

Medical Sponsorship

If you are currently studying at medical school, or are applying for a place at a medical school, the Royal Air Force could sponsor your Medical training, in the form of a bursary or a cadetship, leading ultimately to a career as a Royal Air Force Medical Officer.

Bursary

Medical Officer Sponsorship is available from year 3 of Medical School. Applications are accepted **from year 2** but no bursary is payable until year 3 of study at university/medical school, or year 2 of a Post-Graduate 4 year course. The bursary is worth £3,000 per annum, paid annually.

Commitment: The Bursar must join the University Air Squadron affiliated to their university (training pay is paid for University Air Squadron attendance, along with a Training Bounty) and apply for an upgrade to a Cadetship for their last 2 years of medical school.

Cadetship

Medical Officer Cadetships are normally awarded following an upgrade from a bursary. However, new applicants can apply for a cadetship to cover their penultimate and/or final year of medical study at university /medical school.

Commitment: The Cadet must join the University Air Squadron affiliated to their university and subsequently enter the Royal Air Force on an Intermediate Commission after full registration with the General Medical Council.

Postings and Career

All postings are coordinated by the Royal Air Force with input by the Cadet. Cadets will attend their Foundation programme through the Military Foundation Programme or may elect to join an NHS Deanery. Following foundation years and officer training, Junior Medical Officers (JMOs) are posted to a RAF flying station GP Training Practice until their professional training begins. During this time, JMOs will experience life on a working RAF station at first hand.

Pay

In addition to payment of Tuition Fees and Registration Fees, the indicative Cadetship pay (based on the April 2016 pay review) rates are as follows:

Year 1	Penultimate year at medical school		£17,759
Year 2	Final year at medical school		£19,681
Year 3	Foundation Year 1 Full Registration with GMC		£41,939
Year 4	Foundation Year 2		£55,403 (Flying Officer)
Year 5	Military Induction Training¹		Up to £58,540
	Secondary Health Care	Primary Health Care	
	Time on Station	GPVT 1 (GP Vocational Training)	
Year 6	Core Training	GPVT 2	Up to £88,970 (Flight Lieutenant/ Squadron Leader)
Year 7	Core Training	GPVT 3	
Year 8 – Onwards	Higher Training	Consolidate Training	
¹ Training Courses during Year 5			
• 11 weeks Initial Officer Training/Specialist Entrant Re-Entrant (RAFC Cranwell)			
• 2 weeks Basic Air Warfare Course (RAFC Cranwell)			
• 3 weeks Initial Medical, Dental and Nursing Officers Course			
• 2 weeks Initial Medical Officer (Aviation Medicine) Course (Priority to Flying Stations)			

The Medical and Dental Recruitment Team (MDRT) give sponsorship presentations throughout the year covering all aspects of the RAF Medical Services, the sponsorship scheme and the selection process. You should contact the MDRT directly on 01400 266811 or Email: CRN-RecruitSelect-MDLT-Grp@mod.uk for their programme dates and to book your place on a presentation.

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted to an Armed Forces Careers Office (AFCO) or via your University Air Squadron (UAS) by the November prior to the academic year in which you hope to be sponsored. Successful applicants will be awarded sponsorship from the start of the September term.

Medical Sponsorship

Age: 21 - 53*

*Candidates can be accepted up to age 53 if you are already fully accredited. If you require professional training this age will be lowered to take account of your exact training requirements.

Qualifications: Sponsorship is available for the final three years of study in a UK Based Medical School.

Residency: You should have resided in the UK for the 5 years immediately preceding your application. In certain circumstances, if your period of residency has been broken, we may still be able to consider your application.

Nationality: You must be a citizen of the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland, holder of dual UK/other nationality or have been a Commonwealth citizen since birth.

Bursary Selection: Selection for the initial award of a Bursary is dependent upon passing a Specialist Medical Interview, assessed by two senior Medical Officers and the OASC selection process at RAF College Cranwell. You will spend up to 3 days at the OASC where we will assess your potential to develop officer qualities, including communication skills, self-motivation, maturity, physical fitness and leadership skills.

Cadetship Upgrade Selection: An upgrade from a bursary to a cadetship is dependent upon passing a Specialist Medical Interview, assessed by two senior Medical Officers. You will also be assessed for evidence of satisfactory academic performance, continuing good character and maintaining a satisfactory level of physical fitness.

Cadetship Selection: Cadetship applicants will be required to pass both a Specialist Medical Interview and the OASC selection process.

Important Considerations: Sponsorship may be terminated at the discretion of the Ministry of Defence if it becomes evident that the scholar is failing to make satisfactory progress at university. Specialisation preference will be subject to the needs of the Service; specialisations in Paediatric, Geriatric and Obstetrics & Gynaecology are permanently excluded.

To apply please contact your nearest Armed Forces Careers Office or University Air Squadron