



NUI Galway  
OÉ Gaillimh

College of Medicine,  
Nursing & Health Sciences

# Medicine



 Athena  
SWAN  
Bronze Award

[www.nuigalway.ie/medicine](http://www.nuigalway.ie/medicine)

# Studying Medicine at NUI Galway

The medical curriculum in Galway is a modern integrated, systems-based, modular programme, following which you will be conferred with the degrees of Bachelor of Medicine (MB), of Surgery (BCh) and of Obstetrics (BAO). This is an innovative and relevant curriculum, in which your learning is centred on the systems of the healthy body and the treatments required when these systems are affected by disease. Our focus is on patients and on training our students to deliver the best patient outcomes, and to be caring and ethical as well as highly competent in the process. This educational approach is delivering very positive outcomes for our medical students, who are now leading strongly in national prize schemes, such as the Henry Hutchinson Stewart Medical Scholarships, a competition run annually in the NUI universities across 16 different categories, which is open to students of medicine and nursing and related health areas.

At NUI Galway, we aim to prepare you for practising medicine anywhere in the world by equipping you with the necessary clinical diagnostic and therapeutic skills. Your classmates will include the best students from all over the globe who have chosen to study medicine at NUI Galway because of its long-established reputation for excellence and student support.

We promote community engagement through our volunteering programme, and students are supported in pursuing their sporting interests or even joining our talented medical school orchestra. Double Olympian sprinter Dr. Paul Hession graduated from NUI Galway in 2014 and he is now training to be an anaesthetist!

We offer a unique range of Special Study Modules (SSMs) in a wide range of topics, from Paramedic Skills to Medicine and the Arts. At NUI Galway, we are committed to helping you become the best doctor you can be, so that you can make a positive difference in the field of medicine. We also have an active undergraduate research programme.

## Course Facts

### Bachelor of Medicine (MB) of Surgery (BCh) and of Obstetrics (BAO)

**CAO Code:** GY501

**CAO entry points:** 726  
Undergraduate entry to medicine for school leavers is based on both: achieving a minimum of 480 points (and meeting the minimum subject entry requirements for the programme in the same sitting of the Irish Leaving Certificate Examination [or equivalent\*]) and completing the required admissions test (HPAT-Ireland) within the 1year period immediately preceding admission to the medicine programme.

**Duration:** 6 years or 5 years (if student has Physics, Chemistry and Biology)

**Average intake:** 118 divided between 5 and 6 year programmes

#### Entry requirements

**Medicine (8 years)** Students entering the medical programme have the opportunity also to engage in a PhD degree through a period of dedicated research, so that after successful completion of a period that is likely to be eight years, both the medical degree and PhD are conferred. Students of the medical programme who are interested in doing a PhD will undergo a selection process at the mid-point of their medical studies. This will include an assessment of their academic performance to date and an interview. Limited financial support is provided for the additional three years. The programme and the research themes are agreed at the commencement of the research. Please contact the Medical School for further details ([schoolofmedicine@nuigalway.ie](mailto:schoolofmedicine@nuigalway.ie))

**Medicine (6 years)** Minimum Grade H5 in two subjects and passes in four other subjects at 06/07 level in the Leaving Certificate including: Irish, English, another language, Mathematics, a laboratory science subject i.e. Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Physics with Chemistry (joint) or Agricultural Science and any other subject recognised for entry purposes.

**Medicine (5 years)** In addition to the 6 year requirements, a minimum H4 in two of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Physics/Chemistry, and Agricultural Science is required. Places in the 5 year course are limited, further information is available at [www.nuigalway.ie/admissions](http://www.nuigalway.ie/admissions)

**Additional requirements** Students must satisfy the Garda Vetting and Medical Clearance requirements.

# The HPAT Test

The admissions test for Medicine is called HPAT-Ireland (Health Professions Admission Test Ireland). This test is independently administered by ACER (Australian Council for Educational Research). The HPAT-Ireland test measures a candidate's logical reasoning and problem solving skills, as well as non-verbal reasoning and the ability to understand the thoughts, behaviour and/or intentions of people.

The HPAT Test does not test subject knowledge and candidates do not require special understanding of any academic discipline. However, some familiarity with the question types typically presented in HPAT-Ireland would be an advantage - sample questions are available at [www.hpat-ireland.acer.edu.au](http://www.hpat-ireland.acer.edu.au).

Information on how to purchase further HPAT-Ireland Practice Materials is also available on the HPAT-Ireland website. The test results will complement the Leaving Certificate Examination assessment for selecting applicants for admission to an undergraduate Medical School programme.

Please note that the HPAT test is now valid for one year only.

---

## Course Outline

The Medicine programme combines theoretical learning and clinical practice. The modules you will study emphasise the basic and cognitive sciences, which provide a basis for understanding modern health care. Students also learn clinical and communication skills, as well as patient contact. The end of the programme is dedicated to the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for professional practice.

As students gain experience, they assume greater responsibility and undertake clinical placement rotations in a network of affiliated hospitals and general practices in Galway and around the West of Ireland.

### Foundation Year

- Physics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Foundations of Medicine

### Year 1

- Anatomy
- Biochemistry
- Pharmacology
- Physiology
- Cardiovascular System
- Gastro-intestinal System
- Human Nutrition
- Renal System
- Respiratory System
- Professionalism

### Year 2

- Central Nervous System
- Endocrinology
- Genetics
- Molecular Medicine
- Reproduction and Development
- Drugs and Disease
- Health and Disease
- Organ Failure
- Professionalism

### Year 3

- Forensic Medicine
- Health and Disease
- Global Health and Development
- Professionalism
- Cardiovascular Studies
- Respiratory Medicine, Perioperative and Critical Care
- Gastrointestinal Studies
- Geriatric & Stroke Medicine
- General Medicine / General Surgery



## Year 4

- Psychiatry
- Paediatrics
- Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- General Practice
- ENT
- SSM

## Year 5

- Cardiovascular Studies
- Gastrointestinal Studies
- Respiratory , Critical and Perioperative Care Medicine
- General Medicine/General Surgery
- Musculoskeletal Studies
- Renal/Urology Studies
- Neurology/Ophthalmology Studies
- Dermatology/Plastics
- Cancer Studies

Preparedness for Clinical Practice

- Clinical Simulation
- Junior Internship

## Mature Entry

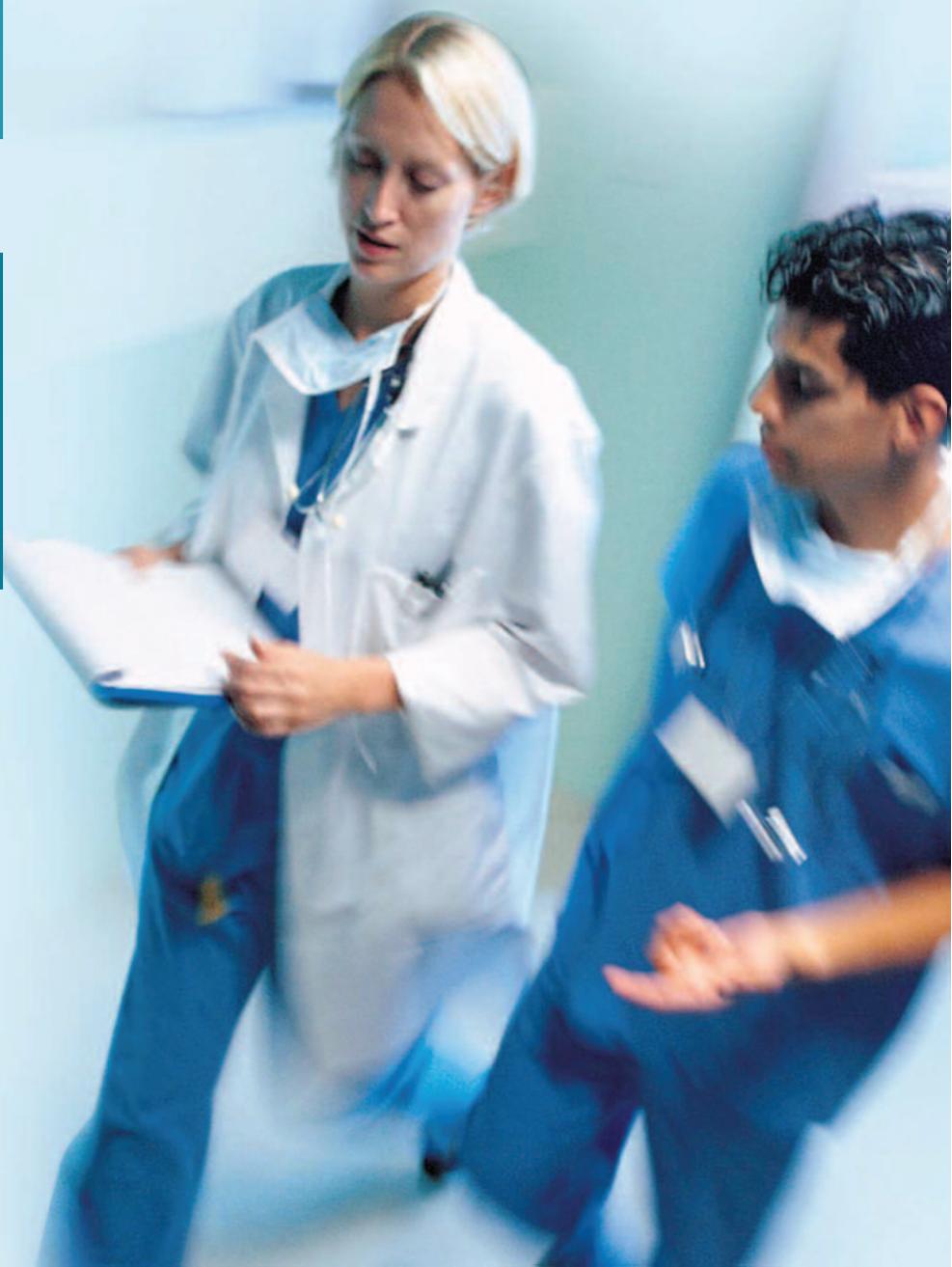
The School of Medicine at NUI Galway has a limited number of places for Mature Students in its undergraduate medicine programme. Only three places can be offered to Mature Students, and a very rigorous and fair selection process for these places is essential.

## Clinical Placement

Our team of highly qualified and experienced medical educators are committed to nurturing individual students and helping them to fulfil their potential. We provide high quality instruction, using the latest technologies in our state-of-the-art campus facilities and throughout the network of medical academies in Galway and the local region. All students spend one full clinical year at one of our four associated medical academies – Mayo University Hospital Castlebar, Letterkenny University Hospital, Portiuncla Hospital Ballinasloe and Sligo University Hospital.

### *Did you know*

The School of Medicine at NUI, Galway has a long established ERASMUS tradition, with partner Medical Schools in Universities in 3 European countries, France, Germany, and Sweden. In addition we also have an exchange partnership with the medical school in the University of Lausanne. Students spend 2 to 4 months on ERASMUS in the host university in the second semester of third year.



# Career Opportunities

Graduates have the opportunity to work in:

- Hospitals
- Private Practice
- Education and Research
- Community Rehabilitation Services
- Pharmaceutical Companies
- Medical Device Manufacturers
- Health Insurance Companies

Honours graduates can also pursue higher degrees in a wide range of related disciplines:

- Doctor of Medicine, MD
- Master of Surgery, MCh
- PhD
- Postgraduate Diploma and Master of Medical Science (Health Informatics)
- Postgraduate Diploma and Master of Medical Science (Endovascular Surgery)
- Postgraduate Diploma and Master of Health Sciences (Clinical Education)
- Postgraduate Certificate (Clinical Primary Care)
- Master of Science (Regenerative Medicine)
- Master of Science (Medical Physics)
- Master of Science (Clinical Research)
- Master of Science (Preventive Cardiology)
- Master of Science (Multidisciplinary Radiology)
- Master of Science (Healthcare Simulation & Patient Safety)
- Master of Science (Cellular Manufacturing & Therapy)
- Master of Science (Microscopy & Imaging)
- Postgraduate Diploma (Orthopaedic & Rheumatological Medicine)

# Work placement

In partnership with Saolta University Healthcare Group, the School of Medicine assists in an Intern Placement Scheme. The purpose of the scheme is to ensure that medical graduates receive the appropriate training and experience to become registered physicians. We work hard to ensure that as many graduates as possible obtain 12 months placement in recognised intern posts in our teaching and affiliated hospitals.

## Student Profile



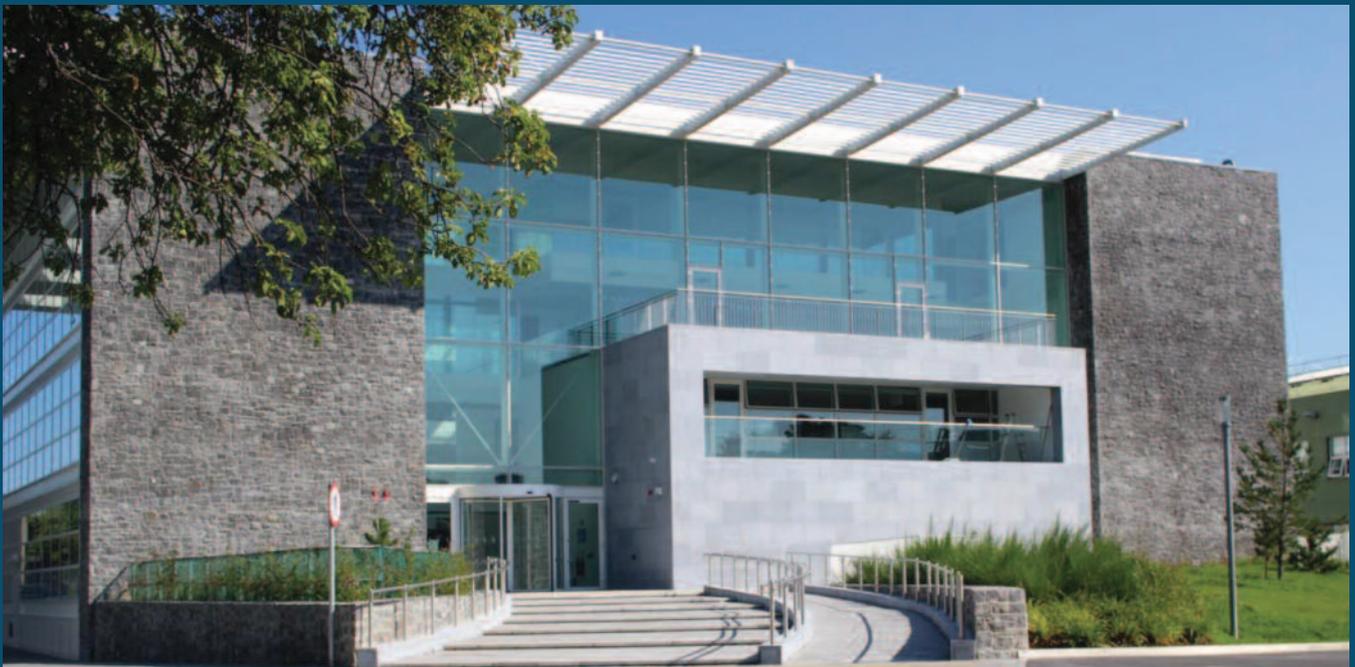
*"Hi my name is Chloe and I'm one of the final year medical students at NUI Galway. Clicking 'ACCEPT GY501' on the morning of offers over four years ago was just the beginning of a fantastic journey. I couldn't recommend choosing NUI Galway more as it has proved to be a university that fosters academic excellence and personal growth in an environment where classmates, tutors and lecturers are friendly and*

*approachable nestled in the wider community of Galway city that is bustling with life, excitement and opportunity. Choose medicine at NUI Galway and have the time of your life.*

**Chloe Conlon**

## Did you know

The School has an excellent record of student engagement and encouraging student volunteering. You will have the opportunity for summer work overseas in developing countries where your new skills in healthcare will be put to good use.



In 2017 a Human Biology Building was completed which provides teaching and research facilities for undergraduate and postgraduate students. The facility includes a state of the art Human Biology Research Center, including a research and teaching mortuary facility. All teaching in the preclinical years will be take place here!

## Did you know

We offer a unique range of Special Study Modules (Student Selected Components) in a wide range of topics ranging from Paramedic Skills to Medicine and the Arts. The range of Special Study Modules (Student Selected Components) is constantly being developed and expanded. The modules currently on offer in first and second year of the Medicine programme include:

### YEAR 1

Basic Surgical Skills  
 Presentation Skills  
 BioInnovation  
 Vascular Surgery  
 Medicine and the Arts  
 Complementary Medicine  
 Community CPR Instruction  
 Creativity  
 Management of the Addicted Patient  
 Travel Medicine  
 Sign Language  
 Regenerative Medicine  
 SIMMed Skills  
 The Patient's Voice  
 Narrative Medicine  
 Pre-hospital Emergency Care  
 Sexual Health  
 Teanga an Leighis  
 Under the Microscope  
 Clinical Dermatology  
 Traditional Chinese Medicine  
 Applied Bioinformatics  
 Cancer Research  
 Oral Medicine

### YEAR 4

GALWAY  
 OrthoSim  
 Sexual Health  
 Becoming better at behaviour change  
 Self-management of diabetes mellitus: what does it really mean?  
 Mental illness in modern medicine – current concepts and interface with primary and secondary care  
 Paediatric HIV - From the 1980s to the 21st century  
 Plant-derived pharmaceuticals  
 Regeneration of the Animal Kingdom  
 Healthcare in Resource Poor Settings  
 Prevention of drowning in fishermen – causes, culture, rescue, safety equipment  
 Head and Neck Dissection  
 Leadership in medicine  
 Translational Science  
 Pain  
 Mindfulness  
 Surgical Skills

### DONEGAL MEDICAL ACADEMY

Advanced Resuscitation Room Care  
 Applied Surgical Anatomy  
 The Effect of Lung Disease on Quality of Life  
 Infant feeding  
 Mindfulness  
 Teenage Diabetes  
 SLIGO MEDICAL ACADEMY  
 Air Sea and Land Rescue  
 Community Engagemnet  
 Living with Epilepsy  
 Sports Injuries  
 Mental Illness in Modern Medicine  
 Nutrition in the clinical setting  
 How to get ahead of the game and get published  
 History SSM  
 Palliative Care  
 Simulation  
 MAYO MEDICAL ACADEMY  
 Healthcare in Resource Poor Settings  
 Resilience in medicine  
 Foundations of Sexually Transmitted Infections  
 Mental Illness in Modern Medicine  
 Applied Surgical Anatomy