

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 undertake their Foundation Years training through the Defence Foundation Programme. Following FY and officer training, General Duties Medical Officers (GDMOs) are posted to a RAF station GP Training Practice until their professional training begins. During this time, GDMOs will experience life on a working RAF station at first hand.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Medical Sponsorship

Age: 21 - 47*

*Candidates can be accepted up to age 47 as you require professional training.

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 will 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.

A Modern Force:

The RAF recognises the value of a person's ability no matter their ethnicity, social background, religion or belief, gender identity, sexual orientation or marital status/civil partnership.

Pay

In addition to payment of Tuition Fees and Registration Fees, the indicative Cadetship pay (based on the April 2019 pay review) rates are as follows:

On Appointment	Penultimate year at medical school		£16,797
After 1 Year in Rank	Final year at medical school		£18,826
Year 3	Foundation Year 1 Full Registration with GMC		£44,903 (Flying Officer)
Year 4	Foundation Year 2		£59,319 (A/Flight Lieutenant)
Year 5	Military Induction Training¹		£60,994
	General Duties time on station		
	Secondary Health Care	Primary Health Care	
Year 6-8	Core Training	GP Specialist Training	From £62,678
Year 9+	Higher Training	Consolidate as a GP	
Typical starting salary on completion of specialist training: Accredited GP £106,000, Accredited first year consultant £95,000			
¹ Training Courses during Year 5			
• 12 weeks Specialist Officers Initial Training Course (SOITC) (RAFC Cranwell)			
• 1 week Initial Medical, Dental and Nursing Officers Course			
• 2 weeks Initial Medical Officer (Aviation Medicine) Course (Priority to Flying Stations)			

The Medical, Dental and Physiotherapist Specialist 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.gov.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 online by 31 October prior to the academic year in which you hope to be sponsored. Successful applicants will be awarded sponsorship from the start of the following September term.

Cadetship Upgrade Selection:

An upgrade from a bursary to a cadetship is competitive and dependent upon passing an upgrade selection interview. This is assessed by a panel of senior Medical Officers, the MDRT and members of the RAF sponsorship team. You will also be assessed for evidence of satisfactory academic performance, service knowledge, continuing good character and maintaining a satisfactory level of physical fitness whilst a bursar.

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. The availability and number of specialist training places will be subject to the needs of the Service, resulting in some individuals not being able to pursue their primary choice of medical career; Paediatric, Geriatrics and Obstetrics & Gynaecology are permanently excluded.

To register your interest in this role online:

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment>

or

Telephone:

0345 605 5555

This information was last updated on 26 Feb 20 but may have changed since. If you have any queries, please check with RAF Staff at any Armed Forces Careers Office.

Regular Recruitment Visit: <https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment>