
    - Applicants must not provide their personal login credentials under any circumstances.

15. **Applicants Due to Graduate in 2027**

Applicants expecting to graduate in 2027 must submit a complete original transcript by 1 July 2027. The transcript should contain all available information outlined above. Where the award/conferring date is not yet available, applicants must provide confirmation from their institution of their expected conferring date. Applicants are advised to contact their institution's Registry or Examinations Office well in advance of the closing date to obtain the required documentation.

16. **Alternative Documentation**

Where original transcripts, a Diploma Supplement, or an electronic transcript are not available, printed transcripts accompanied by official confirmation from the awarding institution (for example, an official letter or Qualification Statement) are acceptable.

The confirmation must be on official headed paper sent directly from the institution to the CAO and must include:

a. The name of the office issuing the transcript (e.g. Registry Office, Examinations & Records Office).
b. An original or digital signature and/or official stamp.
c. The degree award title.
d. The degree classification.
e. The award/conferring date (or expected conferring date for current-year graduates).

Please note: you must have completed all components of your degree and have been awarded your degree by the 1st July 2027; provisional results are not accepted.

17. **Translations**

All documentation must be submitted in English. If the original documents are in another language, an official certified English translation must be provided together with the original documents.

18. **Name Changes**

Applicants whose documentation is in a different name due to marriage or deed poll must also provide certified A4 photocopies of their marriage certificate or deed poll and their birth certificate.

EU Fees Status Eligibility

19. Candidates must be eligible for EU fees to compete for a CAO place.
20. If you now live, or have ever lived, outside the EU, you must:
    - Contact each Higher Education Institution you are applying to before submitting your CAO application to check if you qualify for EU fees. (see contact details on page 8)
    - Include a copy of the email or letter from the Fees or Admissions Office confirming your fee status with your application.

21. If you have been assessed for fees status by any of the institutions to which you are applying, you should submit the email(s) confirming your fees status with your supporting documentation.

Please Note: EU Fee eligibility assessment must be completed for each Higher Education Institution that you have applied to.

Sending Documents to CAO

22. Supporting documentation can be submitted through the CAO application portal, provided it can be verified online. Documents that cannot be verified electronically will make a candidate ineligible. If

you are unable to provide an online-verifiable transcript, you must send the original documentation directly to the CAO by post.

The CAO Address is Graduate Medicine Applications, CAO, Tower House, Eglinton Street, Galway, Ireland. Telephone: 091-509800

23. When sending supporting documents to CAO, enclose a stamped addressed card/envelope giving details of documents submitted. This card/envelope will be date stamped when received by CAO and posted back to you.
24. If you would like your documents returned, then you should request this after the Graduate Entry Medicine screening is complete. You should send a stamped, addressed envelope giving details of the documents that are to be returned. **Documents will only be returned from September 2027.**
25. If you are graduating in 2027, you must submit your documentation as early as possible and before July 1, 2027, at 5pm.
26. If you have graduated from your primary degree prior to 2027, your full set of documentation (transcripts etc., see below) should be submitted to the CAO no later than **March 15, 2027**.
27. If applying for Graduate Medicine only, documents relating to second-level or high-school qualifications are **not required**. Please do not submit these.

Eligibility Screening, Outcomes & Appeals

28. The Graduate Medicine institutions referred to on this document will meet in July to jointly screen all GEM applications for eligibility.
29. Assessment results will be available in your CAO "My Application" portal. CAO will email you in July to let you know when your assessment outcome is available. To view it, log in to your CAO account, scroll down the page, and check your assessment outcome.
30. If you are deemed ineligible to be considered for an offer (following eligibility screening), you will have an opportunity to appeal that decision. Any supporting documentation needed for your appeal must be submitted before the final date of the appeals window (20 July 2027).
31. It is your responsibility to monitor all e-mails received by CAO and respond promptly.

Offers

32. Applicants who meet the eligibility requirements will be ranked based solely on their best valid GAMSAT score. Each HEI will offer places to the highest-ranked applicants. While it is not expected that offers will be made below a GAMSAT score of 52, applications with scores below 52 may be considered if the cut-off falls below this level.
33. For each course, eligible applicants are placed on an Order of Merit list based on their GAMSAT score, with the highest-scoring applicant ranked first.
34. HEIs advise the CAO how many places are available for each course. Offers are then made to the highest-ranked applicants on the Order of Merit list. Applicants who qualify for more than one course will receive an offer only for the highest preference course for which they are eligible.
35. A random number is assigned to each applicant for each course. Where applicants have the same GAMSAT score and there are insufficient places for all of them, the applicant with the higher random number will be ranked higher and offered the available place.
36. Offers are made through the CAO in Round 0 in early August (exact dates to be confirmed). Applicants will normally have approximately one week to accept their offer through the CAO My Application portal. Applicants who do not receive an offer in Round 0 may receive an offer in a later round.

Mature Applicants

37. Mature applicants to Graduate programmes through CAO are not required to complete Mature Applicant Sections 1-11 in their CAO application UNLESS they are also applying for other courses and wish to be considered on the grounds of mature years for those courses.

2027 Timelines

Applications	CAO Closing dates: 5pm 1 February, 5pm 1 May
GAMSAT Sitting 2027	March 2027 sitting is 5-6 March and 26-28 March**
Documentation Deadlines to CAO	Graduates Pre-2027: 5pm March 15 2027 graduates: 5pm 1 July
Eligibility Screening	5 to 8 July
	Outcomes notified following screening
Appeals Deadline	20 July
Appeals Outcome	23 July
Offers	Early August 2027
	Reply date for offers is ordinarily 5-7 days after offers are issued; dates TBC
GEM Start Dates (Teaching)	RCSI: August 30 UCD: September 6 UCC: August 30 UL: September 6

** Different components of the GAMSAT will take place during these dates – refer to https://gamsat.acer.org/GAMSAT ACER Linkfor details

GAMSAT cut-offs 2021 / 2022 / 2023 /2024/2025/2026

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
University of Limerick	57*	55*	52	52	53	56*
University College Cork	60*	58*	54	55*	57*	58*
University College Dublin	61*	60*	58	57	58*	60 *
RCSI University of Medicine & Health Sciences	62*	62	63	57	58*	62*

*Random selection applied & achievement of this GAMSAT score did not guarantee an offer of admission

Contacts

University of Limerick	University College Cork
www.ul.ie/academic-registry/about/contacthttp://www.ul.ie/academic-registry/about/contact-us**us**UL Academic Registry Contact Details	Fees queries and assessments: www.ucc.ie/en/financeoffice/fees/free-fees/UCC Finance office For Admissions-related queries: www.ucc.ie/en/ask/prospective/UCC Admissions office contact
University College Dublin	**RCSI University of Medicine & Health Sciences**
www.ucd.ie/askusUCD Contact link	admissions@rcsi.ie
CAO contact	**University of Galway**
www.cao.ie/index.php?page=contactCAO Contact us details	GEM@universityofgalway.ie

Checklist

Requirement	Action Required	Completed
Review Entry Requirements	Review the admissions requirements published by each participating institution.	☐
Degree Qualification	Confirm that your honours bachelor's degree meets the minimum 2H1 requirement.	☐
Degree Award Date	Confirm that your degree award and final classification will be formally ratified by your institution by 1 July 2027.	☐
Graduation After 1 July	If your graduation ceremony takes place after 1 July 2027, obtain confirmation of your official award/ratification date if necessary.	☐
GAMSAT	Sit an eligible GAMSAT examination and ensure your score is valid for the admissions cycle.	☐
CAO Application	Submit your application through CAO before the relevant deadline.	☐
CAO Number	Add your CAO number to your GAMSAT account within the required timeframe.	☐
Academic Documents	Obtain official transcripts and any required award documentation.	☐
Degree Verification	Ensure all uploaded academic documents can be independently verified if submitted electronically.	☐
Name Documentation	Provide supporting documentation if your academic records are in a different name.	☐
English Translations	Provide certified English translations of documents where required.	☐
EU Fee Status	Contact each institution directly if you need clarification regarding EU fee status eligibility.	☐
Supporting Documents	Upload or submit all required documentation by the relevant deadline.	☐
Assessment Outcome	Check your CAO application portal for assessment outcomes when notified.	☐

Other resources

Graduate Entry Medicine UCC: https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck791/UCC GEM website

Graduate Entry Medicine RCSI: https://www.rcsi.com/dublin/undergraduate/gem/RCSI GEM link

Graduate Entry Medicine UCD: ucd.ie/medicine/studywithus/undergraduate/graduateentrymedicine/UCD GEM link

Graduate Entry Medicine UL: https://www.ul.ie/gps/course/medicine-graduate-entry/

GAMSAT: https://gamsat.acer.org/

Frequently Asked Questions

My graduation ceremony takes place after 1 July 2027. Am I eligible?
Yes. Applicants may be eligible if their degree award and final classification have been formally approved and ratified by their awarding institution on or before 1 July 2027.

What is the minimum academic requirement?
Applicants must hold a minimum Second Class Honours Grade 1 (2H1) honours bachelor's degree, or an equivalent qualification acceptable to the participating institution.

Applicants who do not meet the minimum 2H1 requirement are not eligible for consideration.

Do all Graduate Entry Medicine programmes have the same entry requirements?
No. While this booklet sets out the common eligibility requirements for UCC, UCD, UL and RCSI, each institution may have additional admissions requirements or policies.

Applicants should review the admissions information published by each institution before applying.

Does this booklet apply to University of Galway?
No. The Graduate Entry Medicine admissions requirements for the University of Galway differ from those described in this booklet.

Applicants interested in applying to the University of Galway should consult the University's published admissions information separately.

What if my transcript does not show my final award or award date?
You must provide official documentation from the awarding institution confirming your final degree classification and the date on which the award was formally ratified or conferred.

What does Verified Online mean?
An electronic transcript is acceptable if it is issued by the awarding institution and can be securely and independently verified online, for example via the institution's verification service, a secure share link, or a digitally signed document.
Applicants must:
• Arrange for the transcript to be made available to CAO directly by the awarding institution or its verification service (screenshots, scans or portal printouts are not accepted).
• Submit to CAO, before the closing date, the verification web address and any verification or access code required to view the transcript.
• Ensure the link or code remains valid until [date] and renew it promptly if requested.
• Not provide usernames, passwords or any access to their personal student or institution accounts under any circumstances.

Why might an applicant be deemed ineligible?
Common reasons include:

- The minimum 2H1 degree requirement has not been met.
- Required documentation has not been submitted by the deadline.
- Academic records cannot be verified.

- The degree award or classification cannot be confirmed.
- The qualification presented is not considered equivalent to the required honours bachelor's degree standard.
- Additional information requested during the assessment process is not provided.
- Gap between school and the degree being presented for eligibility.
- Do not qualify for EU fees or have not completed a fees assessment.

How will I receive my eligibility assessment outcome?
Assessment outcomes are communicated through the CAO application portal. Applicants will be notified by CAO when their assessment outcome becomes available to view.

Appeals Frequently Asked Questions

What is the appeals process?
After eligibility screening takes place in July, CAO will email all candidates with scores over 52 with the outcome of the screening. Candidates deemed ineligible will have 2 weeks in which to submit an appeal. Appeal documents are submitted to the CAO during the 2-week period.

How do I submit an appeal?
Follow steps 14-22 regarding which documents need to be submitted and how to submit. Clearly indicate that the documentation is being submitted to support a GEM eligibility screening appeal.

What is the appeals deadline?
2027 Appeals date deadline is the 20 July at 5pm. All documentation must be at the CAO offices by this date and time.

My institution will not send original documents via post, what do I do?
They can contact one of the admissions offices to which you have applied with the information if they wish. We will send this through to the CAO on your behalf during the appeals window. Contact details are provided for each admissions office under the Contacts section of this document. There is no need to contact each admissions office separately.

Why was I deemed ineligible?
The following guides the reason(s) that a GEM candidate may need to appeal the outcome of the eligibility screening:

1. No documents
Supporting documentation was not provided to the CAO. Please refer to page 3 of this document to guide what is required.

2. Incomplete documents
14. Applicants must provide a complete set of original transcripts or a Diploma Supplement (certified photocopies are not accepted). Documentation must:
- Cover all years of study and all third-level examinations taken.
- Be issued on the institution's official headed paper.

Include:
- Degree award title.

- Degree classification (minimum 2H1).
- Award/conferring date.

If the award/conferring date is not shown on the transcript, a certified A4 photocopy of the graduation parchment must also be provided. Please refer to page 3 of this document.

3. No proof of Conferring

A certified copy of the Award must be submitted

Or

An official letter (such as a Qualification Statement) issued from the awarding institution, providing confirmation from the awarding institution. Such a confirmation should clearly indicate the following:

a. The specific service/office, which is providing the transcript, e.g., Registry Office, Examinations & Records Office, etc.
b. An original or digital signature1 and/or original stamp from this service/office.
c. The degree award title, e.g., 'BSc Biomedical Sciences'.
d. The class of degree awarded, e.g., 2H1.
e. The date of the award/conferring (can be prospective for current year graduates

4. Copy transcripts/No original transcripts

Copy transcripts provided, not original, require the following as set out on page 4 of this document. In cases where the full set of original transcripts or Diploma Supplement or the online/digital transcript (as outlined above) are not available to you from your awarding institution, a printed copy of transcripts will be accepted if accompanied together with an official letter (such as a Qualification Statement) issued from the awarding institution, providing confirmation from the awarding institution. Such a confirmation should clearly indicate the following:

a. The specific service/office, which is providing the transcript, e.g., Registry Office, Examinations & Records Office, etc.
b. An original or digital signature1 and/or original stamp from this service/office.
c. The degree award title, e.g., 'BSc Biomedical Sciences'.
d. The class of degree awarded, e.g., 2H1.
e. The date of the award/conferring (can be prospective for current year graduates

5. Does not have a 2H1

The first level 8 degree is not the equivalent of a 2H1 minimum which is a requirement for GEM at UCC, UCD, UL and RCSI. Please provide further evidence to support your appeal or contact the relevant admissions office. Contact details are provided in the Contacts section on this booklet.

6. Evidence of EU Fee Status Query

Required to provide evidence of EU fee status. Please contact each institution to establish fee status per page 4 on this document.

7. Good Academic Standing

Applicants who previously started a medical programme must be in good academic standing at the institution previously attended. Applicants who have withdrawn from any other medical programme should contact the Admissions Office before applying. Applicants who provide inaccurate information can have their offers withdrawn.

8. No Level 8 Degree

The degree awarded is not considered to be at Level 8 per the standards set out by the National Qualifications Framework NQF https://www.qqi.ie/what-we-do/the-qualifications-system/national-framework-of-qualifications

The degree awarded is not considered to be at Level 8 per the standards set out by the National Qualifications Framework NQF https://www.qqi.ie/what-we-do/the-qualifications-system/national-framework-of-qualifications or ECCTIS.

A diploma supplement is required in this case outlining the level of the award to support the applicant's appeal.

9. First Degree Query

If the applicant has a gap between their second level education and the first degree, they are asked to provide evidence that it is their first level 8 degree.

- A statement outlining that they did not take another course and let us know what they did for the period of time. The statements are on their honour and should any false information be provided any offers issued will be rescinded.
- If they were working, they can provide evidence of same with tax documents, contracts etc.
- If they did take another course, we require a transcript from that institution. If they did not sit exams, they will need to get a letter from that institution stating that they did not continue on their course and did not graduate.
- Applicants that provide inaccurate information can have their offers withdrawn.