

Access to Medicine for Mature Students via the  
University Diploma of Continuing Education in Access to Science, Engineering and  
Agriculture, SCU3

The purpose of this pathway to medicine is to provide an access route to those who have not yet had the opportunity to attend university. For potential applicants to medicine, **those without a Level 8 degree will be prioritised.**

Admission is competitive and is based on academic merit<sup>1</sup>. Places will be allocated on a competitive basis<sup>2</sup>.

The following sets out the **minimum** requirements for the reserved two places on the Undergraduate Medical Degree Programme in UCD.

1. Minimum GPA of 3.08 on completion of the Access course.
2. Minimum of A- in the Introduction to Chemistry, Physics & Biology module
3. Minimum HPAT of 150. The score from HPAT-Ireland can be used for admission to an undergraduate medicine course commencing in the same year ONLY.
4. Applicants will be invited to submit a 750 word Learning journal which will document their reflections on their learning. It will explore the applicant's understanding, perception and ideas about their progression route to medicine. As part of the reflective journal applicants will be encouraged to identify, locate and interpret relevant information and resources to inform their understanding about the consequences and implications of full-time study on a six-year undergraduate medical degree programme.

**How the places will be allocated.**

All applicants meeting the minimum requirements above, will then be ranked based on a total score which is weighted in the ratio of GPA (50%). HPAT ( 30%) and Learning Journal (20%)

Note: Recognition for Prior Learning will be given to those accepted onto the medical degree programme against their elective options only, and not to be used in lieu of a Core Module.

Note: Only if the Medical School is unable to fill one, or both, of the reserved places, will degree holders be considered and there will be no exceptions.

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<sup>1</sup> Any canvassing on this point, or failure to mention a previous degree (of any level), will automatically disqualify the applicant from the medicine programme in UCD on a permanent basis.

<sup>2</sup> Where two or more applicants have the same score, random selection will be applied.