



Medicine (MBBS) Programme

Clinical Placement Information and Approximate Travel Costs

Clinical placements start early and continue through the MBBS programme with students rotating through a range of different specialties and experiencing medicine in a range of different care settings, providing a broad understanding and experience of how the National Health Service (NHS) functions and cares for patients. Clinical placements are arranged and organised for MBBS students by the University of Hertfordshire.

Clinical Placement Locations

Clinical placements for the MBBS programme will primarily take place across Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire. As the programme progresses, there may be a requirement to expand placement locations.

You should be prepared for flexibility in placement allocation.

Travel Requirements

Most placement locations will be accessible by public transport. However, you should anticipate varying commute times depending on placement location.

Placement Schedule

The number and intensity of placement days will increase as you progress through the programme. Approximate placement duration by year is as follows:

- **Year 1:** 2 weeks of placement
- **Year 2:** 4 weeks of placement
- **Year 3:** 15 weeks of placement
- **Year 4:** 40 weeks of placement
- **Year 5:** 35 weeks of placement (including student selected components)

Within each placement block, the number of days per week will vary depending on several factors, including:

- stage of study within the programme
- specific placement setting
- individual progression and competencies
- placement rota requirements
- you should expect that placement schedules may not follow standard working hours.

Working Patterns

Depending on the placement area, you may be required to:

- Work shifts outside of typical daytime hours
- Attend evening or night shifts
- Participate in weekend placements

These requirements will be determined by the needs of the placement provider and the clinical learning objectives.

Placement travel costs

While exact travel costs will vary based on individual circumstances, and we expect students to work out the exact costs and commute times, you should consider the following approximate costs when planning your budget.

Estimated travel costs will vary depending on placement location and attendance requirements. Based on current local service providers, the following costs can be used as a guide:

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| Travel to and from placements (Years 1 – 5) | Estimated costs of up to an average of £1,000 per year, depending on placement location and attendance requirements. | £5000 |
|--|---|-------|

Costs may increase where:

- Placements require peak-time travel
- Travel distances are longer
- Multiple modes of transport are needed
- Occasional increased travel costs due to shift patterns (e.g., early morning or late-night travel)
- Potential accommodation considerations if placements are located further from home

The information above is to give you an idea of what costs you will need to consider. You will need to consider and plan financially for variability in both travel distance and frequency throughout the duration of the programme.

Temporary additional accommodation

During years 3, 4, and 5 you may be required to undertake placements further away than in previous years. You may decide to take up temporary accommodation nearer your placement during this time.

Estimated accommodation costs will vary depending on placement location and shift patterns. You may not require temporary accommodation for the full duration of the placement block. Based on current local service providers, the following costs can be used as a guide for a full 5 week placement block:

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| Accommodation – Optional example (5 week placement) | This estimate is based on a full five week placement, with accommodation costs calculated at £50 per night. | £ 1250 |
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Additional living costs

As well as the costs you will incur during placements, there are other day to day costs you will need to consider and factor into your overall budget. We have some information on our website which you may find useful:



Scan the QR code or visit
go.herts.ac.uk/cost-of-living

Contact information

If you have any questions please contact us:



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