



2021 Recruitment Stats and Facts Report

England
Northern Ireland
Scotland
Wales



**UK Foundation
Programme**

March 2023

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Executive summary

In summer 2020, 1,510 applicants submitted their details to the UKFPO to ascertain their eligibility to apply for the two-year UK Foundation Programme (UKFP). Prospective UKFP applicants who graduated/were due to graduate outside the UK or graduated in the UK more than 2 years before the start of the programme were required to take part in this process. 860 applicants were deemed eligible to apply for UKFP starting in August 2021 (UKFP 2021) and 790 submitted an application in autumn 2020. This was alongside 7,434 applications received from “UK nominee” applicants (who graduated/were due to graduate from a UK medical school in 2020 or 2021). In total, there were 8,224 applications for UKFP 2021, made up of 9.6% eligibility applicants and 90.4% UK nominee applicants. Applicants had to apply for the standard FP and were able to apply for Academic Foundation Programmes (AFP), Foundation Priority Programmes (FPP) and Psychiatry Foundation Fellowships (PFF) as part of this.

Table 0.1: Applications summary

	Eligibility	UKFP 2021
Number of applications	1,510	8,224
Of which deemed eligible	860	N/A
Of which eligibility applicants	N/A	790
Of which UK nominees	N/A	7,434

As in the last few years, there were more applicants than advertised FP places. AFP and FPP places were filled using an offers process in January/February 2021. In March 2021 all applicants who were still in the process who had not accepted an AFP/FPP offer were allocated to either the primary list (as many applicants as there were FP places available at that time) or the reserve list (the remaining applicants). Applicants on the primary list were allocated to a foundation school and subsequently to a programme within that school by April 2021. Applicants on the reserve list were allocated to foundation school and programme in batches by 10 June 2021. An additional 140 FP places were created across the UK to facilitate this and all eligible applicants remaining in the process received an FP place. 8,078 applicants were allocated to an FP place at the close of the UKFP 2021 recruitment process in June 2021.

The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic continued to be felt during the UKFP 2021 recruitment process, including through the local management of deferred places (either by a whole year or starting the UKFP 2020 late) resulting in fluctuations in available post numbers and complex funding negotiations for UKFP 2021, and through backlogs in processes managed by the UK Foundation Programme Office (UKFPO). As a result of the changes made to allow the continued sustainable management of recruitment processes, this Recruitment Stats and Facts Report has been shortened (compared to previous years' reports) and published later than usual. Note that data/totals rapidly change as the recruitment process progresses; however, it is not possible to show data for every stage of the process.

Summary of recruitment processes

To apply for the UK Foundation Programme, applicants must be nominated by a UK medical school or the UKFPO's Eligibility Office (EO). Eligibility applications to the EO were made in July/August 2020 and in October 2020 nominated applicants were invited to register on the national application system (Oriol). All eligible applicants were then invited to submit an online application form to the national FP vacancy through Oriol in October/November 2020. Applicants were required to rank Units of Application (UoAs) – also known as foundation schools – in their order of preference as part of this application.

Applicants then had the option to apply to a maximum of two AFP vacancies managed by individual Academic Units of Application (AUoAs). AFPs have a specific academic component focused on research, education and teaching or leadership and management. There were fifteen AUoAs, which were either individual foundation schools or a cluster of neighbouring foundation schools. Applicants had to rank individual programmes as part of the application form(s).

Applicants also had the option to apply to either or both Psychiatry Foundation Fellowship (PFF) Programmes and Foundation Priority Programmes (FPP) once they had submitted their main application

for FP. The PFF posts were designed in collaboration with the Royal College of Psychiatrists and offered additional exposure to Psychiatry. The FPP posts were identified by individual foundation schools as typically being hard to fill posts for a variety of reasons. These posts offer a range of local incentives, and applicants were offered individual programmes ahead of the national allocation to foundation schools.

UK Foundation Programme Office (UKFPO)

The UKFPO manages the application process, issues guidance on training and promotes the consistent delivery of the programme across the UK. Working with partners, the UKFPO enables sharing of good practice to help raise the standards of training. The UKFPO is funded by and accountable to the four UK governments.

Foundation schools

Foundation schools are not bricks and mortar institutions. They are a conceptual group of institutions that bring together medical schools, the local health organisation and local education providers. Foundation schools act as the “home foundation school” for the medical school(s) in their region. They work with their local medical school(s) to nominate applicants for the foundation programme and manage any issues faced by provisionally registered (foundation year 1) doctors.

They offer training to foundation doctors in a range of different settings and clinical environments. The schools are administered by local staff and supported by the local office/deanery.

Training is delivered according to national guidance developed by the UKFPO, with some acceptable local variations in some areas. There were 15 AUoAs, and 20 foundation schools across the UK Foundation Programme: 17 in England and 1 in each of the devolved nations (Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales).

Educational Performance Measure (EPM)

All applicants to the Foundation Programme, including the Academic Foundation Programme, were awarded an EPM score. This is made up of a decile score, awarded by the medical school, and a maximum of 7 points, awarded by the UKFPO, for additional educational achievements (EAs). The decile score is a measure of clinical and non-clinical skills, knowledge, and performance up to the point of application to the Foundation Programme. Applicants are assessed and ranked on their performance at medical school in relation to the graduating cohort. The graduating cohort is defined as all students in their final year at the point of application to the Foundation Programme. The process for awarding EA points is described later in this report.

Summary of statistics

Applications

1,510 applications were submitted to the UKFPO’s Eligibility Office in advance of the national application to the UK Foundation Programme (FP). 862 applicants were deemed eligible to apply for the FP and 790 (84.85%) submitted FP applications.

7,580 applicants were nominated by UK medical schools and 7,434 (98.01%) submitted FP applications. 8,224 applications in total were submitted to the UKFP 2021.

Situational Judgement Test (SJT)

8,209 applicants sat the SJT (99.21% of eligible applicants). 45 applicants achieved an exceptionally low SJT score and were invited to attend an online panel review of their SJT performance. 32 applicants attended the review, 10 (31%) of whom were reinstated to the application process with their original SJT score. The remaining 22 applicants who attended the review and the 13 applicants who did not (35 in total)

did not meet the national person specification for the foundation programme and were withdrawn from the application process.

Academic, Priority and Psychiatry (AFP, FPP, PFF)

2,426 AFP applications were received (applicants were able to submit up to two applications). 540 AFP posts were advertised in September 2020, 536 of which were included in the offers process in January 2021. 527 AFP posts were filled (98.32%).

1,074 FPP applications were received. 365 FPP posts were advertised. 537 offers were made and 237 were accepted. The fill rate was 64.93% (for UKFP 2020 this was 33.54%).

181 PFF applications were received. 40 posts were available across England, 34 of which were appointed to. The fill rate was 85%.

In most cases unfilled AFP, PFF and FPP posts were included in the main allocation for FP.

National allocation

In March 2021, all applicants remaining in the process were ranked in order of score and allocated according to their UoA preferences regardless of their right to work status in the UK. 6,844 (93%) applicants were allocated to the primary list – this included 6,354 (93%) UK nominees and 490 (7%) eligibility applicants.

96% of UK nominees and 72% of eligibility applicants who were still in the process were allocated to the primary list.

94% of applicants were allocated to one of their top five preferences and 75% were placed at their first preference foundation school. 6% of primary list applicants were allocated to a preference choice lower than fifth.

A total of 494 applicants were placed on the reserve list – this included 306 (62%) UK nominees and 188 (38%) eligibility applicants. The reserve list in previous years has been 25 in 2017, 202 in 2018, 425 in 2019 and 258 in 2020.

6,553 applicants were matched to individual programmes at the beginning of April 2021. Reserve list batch allocations took place in May and June. All applicants were allocated to training places by 10 June 2021.

Eligibility

Eligibility applications

Overseas graduates and applicants who graduated from UK medical schools more than two years before the start of the programme were invited to apply through the eligibility application process during July and August 2020.

1,510 applications were submitted (909 in FP 2020). 1400 applications were screened for eligibility – 110 applicants withdrew before they could be screened. 984 applicants were deemed eligible to apply for FP; 221 applicants were fully eligible and 763 applicants were eligible subject to various conditions, such as passing the clinical assessment and PLAB.

Table 1.1: Eligibility Office applicant profile by medical school category

Medical school category	Number of eligibility applicants	Percentage of eligibility applicants
EEA Med School	618	40.93%
Non-EEA/UK Med School	685	45.36%
UK Med School*	207	13.71%
Total	1510	

* This figure includes applicants who graduated from Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia (NUMED) (117) and University of Nicosia, Cyprus (59), both of which are UK campuses where qualifying students are awarded a UK Primary Medical Qualification (PMQ).

In October 2020, 790 (84.58%) Eligibility Office applicants applied to the national FP vacancy.

Clinical assessment

Applicants who graduated more than two years before the start of the UKFP 2021 were required to undertake the clinical assessment (CA). The standard format includes a 16-station clinical OSCE examination. The stations are carefully mapped to assess performance against the UKFP curriculum.

The CA was delivered by the Manchester University Foundation NHS Trust at a cost of £850 per assessment. Each applicant paid the fee directly to the CA provider.

Due to travel restrictions enforced during the Covid-19 pandemic, the CA was split into two stages. Stage 1 was held at the usual time (November) online and involved all stations of the OSCE that could be adapted to allow assessment virtually. The outcome of stage 1 was pass/fail and only those who passed remained in the allocation process. Stage 2 was held in May 2021 at the assessment centre in Manchester, when travel restrictions had been eased in many parts of the world, including the UK.

264 applicants were required to undertake the clinical assessment for 2021 (17.5% of eligibility applicants who applied to FP). 205 (78%) paid for the assessment and were therefore booked onto stage 1 (4 did not attend and were withdrawn from UKFP 2021). 183 applicants passed stage 1 and 182 were booked onto stage 2 of the CA (1 candidate who passed stage 1 had withdrawn); 24 did not to attend. Following the two stages, 66% of the applicants who attempted the CA passed (compared to 78% in FP 2020).

Table 1.2: Clinical Assessment applicant profile by medical school category

Medical school category	Number of applicants required to pass CA	Number of applicants who sat the CA stage 1
EEA	51	34
Non-EEA/UK	186	144
UK	27	23
Totals	264	201

Table 1.3: Clinical Assessment outcomes

Medical school category	CA stage 1 outcome		CA stage 2 outcome	
	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
EEA	30	4	20	6
Non-EEA/UK	130	14	95	18
UK	23	0	17	1
Totals	183 (91%*)	18 (9%*)	132 (73%**)	25 (27%**)

* Of the applicants who sat the CA stage 1

** Of the applicants who sat the CA stage 2

Foundation Programme (FP)

FP places

The table below shows the number of places advertised in October 2020. Applicants were advised this was subject to change as per the standard process.

Table 2.1: Indicative FP places in October 2020

Foundation school / Unit of application (UoA)	FP	AFP	FPP	PFF*	Total
East of England – Cambridge (East Anglia)	240	24	79	3	631
East of England – Norfolk (East Anglia)		12		2	
East of England – EBH		254		22	
East Midlands – LNR	152	35	16	2	513
East Midlands – Trent	280		30	2	
North Central and East London	331	127	0	0	1,473
North West London	234		0	0	
South Thames	753		28	2	
North West of England	767	57	0	3	824
Northern	302	21	80	5	403
Northern Ireland	234	9	8	0	251
Oxford	210	21	0	2	231
Peninsula	184	25	2	3	476
Severn	265		0	3	
Scotland	801	51	51	0	903
Wales	356	12	9	0	377
Wessex	288	13	1	3	302
West Midlands Central	180	42	0	1	616
West Midlands North	220		9	3	
West Midlands South	150		15	2	
Yorkshire and Humber	545	63	22	4	630
Total Programmes	6,746	534	350	40	7,630

* Advertised as part of FP – not part of “Total” calculation in next column

Applications to FP

- 8,674 applicants were eligible to apply for the 2021 UK Foundation Programme.
 - 7,690 students/graduates nominated by a UK medical school
 - 984 students/graduates deemed eligible to apply through the Eligibility Office
- 8,224 applications (94.81% of those eligible) were submitted to the national FP vacancy
 - 7,434 UK nominees (96.67% of those nominated)
 - 790 Eligibility Office applicants (80.28% of those eligible)

Table 2.2: Application submissions (five-year comparison)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Eligible applicants	7,889	8,122	8,412	8,243	8,674
Applications submitted	7,742	7,873	8,137	7,962	8,224
Percentage who submitted applications	98%	97%	96%	97%	95%

Table 2.3: Applicants nominated by UK medical schools for UKFP 2021

UK medical school	Home foundation school	Number of nominees	Number who applied for FP	% who applied for FP
Aberdeen (University of), School of Medicine	Scotland	199	195	98%
Birmingham (University of), School of Medicine	West Midlands Central	309	303	98%
Brighton and Sussex Medical School	South Thames	124	124	100%
Bristol (University of), Faculty of Medicine	Severn	280	280	100%
Cambridge (University of), School of Clinical Medicine	East Anglia	276	264	96%
Cardiff University, School of Medicine	Wales	293	288	98%
Dundee (University of), Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing	Scotland	178	175	98%
Edinburgh (The University of), College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine	Scotland	217	216	100%
Exeter (University of), Medical School	Peninsula	124	122	98%
Glasgow (University of), College of Medical, Veterinary and Life Sciences	Scotland	300	294	98%
Hull York Medical School	Yorkshire and Humber	148	147	99%
Imperial College School of Medicine, London	North West London	313	311	99%
Keele University, School of Medicine	West Midlands North	130	126	97%
King's College London School of Medicine	South Thames	351	350	99.72%
Lancaster University, Faculty of Health & Medicine	North West of England	46	46	100%
Leeds (University of), School of Medicine	Yorkshire and Humber	228	225	99%
Leicester (University of), Leicester Medical School	Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland (LNR)	197	193	98%
Liverpool (University of), Faculty of Health and Life Sciences	North West of England	301	289	96%
Manchester (University of), Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences	North West of England	437	426	97%
Newcastle University Medical School	Northern	335	325	97%
Norwich Medical School, University of East Anglia	East Anglia	225	145	64%
Nottingham (The University of), Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences	Trent	336	333	99%
Oxford (University of), Medical Sciences Division	Oxford	175	169	97%
Plymouth University Peninsula Schools of Medicine and Dentistry	Peninsula	93	91	98%
Queen Mary, University of London	North Central and East London	318	315	99%
Queen's University Belfast, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences	Northern Ireland	273	269	99%
Sheffield (The University of), School of Medicine	Yorkshire and Humber	215	212	99%

UK medical school	Home foundation school	Number of nominees	Number who applied for FP	% who applied for FP
Southampton (University of), School of Medicine	Wessex	243	227	93%
St George's, University of London	South Thames	325	294	90%
Swansea University, School of Medicine	Wales	75	75	100%
University College London, University College Medical School	North Central and East London	321	310	97%
University of Buckingham	Oxford	81	75	93%
University of Central Lancashire	North West of England	54	53	98%
Warwick (The University of), Warwick Medical School	West Midlands South	170	167	98%
Total		7,690	7,434	96.67%

Table 2.4: Nominees who applied for FP by home foundation school

Home foundation school	Number of nominees who applied for FP
East Anglia	409
Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire (EBH)	N/A
Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland (LNR)	193
North Central and East London	625
North West London	311
North West of England	814
Northern	325
Northern Ireland	269
Oxford	244
Peninsula	213
Scotland	880
Severn	280
South Thames	768
Trent	333
Wales	363
Wessex	227
West Midlands Central	303
West Midlands North	126
West Midlands South	167
Yorkshire and Humber	584
Totals	7,434

Additional educational achievements (EAs)

The UKFPO awarded FP applicants up to a maximum of 7 points for EAs, which form a part of the EPM score for all applicants. Applicants could choose to submit EAs as part of their FP application. The EA score is made up of up to 5 points for additional degrees awarded by the time of application (prior to medical school or an intercalated degree) and up to 2 points for educational research papers published in a peer-reviewed journal with a PubMed ID number (1 point per paper). The UKFPO and partners verified all submitted EAs through independent panels. 441 submissions were awarded 0 points: 282 for degrees, 99 for publication 1 and 60 for publication 2.

Table 2.5: Number and percentage of applications with educational achievements (five-year comparison)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of applications with EAs	5,247	5,494	5,627	5,671	5,858
Percentage of applications with EAs	68%	70%	69%	71%	71%
Number of applications with no EAs	2,495	2,365	2,489	2,291	2,366
Percentage of applications with no EAs	32%	30%	31%	29%	29%

Table 2.6: Types of additional educational achievements submitted (five-year comparison)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Applicants who submitted evidence of additional degree	4,134	4,276	4,276	4,297	4,048
Applicants who submitted evidence of one publication	109	106	113	107	156
Applicants who submitted evidence of two publications	25	23	34	36	78
Applicants who submitted additional degree and one pub	624	680	742	742	895
Applicants who submitted additional degree and two pubs	355	411	463	490	681

Situational Judgement Test (SJT)

For UKFP 2021, the SJT was delivered through a digital platform in partnership with Pearson VUE and managed by the UKFPO. This was a change from the previous process where the Medical Schools Council (MSC) managed the SJT and it was sat in paper format, conducted in university exam halls on two specific dates in the winter. Applicants could choose between sitting at a Pearson VUE test centre or a remote sitting proctored using Pearson VUE's "OnVUE" online software.

Applicants were able to request reasonable adjustments to accommodate any specific needs for their SJT sitting. All requests had to be made through an electronic form during the main FP application window. 840 applicants (10.21%) requested reasonable adjustments and 826 applicants (10.04%) received these.

Table 2.7: Reasonable adjustments for UKFP 2021 SJT

Adjustment type	Number of applicants who received this adjustment*	Percentage of all adjustments received*
Extra time (25%)	817	82.78%
Separate room	136	13.78%
Zoom text	20	2.03%
Separate room and reader	7	0.71%
Separate room, reader and recorder	1	0.10%
Snack	3	0.30%
Glucose testing facilitated	3	0.30%

* Applicants were able to request more than one adjustment

There were two sitting "windows" – three weeks in December 2020 and two weeks in January 2021; applicants were able to book their SJT for any time and place within these windows (subject to availability).

- 8,251** applicants booked their SJT (99.72% of eligible applicants)
- ** includes 49 applicants to the Defence Deanery, who do not apply to FP through Oriol
- 8,209 subsequently sat the SJT (99.21% of eligible applicants)
 - 5,999 took the test in December 2020
 - 2,210 took the test in January 2021

Table 2.8: Applicant attendance at SJT sittings

Test window	Scheduled (snapshot 7 Dec 2020)		Delivered	
	Test Centre	OnVUE	Test Centre	OnVUE
December 2020	5,283	907	5,164	835
January 2021	1,568	491	1,617	593
Total**	6,736	1,398	6,781	1,428

** includes military applicants to the Defence Deanery

Applicants were able to submit a claim to the UKFPO to re-book their SJT in case of extenuating circumstances on the day of their original booking. This was subject to specific criteria and conditions.

Table 2.9: Extenuating circumstances

Number of extenuating circumstances submitted	December sitting	January sitting	Total
OnVUE	34	38	72
Test centre	28	13	41
Total	62	51	113

105 applications were approved for a re-booking.

39 applicants failed to attend the SJT and were subsequently withdrawn from the application process: 21 applicants from UK medical schools and 18 eligibility office applicants.

Table 2.10: SJT scores by medical school

The scores calculations are based on the majority of applicants who sat the SJT, that is:

- including applicants who accepted offers for AFP and FPP
- excluding applicants for the Defence Deanery

Medical school	UKFP 2021 SJT scores			
	Ave	SD	Max	Min
Brighton and Sussex Medical School	39.239	3.467	46.256	30.918
Cardiff University	40.123	3.244	47.075	22.254
Eligibility Office	34.057	5.117	45.837	1.283
Hull and York Medical School	39.755	3.116	48.614	28.928
Imperial College London	39.027	3.297	47.225	26.164
Keele University	39.929	3.517	47.920	29.279
King's College London	39.575	3.133	47.661	27.668
Newcastle University	40.697	3.097	48.730	29.404
Norwich Medical School	39.717	3.480	47.661	24.891
Plymouth University Peninsula Schools	39.189	3.480	45.374	30.677
Queen Mary, University of London	40.035	3.113	46.068	29.747
Queen's University Belfast	39.875	3.338	47.457	24.010
St George's, University of London	38.997	3.656	47.778	28.247
The University of Edinburgh	40.757	3.304	47.075	30.215
The University of Sheffield	40.339	3.167	48.498	28.941
The University of Warwick	40.773	3.245	48.831	29.162
University College London	40.737	3.107	48.035	29.173
University of Aberdeen	39.494	4.008	48.246	22.488

Medical school	UKFP 2021 SJT scores			
	Ave	SD	Max	Min
University of Birmingham	40.067	3.762	47.457	4.755
University of Buckingham	40.015	3.212	46.531	27.054
University of Bristol	36.964	3.834	44.564	25.884
University of Cambridge	41.508	3.301	48.267	24.659
University of Central Lancashire	36.666	3.067	41.572	27.288
University of Dundee	39.610	3.838	47.341	25.298
University of Exeter	40.072	3.641	46.878	28.247
University of Glasgow	39.293	3.914	47.192	20.264
University of Lancaster	39.276	3.603	45.670	30.561
University of Leeds	39.928	3.643	48.480	26.627
University of Leicester	40.366	2.893	46.958	32.413
University of Liverpool	40.017	3.350	49.885	27.874
University of Manchester	39.974	3.374	47.309	24.010
University of Nottingham	39.639	3.512	47.309	26.280
University of Oxford	41.587	2.763	48.383	31.855
University of Southampton	39.540	3.658	47.895	29.279
University of Swansea	40.385	3.533	46.607	25.649

Exceptionally low-scoring SJT reviews

45 applicants were identified as having an SJT score of 3.5 or more standard deviations below the mean: 10 from UK medical schools and 35 eligibility office applicants. For UK students, their medical schools were informed prior to the applicants being notified of their exceptionally low SJT score.

Applicants were invited to attend an online (Teams) review of their SJT outcome on Thursday 25 February 2021. 32 applicants attended their review meeting (23 (72%) of these were Eligibility Office applicants). One UK graduate did not attend the review.

10 (31% of those reviewed; 22% of those with an exceptionally low score) were successful at the review and were included in the allocation process to FP with their original SJT score. 7 were Eligibility Office applicants, 3 were UK graduates. The remaining 22 applicants who attended the review and the 13 applicants who did not (35 in total) did not meet the national person specification for the foundation programme and were withdrawn from the application process.

Total scores comparison with UKFP 2020

Defence Deanery applicants are not included in the table below.

Table 2.11: FP total scores by medical school

Medical school	FP 2020: SJT + EPM (applicants who accepted an AFP offer earlier in the process are not included)				FP 2021: SJT + EPM (applicants who accepted an AFP offer earlier in the process are included)			
	Ave.	Std. Dev.	Max.	Min.	Ave.	Std. Dev.	Max.	Min.
Brighton and Sussex	80.273	5.984	94.998	65.864	80.610	5.869	95.256	64.918
Cardiff University	80.183	6.786	94.590	35.000	80.834	5.624	94.256	57.254
Eligibility Office	73.752	6.459	90.532	51.471	74.030	6.756	90.446	39.283
Hull and York Medical School	79.497	6.119	94.345	64.547	80.456	5.854	95.256	66.791
Imperial College London	82.010	5.619	97.098	64.593	82.078	5.649	94.225	63.164
Keele University	79.195	5.513	91.084	65.894	81.057	5.679	92.904	66.279
King's College London	81.689	5.800	93.130	52.990	81.693	5.468	94.958	64.288
Newcastle University	80.900	5.845	94.054	60.675	81.300	5.619	95.730	65.269
Norwich Medical School	79.859	6.492	94.166	62.751	80.517	6.039	94.661	58.891

Medical school	FP 2020: SJT + EPM (applicants who accepted an AFP offer earlier in the process are not included)				FP 2021: SJT + EPM (applicants who accepted an AFP offer earlier in the process are included)			
	Ave.	Std. Dev.	Max.	Min.	Ave.	Std. Dev.	Max.	Min.
Plymouth University	79.232	5.872	91.332	61.670	79.046	6.089	91.275	64.677
Queen Mary University of London	81.656	5.598	94.008	66.578	82.089	5.344	94.721	66.972
Queen's University Belfast	80.612	5.767	93.210	59.710	80.916	5.835	94.958	62.010
St George's University of London	79.527	6.155	93.890	58.333	80.370	6.377	95.778	63.247
The University of Edinburgh	82.700	5.925	96.238	62.034	82.354	5.745	94.138	64.677
The University of Sheffield	81.274	5.676	93.060	63.453	81.685	5.539	94.415	62.941
The University of Warwick	82.768	5.801	93.357	57.004	83.339	5.396	94.531	67.162
University College London	82.709	5.299	93.056	63.953	83.115	5.471	96.035	68.173
University of Aberdeen	79.644	6.612	94.514	40.645	80.670	6.907	93.246	56.488
University of Birmingham	81.380	6.158	96.381	57.623	81.021	6.562	93.616	38.755
University of Bristol	81.639	5.762	93.585	66.117	80.961	5.984	93.531	62.054
University of Buckingham	77.756	6.160	91.058	64.180	77.591	5.376	87.167	63.636
University of Cambridge	83.511	5.253	94.431	67.008	84.374	5.473	95.012	59.659
University of Central Lancashire	74.562	6.906	89.166	63.263	75.836	5.460	85.555	62.576
University of Dundee	80.674	6.463	94.394	64.583	80.686	6.806	94.075	61.298
University of Exeter	80.231	5.757	92.100	60.293	80.089	6.413	94.490	63.247
University of Glasgow	80.752	5.798	93.906	65.756	80.013	6.654	94.192	57.264
University of Lancaster	79.726	5.685	92.688	67.716	80.059	6.247	90.638	65.561
University of Leeds	82.043	6.373	94.912	60.348	81.486	6.151	93.436	62.627
University of Leicester	80.696	5.369	94.101	67.429	81.189	5.930	95.300	66.791
University of Liverpool	80.684	5.592	92.946	65.656	81.059	5.644	92.885	65.747
University of Manchester	80.430	6.039	94.219	61.328	81.191	5.818	93.531	60.010
University of Nottingham	81.131	5.771	92.529	65.853	80.636	5.878	94.309	62.280
University of Oxford	83.106	5.047	94.660	70.057	84.546	4.857	95.383	70.855
University of Southampton	81.711	6.119	94.708	63.135	80.377	5.697	93.895	65.386
University of Swansea	82.328	4.508	90.991	70.013	82.598	5.425	91.605	69.649
Totals	80.659	6.284	97.098	35.000	80.647	6.416	96.035	38.755

Preferences

Applicants ranked the 20 foundation schools in their order of preference between October 2020 and February 2021.

The table below shows first choice preferences and competition ratios by foundation school in March 2021. Any unfilled FPP places were moved into the FP allocation process, resulting in more FP places to be filled than originally advertised in October 2020. There were 6,844 places to be filled in March 2021.

Table 2.12: Competition ratios by UoA just before UoA allocation (March 2021)

Unit of Application (UoA)	Programmes	First preference	Competition ratio
East Anglia	251	121	0.48
Essex, Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire (EBH)	260	148	0.57
Leicestershire, Northamptonshire & Rutland (LNR)	158	87	0.55
North Central and East London/North West London	562	1409	2.51
North West of England	786	810	1.03
Northern	329	293	0.89
Northern Ireland	236	185	0.78
Oxford	215	310	1.44
Peninsula	184	175	0.95
Scotland	812	805	0.99
Severn	261	310	1.19
South Thames	742	679	0.92

Unit of Application (UoA)	Programmes	First preference	Competition ratio
Trent	296	192	0.65
Wales	358	214	0.60
Wessex	290	216	0.74
West Midlands Central	180	266	1.48
West Midlands North	222	91	0.41
West Midlands South	152	87	0.57
Yorkshire and Humber	550	431	0.78

Primary list

In addition to the 528 AFP and 237 FPP posts that were filled, there were 6,844 standard FP places available at the time of the national allocation in March 2021 (including any unfilled FPP places converted to standard FP places). The highest scoring applicants were placed on the primary allocation list. At the time of the primary list allocation, 100% of places were filled.

A total of 7,338 applicants remained in the application process at the time of the primary list allocation: 6,661 UK nominees and 677 Eligibility Office applicants. A total of 6,844 (93%) applicants were allocated to the primary list, 94% of whom were allocated to one of their top five foundation schools. In line with previous years, 75% of applicants allocated to the primary list were allocated to their first preference, with 83% of applicants being placed at one of their top two foundation schools. Slightly over 6% of primary list applicants were allocated to a preference choice lower than five.

Of the 6,844 applicants allocated to the primary list, 6,453 (94%) were nominated by UK medical schools and 391 (6%) applied through the eligibility process.

Table 2.13: National allocation results

Applicants	Number of applicants included in the process	Number allocated to the primary list	Percentage allocated to the primary list	Number placed on the reserve list	Percentage placed on the reserve list
UK nominees	6,661	6,354	95%	306	5%
Eligibility Office	677	490	72%	188	28%
Totals	7,338	6,844	93%	494	7%

Linked applications

Applicants were able to link their FP application to another applicant, so they are placed in the same foundation school. This link is honoured providing neither accepts an SFP or FPP offer, they both score highly enough to be allocated to the primary list and they rank all foundation schools in the same order. Linked applicants were allocated to foundation school using the score of the lower scoring applicant.

436 applicants allocated to the primary list were linked: 218 linked pairs. A total of 27 linked pairs were broken as part of the allocation process.

Special circumstances

152 applicants were pre-allocated to a particular foundation school on the grounds of special circumstances as part of the primary list allocation – 2.07% of those applicants allocated as part of the primary list.

26 Eligibility Office applicants approved for pre-allocation remained in the process at the time of national allocation and 18 of these were allocated as part of the primary list (17 were granted criterion 1, one was granted criterion 3).

Table 2.14: Special circumstances granted by criterion (primary list allocation)

Criterion	Description	Number	Percentage
1	Parent/legal guardian of child under 18	75	49%
2	Primary carer for disabled person	21	14%
3	Medical condition requiring local treatment	47	31%
4	Unique Circumstances	9	6%
Total		152	

Reserve list

Table 2.15: Applicants on the reserve list by home UoA

Unit of application (UoA)	Number of home students on reserve list	Percentage of applicants on reserve list
East Anglia	10	2%
EBH*	N/A	N/A
LNR	9	2%
North Central and East London	15	3%
North West London	7	1%
North West of England	43	9%
Northern	10	2%
Northern Ireland	11	2%
Oxford	7	1%
Peninsula	16	3%
Scotland	59	12%
Severn	13	3%
South Thames	31	6%
Trent	16	3%
Wales	9	2%
Wessex	11	2%
West Midlands Central	11	2%
West Midlands North	3	1%
West Midlands South	2	0%
Yorkshire and Humber	23	5%
Eligibility Office	188	38%
Total	494	

*There is no local medical school linked to EBH Foundation School.

The UKFPO allocated all reserve list applicants as soon as notifications of vacant posts were received due to primary list applicant withdrawals and failed medical school finals.

For UKFP 2021, 140 additional programmes were created to ensure all eligible applicants were allocated to a foundation training place by Thursday 10 June 2021 (there were two batch allocations, one on 20 May and one on 10 June).

Of the 188 Eligibility Office applicants who were placed on the reserve list, 10 graduated from UK medical schools. The table below includes all nominees and the 10 Eligibility Office applicants who graduated from UK medical schools.

Table 2.16: Applicants on the reserve list by UK medical school

Medical school	Number of FP applicants	Number on reserve list	Percentage on reserve list
Brighton and Sussex Medical School	109	6	5.50%
Cardiff University	264	8	3.03%
Hull and York Medical School	125	7	5.60%
Imperial College London	272	7	2.57%

Medical school	Number of FP applicants	Number on reserve list	Percentage on reserve list
Keele University	108	3	2.78%
King's College London	314	7	2.23%
Newcastle University	381	10	2.62%
Norwich Medical School	110	5	4.55%
Plymouth University Peninsula Schools	88*	9	10.23%
Queen Mary University of London	284	10	3.52%
Queen's University Belfast	251	11	4.38%
St George's University of London	313	23	7.35%
The University of Edinburgh	196	5	2.55%
The University of Sheffield	182	5	2.75%
The University of Warwick	146	2	1.37%
University College London	277	5	1.81%
University of Aberdeen	178	14	7.87%
University of Birmingham	266	11	4.14%
University of Buckingham	73	7	9.59%
University of Bristol	269	13	4.83%
University of Cambridge	223	5	2.24%
University of Central Lancashire	46	9	19.57%
University of Dundee	157	15	9.55%
University of Exeter	110	7	6.36%
University of Glasgow	265	25	9.43%
University of Lancaster	42	5	11.90%
University of Leeds	198	12	6.06%
University of Leicester	173	9	5.20%
University of Liverpool	270	10	3.70%
University of Manchester	390	19	4.87%
University of Nottingham	308	16	5.19%
University of Oxford	140	0	0.00%
University of Southampton	212	11	5.1%
University of Swansea	74	1	1.35%
Totals	6,814	312	5.28%

* includes 2 applicants graduating from The Peninsula College of Medicine and Dentistry

As in previous years, foundation schools were notified of applicants from their linked UK medical schools who were expected to be placed on the reserve list by the UKFPO the day before allocations were released. Mechanisms were put in place for pastoral support for UK students/graduates in this situation.

All applicants on the reserve list were informed of their rank within their cohort.

UKFP 2021 Allocation Results

The table below provides the number and percentage of applicants included in the national allocation who selected each foundation school as their first preference (“1st pref”), the number of applicants allocated to places who did not rank the school as their first preference (“not-1st pref”), the number and percentage of applicants who were pre-allocated based on special circumstances (SCs), and the lowest scores for allocated applicants by foundation school (excluding and including those with SCs). This table includes FP applicants not withdrawn at the time of the national allocation. Applicants who accepted an AFP/FPP offer earlier in the process are not included.

Table 2.17: FP allocation results by foundation school

Unit of application (UoA)	Places*	No. allocated to 1st pref	No. allocated to top 5 prefs	No. allocated to not-1st pref	% allocated to 1st pref	% allocated to top 5 prefs	% allocated to not-1st pref	Lowest placed pref	Lowest allocated score (exc. SC)	No. allocated via SCs	% allocated via SCs	Lowest allocated score (inc. SC)
East Anglia	251	114	207	137	45%	82%	55%	10	73.306	2	1%	73.306
EBH	260	101	259	159	39%	100%	61%	6	77.315	4	2%	75.727
LNR	158	80	127	78	51%	80%	49%	11	73.133	3	2%	72.662
North Central and East London	332	317	332	15	95%	100%	5%	2	84.134	23	7%	70.661
North West London	230	230	230	0	100%	100%	0%	1	84.680	20	9%	70.757
North West of England	786	702	769	84	89%	98%	11%	7	74.968	16	2%	72.968
Northern	329	284	317	45	86%	96%	14%	13	71.826	5	2%	70.538
Northern Ireland	236	185	207	51	78%	88%	22%	19	70.603	2	1%	70.603
Oxford	215	170	215	45	79%	100%	21%	3	79.959	9	4%	73.450
Peninsula	184	154	178	30	84%	97%	16%	9	73.582	2	1%	72.333
Scotland	812	773	803	39	95%	99%	5%	8	72.264	14	2%	70.665
Severn	261	230	261	31	88%	100%	12%	5	77.924	4	2%	77.924
South Thames	742	478	742	264	64%	100%	36%	4	78.528	22	3%	70.962
Trent	296	189	238	107	64%	80%	36%	17	71.181	3	1%	71.181
Wales	358	214	277	144	60%	77%	40%	19	70.547	1	0%	70.547
Wessex	290	191	267	99	66%	92%	34%	8	75.357	4	1%	75.357
West Midlands Central	180	157	180	23	87%	100%	13%	5	77.753	5	3%	76.572
West Midlands North	222	83	167	139	37%	75%	63%	13	71.644	0	0%	71.644
West Midlands South	152	81	126	71	53%	83%	47%	9	73.421	1	1%	73.421
Yorkshire and Humber	550	425	524	125	77%	95%	23%	11	71.505	12	2%	71.484
Totals / Overall	6,844	5,158	6,426	1,686	75%	94%	25%	19	70.547	152	2%	70.538

*All FPP places that were not filled through offers were placed into the FP allocation, therefore the total number of FP places available for UoA allocation is higher than the original number of places advertised in October 2020.

Table 2.18: Primary list allocations by medical school

Medical school	Number applied	Number of applicants in FP allocation**	Allocated to primary list	Percentage allocated to primary list
Brighton and Sussex Medical School	124	109	103	94.50%
Cardiff University	288	264	256	96.97%
Hull and York Medical School	147	124	117	94.35%
Imperial College London	311	272	265	97.43%
Keele University	126	108	105	97.22%
King's College London	350	312	305	97.76%
Newcastle University	325	296	286	96.62%
Norwich Medical School	145	110	105	95.45%
Non-UK medical schools	628	524	390	74.43%
Plymouth University Peninsula Schools	91	88	79	89.77%
Queen Mary University of London	315	282	272	96.45%
Queen's University Belfast	270	251	240	95.62%
St George's University of London	294	260	242	93.08%
The University of Edinburgh	216	195	190	97.44%
The University of Sheffield	212	182	177	97.25%
The University of Warwick	167	144	142	98.61%
UK Med School*	161	154	100	64.94%
University College London	310	277	272	98.19%
University of Aberdeen	195	178	164	92.13%
University of Birmingham	303	266	255	95.86%
University of Buckingham	75	73	66	90.41%
University of Bristol	280	269	256	95.17%
University of Cambridge	264	222	217	97.75%
University of Central Lancashire	53	46	37	80.43%
University of Dundee	175	157	142	90.45%
University of Exeter	122	110	103	93.64%
University of Glasgow	294	264	239	90.53%
University of Lancaster	46	42	37	88.10%
University of Leeds	225	197	186	94.42%
University of Leicester	193	173	164	94.80%
University of Liverpool	289	270	260	96.30%
University of Manchester	426	389	370	95.12%
University of Nottingham	333	306	290	94.77%
University of Oxford	169	139	139	100.00%
University of Southampton	227	211	200	94.79%
University of Swansea	75	74	73	98.65%
Totals	8,224	7,338	6,844	93.27%

* UK Med School denotes those who graduated from UK medical schools who applied through the Eligibility Office.

** Excludes those who accepted AFP/FPP offers.

This table includes FP applicants not withdrawn at the time of allocation on Thursday 11 March 2021.

The table below shows the number and percentage of applicants from each medical school allocated to their first preference, one of their top five preferences and those allocated to a preference lower than their top five preferences. All data below includes applicants who were pre-allocated based on special circumstances. Percentages are based on the number of applicants allocated to the primary list (see table above).

Table 2.19: Preference allocation results by medical school

Medical school	Number of FP applicants allocated to first preference	Percentage of FP applicants allocated to first preference	Number of FP applicants allocated to top 5 preference	Percentage of FP applicants allocated to top 5 preference	Number of FP applicants allocated lower than top 5 preference	Percentage of FP applicants allocated lower than top 5 preference
Brighton and Sussex	71	68.93%	96	93.20%	7	6.80%
Cardiff University	211	82.42%	247	96.48%	9	3.52%
Hull and York Medical School	92	78.63%	113	96.58%	4	3.42%
Imperial College London	181	68.30%	238	89.81%	27	10.19%
Keele University	84	80.00%	100	95.24%	5	4.76%
King's College London	193	63.28%	277	90.82%	28	9.18%
Newcastle University	257	89.86%	278	97.20%	8	2.80%
Norwich Medical School	74	70.48%	92	87.62%	13	12.38%
Non-UK medical schools	175	44.87%	308	78.97%	82	21.03%
Plymouth University	59	74.68%	75	94.94%	4	5.19%
Queen Mary University of London	183	67.28%	260	95.59%	12	4.41%
Queen's University Belfast	210	87.50%	232	96.67%	8	3.33%
St George's University of London	141	58.26%	207	85.54%	35	14.46%
The University of Edinburgh	156	82.11%	181	95.26%	9	4.74%
The University of Sheffield	155	87.57%	174	98.31%	3	1.69%
The University of Warwick	118	83.10%	140	98.59%	2	1.41%
UK Med School*	53	53.00%	86	86.00%	14	14.00%
University College London	192	70.59%	256	94.12%	16	5.88%
University of Aberdeen	145	88.41%	160	97.56%	4	2.44%
University of Birmingham	195	76.47%	244	95.69%	11	4.31%
University of Buckingham	34	51.52%	57	86.36%	9	13.64%
University of Bristol	187	73.05%	235	91.80%	21	8.20%
University of Cambridge	170	78.34%	211	97.24%	6	2.76%
University of Central Lancashire	27	72.97%	35	94.59%	2	5.41%
University of Dundee	132	92.96%	138	97.18%	4	2.82%
University of Exeter	76	73.79%	94	91.26%	9	8.74%
University of Glasgow	217	90.79%	233	97.49%	6	2.51%
University of Lancaster	32	86.4%	35	94.59%	2	5.41%
University of Leeds	149	80.11%	180	96.77%	6	3.23%
University of Leicester	135	82.32%	159	96.95%	5	3.05%
University of Liverpool	210	80.77%	251	96.54%	9	3.46%
University of Manchester	289	78.11%	356	96.22%	14	3.78%
University of Nottingham	241	83.10%	283	97.59%	7	2.41%
University of Oxford	111	79.86%	137	98.56%	2	1.44%
University of Southampton	141	70.50%	186	93.00%	14	7.00%
University of Swansea	62	84.93%	72	98.63%	1	1.37%
Totals	5,158	75.37%	6,426	93.89%	418	6.11%

* UK Med School denotes those who graduated from UK medical schools who applied through the eligibility process.

This table includes FP applicants not withdrawn at the time of allocation on Thursday 11 March 2021. Applicants who accepted an AFP/FPP offer earlier in the process are not included.

Table 2.20: Home UoA allocations by UK medical school

Medical school	Number allocated to home UoA	Percentage allocated to home UoA	Number allocated home UoA who ranked home UoA First	Percentage of first preference allocations to home UoA
Brighton and Sussex Medical School	20	19.42%	16	80.00%
Cardiff University	125	48.83%	111	88.80%
Hull and York Medical School	43	36.75%	40	93.02%
Imperial College London	23	8.68%	23	100.00%
Keele University	20	19.05%	17	85.00%
King's College London	101	33.11%	75	74.26%
Newcastle University	162	56.64%	156	96.30%
Norwich Medical School	27	25.71%	21	77.78%
Plymouth University Peninsula Schools	19	24.05%	18	94.74%
Queen Mary University of London	37	13.60%	37	100.00%
Queen's University Belfast	144	60.00%	139	96.53%
St George's University of London	66	27.27%	45	68.18%
The University of Edinburgh	108	56.84%	103	95.37%
The University of Sheffield	85	48.02%	80	94.12%
The University of Warwick	37	26.06%	31	83.78%
University College London	46	16.91%	46	100.00%
University of Aberdeen	123	75.00%	118	95.93%
University of Birmingham	41	16.08%	39	95.12%
University of Buckingham	5	7.58%	3	60.00%
University of Bristol	38	14.84%	32	84.21%
University of Cambridge	46	21.20%	36	78.26%
University of Central Lancashire	8	21.62%	8	100.00%
University of Dundee	112	78.87%	110	98.21%
University of Exeter	30	29.13%	27	90.00%
University of Glasgow	184	76.99%	182	98.91%
University of Lancaster	18	48.65%	18	100.00%
University of Leeds	72	38.71%	62	86.11%
University of Leicester	39	23.78%	35	89.74%
University of Liverpool	107	41.15%	103	96.26%
University of Manchester	162	56.64%	156	92.86%
University of Nottingham	117	40.34%	100	85.47%
University of Oxford	28	20.14%	25	89.29%
University of Southampton	57	28.50%	49	85.96%
University of Swansea	27	36.99%	26	96.30%
Totals	2,283	35.93%	2,087	91.41%

* Figures cited regarding FP preferences figures taken just before national UoA allocation. The data therefore excludes any applicant withdrawals until the national allocation run.

Match to programme results

Applicants who had been allocated to foundation schools who employ a two-stage matching process received notifications of their match to group results on Monday 22 March 2021. Following this, 6,829 applicants were matched to programmes on Thursday 8 April 2021. 15 applicants withdrew their application after the release of primary list allocation results and before local matching processes were carried out.

The table below shows the number of places available, the number of applicants matched to individual programmes and the fill rate by foundation school.

Table 2.21: Match to programme results by foundation school

Unit of application (UoA)	Number of FP places available*	Number of applicants matched to programmes	Fill rate
East Anglia	251	250	99.60%
Essex, Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire (EBH)	262	262	100.00%
Leicestershire, Northamptonshire & Rutland (LNR)	158	156	98.73%
North Central and East London	333	333	100.00%
North West London	230	230	100.00%
North West of England	786	785	99.87%
Northern	329	327	99.39%
Northern Ireland	236	235	99.58%
Oxford	215	215	100.00%
Peninsula	184	183	99.46%
Scotland	812	811	99.88%
Severn	262	262	100.00%
South Thames	744	744	100.00%
Trent	296	295	99.66%
Wales	358	354	98.88%
Wessex	290	289	99.66%
West Midlands Central	180	180	100.00%
West Midlands North	222	219	98.65%
West Midlands South	152	150	98.68%
Yorkshire and Humber	550	549	99.82%
Totals	6,850	6,829	99.69%

* Includes all FPP places not filled through offers, which were converted to regular FP places. Additional places were also created to accommodate all eligible applicants.

Table 2.22: Applicant profile of those matched to individual FP programmes

Medical school category	Applicants matched to programme
UK medical school	6,344
UK medical school – qualified before 5 August 2018	98
Non-UK medical school	387
Total	6,829

Reserve list batch allocations

At the end of April 2021 there were 60 unfilled foundation training places across the programme and 484 applicants remained on the reserve list. 140 additional training places were identified in May 2021, as well as further vacancies due to applicant withdrawals. The first group of applicants on the reserve list were allocated to foundation school on 20 May 2021. 150 additional training places were identified in June 2021, as well as further vacancies due to applicant withdrawals. The 249 applicants remaining on the reserve list were allocated to foundation school on Thursday 10 June 2021. 468 applicants were allocated as part of the reserve list and all applicants still in the process received an allocation.

Table 2.23: Reserve list batch allocations by foundation school

Foundation school	Applicants allocated – first batch	Applicants allocated – second batch
East Anglia	11	15
Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire (EBH)	2	23
Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland (LNR)	10	7
North Central and East London	6	9
North West London	1	9
North West of England	24	15

Foundation school	Applicants allocated – first batch	Applicants allocated – second batch
Northern	10	11
Northern Ireland	7	9
Oxford	9	2
Peninsula	8	3
Scotland	29	41
Severn	9	10
South Thames	27	23
Trent	9	9
Wales	10	7
Wessex	14	14
West Midlands Central	4	1
West Midlands North	10	13
West Midlands South	8	13
Yorkshire and Humber	11	15
Totals	219	249

First reserve list batch allocation

219 applicants were allocated in the first reserve list (RL) batch: 146 UK nominees and 73 Eligibility Office applicants. 17 inter-foundation school transfers (IFSTs) were also made in this batch. 264 applicants remained on the reserve list: 154 UK nominees and 110 Eligibility Office applicants.

Table 2.24: Applicants on reserve list after first batch allocation by home foundation school and medical school

Nation	Foundation school	Medical school	Applicants on RL
England	East Anglia	Cambridge (University of), School of Clinical Medicine	3
		Norwich Medical School, University of East Anglia	2
	LNR	Leicester (University of), Leicester Medical School	4
	North Central and East London	Queen Mary, University of London	3
		University College London, University College Medical School	1
	North West London	Imperial College School of Medicine, London	3
	North West of England	Lancaster University, Faculty of Health & Medicine	2
		Liverpool (University of), Faculty of Health and Life Sciences	8
		Manchester (University of), Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences	9
		University of Central Lancashire	7
	Northern	Newcastle University Medical School	3
	Oxford	University of Buckingham	4
	Peninsula	Exeter (University of), Medical School	5
		Plymouth University Peninsula Schools of Medicine and Dentistry	2
	Severn	Bristol (University of), Faculty of Medicine	4
	South Thames	Brighton and Sussex Medical School	4
		King's College London School of Medicine	5
		St George's, University of London	8
	Trent	Nottingham (The University of), Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences	6
	Wessex	Southampton (University of), School of Medicine	7
West Midlands Central	Birmingham (University of), School of Medicine	8	
West Midlands North	Keele University, School of Medicine	1	
West Midlands South	Warwick (The University of), Warwick Medical School	2	

Nation	Foundation school	Medical school	Applicants on RL
	Yorkshire and Humber	Hull York Medical School	4
		Leeds (University of), School of Medicine	6
Northern Ireland		Queen's University Belfast, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences	6
Scotland		Aberdeen (University of), School of Medicine	9
		Dundee (University of), Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing	10
		Edinburgh (The University of), College of Medicine	12
		Glasgow (University of), College of Medical, Veterinary and Life Sciences	12
Wales		Cardiff University, School of Medicine	3
Eligibility Office			110
Total			264

Second reserve list batch allocation

249 applicants were allocated in the second reserve list batch: 150 UK nominees and 99 Eligibility Office applicants.

Each nation supported the proposal to create additional places and were allocated additional funding where necessary by the relevant statutory education body (SEB). Additional places were identified across the four nations based on the number of home students remaining on the reserve list and with a proportionate distribution of the number of eligibility applicants who were still awaiting allocations. Where possible, foundation schools allocated additional reserve list applicants to established posts where deferrals were expected due to COVID-19 and/or where late notifications of withdrawals were received.

Academic Foundation Programme (AFP)

A separate vacancy was set up on Oriel for each Academic unit of application (AUoA). The content of the vacancies was standardised. Individual programmes were advertised as part of each AUoA vacancy, which applicants had to preference as part of the application form.

Each AUoA had the option to include a maximum of 6 white space questions (WSQs) as part of the 'supporting' section of the application form; 11 opted to include between 1 and 6 WSQs.

The AFP match ranking score comprised of the EPM decile score + AUoA score. The AUoA score was determined locally, as in previous years.

Applications to AFP

A total of 534 AFP places were advertised across the UK for 2021; 462 in England, 9 in Northern Ireland, 51 in Scotland and 12 in Wales. Vacancies were advertised by 15 AUoAs.

2,426 applications were submitted (each FP applicant was able to submit applications to up to two AUoAs).

Table 3.1: AFP applications (five-year comparison)

Applications to AFP	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of AFP applications submitted	2,169	2,729	2,778	2,558	2,426

Table 3.2: Ratio of originally advertised vacancies to applications by AUoA

AUoA	Posts	Applications	Vacancies: applications ratio
East Anglia - Cambridge	24	136	5.67
East Anglia - Norfolk	12	17	1.42
East Midlands	35	83	2.37
Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire (EBH)	22	101	4.59
London and South East	127	650	5.12
North West of England	57	294	5.16
Northern	21	63	3.00
Northern Ireland	9	46	5.11
Oxford	21	208	9.90
Scotland	51	164	3.22
South West	24	175	7.00
Wales	12	41	3.42
Wessex	13	48	3.69
West Midlands	42	144	3.43
Yorkshire and Humber	63	256	4.06
Totals	534	2,426	4.54

AFP offers

There was a single national offers date, followed by three cascade offer dates where applicants were able to accept or decline offers. After the third cascade, AUoAs could choose to contact applicants directly to try to fill any outstanding places; this is referred to as the 'mop-up' process. 760 AFP offers were made for the 540 AFP places. 529 offers were accepted, with 11 out of the 15 AUoAs filling all their posts. The overall fill rate for AFP was 98.32% across the UK.

There was the option for AFP programmes that were left unfilled to be converted to FP programmes for inclusion in the FP allocation process.

Table 3.3: Fill rates by AUoA

Academic unit of application (AUoA)	Number of vacancies	Number of offers accepted	Fill rate
East Anglia: Cambridge	24	22	91.67%
East Anglia: Norfolk and Norwich	12	12	100.00%
East Midlands	35	35	100.00%
Essex, Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire (EBH)	22	19	86.36%
London and South East	127	127	100.00%
North West of England	57	57	100.00%
Northern	21	21	100.00%
Northern Ireland	9	9	100.00%
Oxford	24*	24	100.00%
Scotland	51	51	100.00%
South West	25	25	100.00%
Wales	12	12	100.00%
Wessex	13	13	100.00%
West Midlands	42	40	95.24%
Yorkshire and Humber	63	61	96.83%
Totals	537	528	98.32%

* Oxford usually runs 24 AFPs; for UKFP 2021 they originally advertised 21 programmes (see table 2.1) but added the final three back in before offers were made.

Table 3.4: Number of offers accepted by medical school

Medical school	Number of offers accepted
Brighton and Sussex Medical School	7
Cardiff University	16
Hull and York Medical School	18
Imperial College London	36
Keele University	11
King's College London	24
Newcastle University	12
Norwich Medical School	18
Non-UK medical schools	10
Plymouth University Peninsula Schools	3
Queen Mary University of London	22
Queen's University Belfast	14
St George's University of London	24
The University of Edinburgh	11
The University of Sheffield	22
The University of Warwick	16
UK Med School*	2
University College London	30
University of Aberdeen	10
University of Birmingham	28
University of Buckingham	1
University of Bristol	8
University of Cambridge	33
University of Central Lancashire	5
University of Dundee	6
University of Exeter	8
University of Glasgow	14
University of Lancaster	2
University of Leeds	18
University of Leicester	11
University of Liverpool	13
University of Manchester	26
University of Nottingham	10
University of Oxford	27
University of Southampton	12
University of Swansea	0
Totals	528

* UK Med School used for UK graduates applying through the Eligibility Office.

Foundation Priority Programmes (FPP)

Foundation Priority Programmes (FPP) have been developed to support specific areas of the UK that have historically found it difficult to attract and retain doctors through the foundation and specialty recruitment and training processes. FPPs are specifically designed to attract and retain doctors in remote, rural and coastal geographies, under-doctored geographies and shortage specialties, including psychiatry. These programmes offer a range of incentives. FPP places were available in 14 of the 20 foundation schools, including the devolved nations. 350 priority programme places were initially advertised for UKFP 2021. Successful applicants were offered specific programmes before national allocation to foundation schools.

FPP applications

All eligible applicants had the option to apply for FPP once they had submitted their FP application:

- 1,517 (18.45% of all FP applicants) applicants applied for FPP

- 1,274 were UK nominees (17.14% of UK nominees who applied to FP)
- 243 were applicants who applied through the eligibility process (30.76% of eligibility FP applicants).

Table 4.1: Applications for FPP by home foundation school

Home foundation school	Eligible applicants who applied for FP	Number of applicants who applied for FPP	Percentage of FP applicants who applied for FPP
East Anglia	409	90	22.00%
Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire (EBH)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland (LNR)	193	43	22.28%
North Central and East London	625	89	14.24%
North West London	311	33	10.61%
North West of England	814	130	15.97%
Northern	325	69	21.23%
Northern Ireland	269	33	12.27%
Oxford	244	43	17.62%
Peninsula	213	42	19.72%
Scotland	880	151	17.16%
Severn	280	33	11.79%
South Thames	768	159	20.70%
Trent	333	53	15.92%
Wales	363	33	9.09%
Wessex	227	39	17.18%
West Midlands Central	303	51	16.83%
West Midlands North	126	29	23.02%
West Midlands South	167	31	18.56%
Yorkshire and Humber	584	123	21.06%
Eligibility Office	790	243	30.76%
Totals	8,224	1,517	18.45%

Applicants who had applied for FPP were asked to rank all the available FPP places they were interested in receiving an offer for in their order of preference. Applicants were able to preference places in any foundation school in any order.

FPP offers

At the time of offers, there were 350 posts available. The cut-off score for the primary list as 70.54. Applicants with a score of 70.54 or above were therefore considered in the offers matching process for FPP. Of the 1,517 applicants who applied for FPP, 537 applicants received offers over three rounds (any declined/expired offers were recycled into the next round).

Table 4.2: FPP offers by foundation school

Foundation school	FPP places	Offers made	Offers accepted	Offers declined	Offers expired	Fill rate
East Anglia	41	62	24	26	12	58.54%
Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire (EBH)	42	77	30	31	16	71.43%
Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland (LNR)	16	27	11	7	9	68.75%
Northern	85	105	51	28	26	60.00%
Northern Ireland	8	9	4	3	2	50.00%
Peninsula	2	4	1	2	2	50.00%
Scotland	51	68	37	20	11	72.55%
South Thames	28	55	22	19	14	78.57%
Trent	30	38	14	15	9	46.67%
Wales	9	11	6	3	2	66.67%
Wessex	1	1	1	0	0	100.00%

West Midlands North	9	16	9	4	3	100.00%
West Midlands South	15	31	13	9	9	86.67%
Yorkshire and Humber	28	33	14	11	8	50.00%
Totals	365*	537	237	178	122	64.93%

* 15 additional programmes were added before the FPP preferencing window was closed (350 FPP places were advertised originally)

Table 4.3: Unfilled FPP places by foundation school

Foundation school	Places filled	Places unfilled	Unfilled rate
East Anglia	24	17	41.46%
EBH	30	12	28.57%
Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland (LNR)	11	5	31.25%
Northern	51	34	40.00%
Northern Ireland	4	4	50%
Peninsula	1	1	50.00%
Trent	14	16	53.33%
Scotland	37	14	27.45%
South Thames	22	6	21.43%
Wales	6	3	33.33%
Wessex	1	0	0.00%
West Midlands North	9	0	0.00%
West Midlands South	13	2	73%
Yorkshire and Humber	14	14	50.00%
Totals	237	128	35.07%

Table 4.4: FPP offers by applicant medical school

Medical School	Accepted	Declined	Expired	Total	Accepted rate
Aberdeen (University of)	4	1	1	6	66.67%
Birmingham (University of)	6	7	7	20	30.00%
Brighton and Sussex	7	2	3	12	58.33%
Bristol (University of)	2	3	3	8	25.00%
Buckingham (University of)	1	0	2	3	33.33%
Cambridge (University of)	5	3	1	9	55.56%
Cardiff University	6	1	1	8	75.00%
Central Lancashire (University of)	2	0	0	0	100.00%
Dundee (University of)	9	1	1	11	81.82%
Edinburgh (The University of)	10	7	3	20	50.00%
Exeter (University of)	2	4	0	6	33.33%
Glasgow (University of)	13	8	3	24	54.17%
Hull York Medical School	5	2	2	9	55.56%
Imperial College	3	7	2	12	25.00%
Keele University	6	5	1	12	50.00%
King's College London	12	7	9	28	42.86%
Lancaster University	2	2	1	5	40.00%
Leeds (University of)	8	3	1	12	66.67%
Leicester (University of)	9	5	6	20	45.00%
Liverpool (University of)	5	5	1	11	45.45%
Manchester (University of)	7	5	8	20	35.00%
Newcastle University	19	8	10	37	51.35%
Norwich Medical School	16	5	3	24	66.67%
Nottingham (The University of)	14	10	2	26	53.85%
Non-UK Medical School	20	25	11	56	35.71%
Oxford (University of)	3	10	2	15	20.00%
Plymouth University Peninsula Schools of Medicine and Dentistry	0	1	4	5	0.00%
Queen Mary, London	10	8	8	26	38.46%
Queen's University Belfast	5	3	1	9	55.56%

Medical School	Accepted	Declined	Expired	Total	Accepted rate
Sheffield (The University of)	4	4	2	10	40.00%
Southampton (University of)	4	7	2	13	30.77%
St George's, London	9	7	8	24	37.50%
Swansea University	0	0	0	0	0.00%
University College London	3	8	7	18	16.67%
Warwick (The University of)	6	4	6	16	37.50%
Totals	237	178	122	537	44.13%

Psychiatry Foundation Fellowships (PFF)

Since FP2020, the Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCPsych) appoint 40 psychiatry foundation fellows, in collaboration with the UKFPO, through a competitive process. The posts are located across England only but applicants from all four nations are eligible to apply. The scheme aims to identify FP applicants with an interest in psychiatry as a potential career choice and to support them through to application for specialty training.

As well as having access to educational opportunities relevant to psychiatry, foundation doctors also access funded weekly supervision by a senior psychiatrist and attend reflective Balint groups. This is to introduce a strong emphasis on the psychological aspects of medicine to enhance the educational opportunities afforded in non-psychiatric placements. Fellows may also choose to be linked to RCPsych faculties for additional mentoring in a potential subspecialty of interest.

Applicants with a keen interest in psychiatry were encouraged to submit a separate application for PFF. The RCPsych scored all applications and provided a shortlist of applicants who were eligible to receive an offer. No interviews were held. Offers for these posts were made after AFP and FPP offers and national allocation to foundation schools. Offers were made based on the RCPsych PFF application score, not on total FP score, to applicants who were still in the process at the time (that is, to those who had not accepted an AFP/FPP offer, opted out of PFF or withdrawn by then). PFF applicants allocated to a foundation school that did not have PFF posts did not receive any PFF offers.

PFF applications

40 PFF places were advertised. All nominated and eligible applicants had the option to apply for PFF once they had submitted their FP application. 181 (2.20%) applicants applied for PFF; 148 UK nominees (1.99% of UK nominees) and 33 applicants (4.18% of eligibility applicants) who applied through the eligibility process.

Table 5.1: Applications for PFF by Foundation School

Home foundation school	Applicants for FP	Applicants for PFF	% applicants for PFF
East Anglia	409	13	3.18%
Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire (EBH)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland (LNR)	193	6	3.11%
North Central and East London	625	14	2.24%
North West London	311	5	1.61%
North West of England	814	14	1.72%
Northern	325	10	3.08%
Northern Ireland	269	2	0.74%
Oxford	244	7	2.87%
Peninsula	213	4	1.88%
Scotland	880	5	0.57%
Severn	280	8	2.86%
South Thames	768	26	3.39%
Trent	333	7	2.10%
Wales	363	5	1.38%

Home foundation school	Applicants for FP	Applicants for PFF	% applicants for PFF
Wessex	227	5	2.20%
West Midlands Central	303	4	1.32%
West Midlands North	126	1	0.79%
West Midlands South	167	3	1.80%
Yorkshire and Humber	584	9	1.54%
Eligibility Office	790	33	4.18%
Totals	8,224	181	2.20%

Of the 181 applicants, 174 were deemed appointable.

PFF appointments

At the time of the offers process, 74 applicants were not eligible to receive an offer for the following reasons:

- accepted an AFP/FPP offer
- withdrawn from the FP/PFF process
- placed on the reserve list
- allocated to a UoA with no PFF places

For the remaining 100 applicants, offers were managed offline in PFF score order. 36 applicants accepted their PFF offer – the lowest rank (based on PFF score, not FP total score) of an applicant who accepted their offer was 133. 4 PFF places were not filled with PFF applicants and were converted to standard FP places.

Table 5.2: PFF appointments by foundation school

Foundation school	Posts	Appointed	Fill rate
East Anglia	3	3	100%
Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire (EBH)	2	2	100%
Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland (LNR)	2	2	100%
North West of England	3	3	100%
Northern	5	4	80%
Oxford	2	2	100%
Peninsula	3	3	100%
Severn	3	3	100%
South Thames	2	2	100%
Trent	2	2	100%
Wessex	3	3	100%
West Midlands Central	1	1	100%
West Midlands North	3	3	100%
West Midlands South	2	0	0%
Yorkshire and Humber	4	3	75%
Totals	40	36	90%

Table 5.3: PFF appointments by medical school

Medical school	Applied	Appointed
Birmingham (University of)	4	0
Brighton and Sussex Medical School	3	1
Bristol (University of)	8	2
Cambridge (University of)	8	2
Cardiff University	5	0
Edinburgh (University of)	3	1
Exeter (University of)	4	1
Glasgow (University of)	2	0
Hull York Medical School	2	1

Medical school	Applied	Appointed
Imperial College School of Medicine	5	0
Keele (University of)	1	0
King's College London	10	2
Leeds (University of)	3	0
Leicester (University of)	6	3
Liverpool (University of)	6	1
Manchester (University of)	6	2
Newcastle University Medical School	10	4
Non-UK medical schools	33	5
Norwich Medical School	5	2
Nottingham (The University of)	7	0
Oxford (University of)	7	2
Queen Mary, University of London	7	2
Queen's University Belfast	2	0
Sheffield (The University of)	4	0
Southampton (University of)	5	1
St George's, University of London	13	2
University College London	7	0
University of Central Lancashire	1	1
Warwick (The University of)	3	1
Totals	181	36

Final position in August 2021

At the start of the programme in August 2021, foundation doctors commenced in over 97% of foundation training places across the UK.

A total of 8078 applicants were matched to foundation training places for the 2021 Foundation Programme. This is comprised of

- 529 accepted offers for AFP (/536 posts)
- 237 accepted offers for FPP (/346 posts)
- 6844 primary list allocations
- 468 reserve list allocations

Academic Foundation Programmes

529 academic foundation training posts were filled before national allocation to standard FP places. Six unfilled places were included in the standard national allocation to foundation schools and one place was left vacant.

Foundation Priority Programmes

237 foundation training posts were filled through the priority programmes initiative before national allocation to standard FP places. In most cases, any unfilled priority programmes were included in the national allocation to foundation schools.

Primary list

The primary list allocation results were released shortly after midnight on Thursday 11 March 2021. 6,844 applicants were matched to foundation school. The primary list comprised 6,354 (93%) UK nominees and 490 (7%) applicants who applied through the UKFPO's Eligibility Office. Of the total number of UK medical school graduates included in the allocation, 95% were allocated to the primary list.

Reserve list

494 applicants were placed on the reserve list – 306 (62%) were UK medical school nominees and 188 (38%) were eligibility applicants.

Following applicant withdrawals from both the primary list and reserve list, plus the creation of 140 additional training places, 219 reserve list applicants were allocated to foundation training places across the UK on Thursday 20 May 2021. Of these, 146 (67%) were UK nominees and 73 (33%) Eligibility Office applicants. 264 applicants remained on the reserve list.

Following further withdrawals and the creation of a further 150 additional training places, the remaining 249 applicants on the reserve list were allocated to foundation training places across the UK on Thursday 10 June 2021. Of these, 150 (60%) were UK nominees and 99 (40%) were Eligibility Office applicants.

A further number of allocated applicants withdrew/were withdrawn before the start of the UKFP 2021, for a variety of reasons, such as failing language/clinical skills exams and medical school finals and personal circumstances. Due to this, some foundation schools had vacancies at the start of the training year. Efforts were made to fill the maximum possible number of established foundation training posts.

Table 6.1: Position and fill rates at the start of the training year in August 2021

Foundation school	Places in March 2021 (exc AFP/FPP)	Final places total (inc additional posts, exc AFP/FPP)	Applicants placed*	Unfilled places	Fill rate
East Anglia	251	263	259	4	98.48%
Essex, Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire (EBH)	262	283	277	6	97.88%
Leicestershire, Northamptonshire & Rutland (LNR)	158	170	164	6	96.47%
North Central and East London	333	345	345	0	100.00%
North West London	230	239	235	4	98.33%
North West of England	786	798	791	7	99.12%
Northern	329	338	326	12	96.45%
Northern Ireland	236	242	227	15	93.80%
Oxford	215	218	220	0	100.00%
Peninsula	184	190	182	8	95.79%
Scotland	812	845	824	21	97.51%
Severn	262	271	272	0	100.00%
South Thames	744	777	760	17	97.81%
Trent	296	308	292	16	94.81%
Wales	358	369	343	26	92.95%
Wessex	290	314	301	13	95.86%
West Midlands Central	180	183	180	3	98.36%
West Midlands North	222	237	221	16	93.25%
West Midlands South	152	167	160	7	95.81%
Yorkshire and Humber	550	565	549	16	97.17%
Totals	6,850	7,122**	6,928	194***	97.28%***

* This is slightly more than the number of places at some schools as some applicants were placed in job-shares, allowing the school to take more applicants from the reserve list. Fill rate shown as 100% if more placed applicants than places.

** Slightly less than the number of additional places originally created (290) were added to the recruitment process (272) due to further withdrawals before the end of the recruitment period

*** These statistics should be taken with consideration of the fact that additional posts were created to accommodate all applicants on the reserve list, some of whom later withdrew.