



Medicine and Graduate

THINK BEYOND

Why has St. George's University gained such a good reputation?

St. George's University's graduates have practiced medicine in over 35 countries. They also practice in virtually every subspecialty and frequently hold academic medicine positions in US and other medical schools.

All external organizations that have conducted formal reviews with site visits of the medical program at St. George's University have given their approval. State Education Departments across the United States and various Government Councils around the world have evaluated the program, and St. George's University has received a favorable review each time, meeting or exceeding all standards. In 1996, the US Department of Education reviewed the standards of medical education in 30 countries for the purpose of student loans. Grenada was one of four countries approved during the initial review; the United Kingdom, Australia and Canada were the other three. Other countries have subsequently been approved.

In 1996, a US state medical licensure board, in its official report, described St. George's University as the "premier institution in the Caribbean which easily compares to most medical schools in the United States." St. George's University has a strong clinical program, consisting of over 50 affiliated hospitals, some unified into clinical centers, which offer students a cohesive and progressive program of clinical education.

How do St. George's University's students fare on external examinations?

98% of examinees from the last ten graduating classes of St. George's University School of Medicine have passed the USMLE Step 1 and Step 2 examinations.

What is the average class size?

Approximately 325 new students matriculate each term (August and January).

Who will teach me in the basic science years?

One of the major strengths of our faculty, besides their credentials and commitment to teaching, is the length of their service at the School of Medicine.

Many have taught at St. George's University School of Medicine for more than half of the School's existence; some have been here from the beginning. This has engendered a continuity and progression of curriculum and program development. Teaching is the major concern of the faculty, although research projects are ongoing on the campus. The student: faculty ratio is 9:1 in the basic sciences.



Medicine and Graduate

THINK BEYOND

How long will it take me to complete the medical program?

Four Years. The medical program is generally completed in four calendar years. Those who matriculate in Fall 2004 will graduate in Spring 2008. The structure of the program is one of five academic years broken down into 30 to 35 weeks each. Students spend two calendar years in the West Indies, completing their basic sciences, and continue on to two years of clinical training at our affiliated hospitals in the US, the UK or the Caribbean. Students who pursue the dual-degrees offered in Public Health (MD/MPH) or Research (MD/MSc) will spend at least one extra term of study during their basic science years.

Why is St. George's clinical training superior to that of other non-US medical schools?

Unlike schools that put students in any open clinical spots available, St. George's offers a highly integrated system of affiliated hospitals and Clinical Centers, all of whose core rotations have ACGME-approved residency training programs running concurrently.

Why is it important to look for concurrent ACGME-approved residency training programs?

Many key states in the United States will not license graduates of non-US schools if any of their core rotations were done at hospitals without concurrent ACGME-approved residency training programs. Our program in the United Kingdom is similar to that in the United States.

Do I have to do rotations in the US, the UK and the Caribbean?

St. George's clinical training program provides many options to our students. Our wide variety of clinical training sites include Clinical Centers (large programs where students may elect to stay for their entire clinical training) and a number of smaller, affiliated hospital programs in places like California, Florida, and Michigan. Although our students may elect to complete their clinical training in one Clinical Center, hospital or country, those students who choose to take advantage of all that St. George's has to offer will benefit from exposure to the breadth of medicine as it is practiced and taught in the Caribbean, the United States and the United Kingdom.

Do I have to find my own clinical rotations?

Each and every one of our clinical students is placed by our Office of Clinical Studies after deciding what his/her preferences are for clinical training location. Each student is then shepherded through training by a dedicated team of long-term faculty members in a cohesive and structured medical program. All of our hospital and Clinical Center affiliations are led by an on-site Director of Medical Education and a Clerkship Director



Medicine and Graduate

THINK BEYOND

in each core rotation. This educational program results in a 99% US residency placement rate for our eligible US graduates.

What is the attrition rate?

Our attrition rate in the first two years is generally 1-2% for personal reasons and 3-5% for academic reasons. The attrition rate in the final two years is almost negligible.

Can I transfer into St. George's University?

St. George's University does not seek, and rarely accepts, advanced standing students. Candidates must write a letter to the Board of Admissions, which will then determine if the candidate will be allowed to apply for admission with advanced standing. Advanced standing is not granted beyond the beginning of the second year.

Can I transfer from St. George's University to a US medical school?

The chances of transferring to a US medical school from St. George's University range from 5-15%. Due to full US enrollment, there are few seats for advanced standing students available in US medical schools. While St. George's University's students often obtain those available seats, and the faculty and administration will happily support transfer applications, you should not enter St. George's University School of Medicine with the assumption that you can transfer to a US medical school.

What opportunities exist to pursue additional graduate studies while at SGU?

In addition to our Masters in Public Health and Masters of Science, we offer medical students the opportunity to pursue a combined MD/MPH or MD/MSc degree. Our Masters in Science allows students to pursue original, thesis oriented research generally done in the areas of epidemiology, ecology, neuroscience, bioethics, microbiology, immunology, and tropical medicine. Medical students can also do a combined MD/MSc in clinical anatomy and education. We also offer a stand-alone MSc and PhD in clinical anatomy and education and microbiology. The microbiology programs offer concentration in clinical microbiology, marine microbiology, parasitology, mycology, immunology and virology.

Will I be able to obtain a residency?

99% of eligible US graduates who applied obtained ACGME-approved residency positions in 652 hospitals throughout 50 states (from reported alumni information). Our international graduates obtain postgraduate training in the United States, the United Kingdom, or in their home countries.



Medicine and Graduate

THINK BEYOND

Is there support for pursuing my residency and individual career goals?

To support medical students in the selection of a career path and securing of a postgraduate residency, the University has developed an Office of Career Guidance. The OCG, staffed by faculty and alumni, mentors students and graduates in specialty selection, residency placement, CV preparation, interviewing skills, and other details associated with furthering one's medical career.

What specialties of residency positions will be available to me?

The residency positions obtained by SGU graduates reflect the trend in US medicine today, i.e., 76% of our graduates go into primary care specialties. However, graduates practice in virtually all specialties and subspecialties (see charts on facing pages). A list of residencies secured by our graduates can be viewed online at www.sgu.edu.

In what countries have St. George's University's graduates practiced?

Australia
Bahamas
Bahrain
Bangladesh
Bermuda
Botswana
British Virgin Islands
Canada
Colombia
Cyprus
Dutch Antilles
Germany
Grenada
Great Britain
Greece
Hong Kong
Iceland
Israel
Lebanon
Madagascar
Malaysia
Mali
Nigeria
Pakistan
Saudi Arabia



Medicine and Graduate

THINK BEYOND

Senegal
Sierra Leone
South Africa
Sri Lanka
St. Vincent
Taiwan
Thailand
Trinidad
Uganda
United Arab
Emirates
United States
Vietnam
Zimbabwe

When do classes start and what is the deadline for applications?

The School of Medicine begins first-term classes in August and again in January of each year. The Board of Admissions utilizes a rolling admissions policy in the School of Medicine; therefore, applications are accepted on an ongoing basis.

The final deadline for receipt of applications and all supporting documentation is June 15th of the current year for the August class and November 15th of the preceding year for the January class. Prospective candidates should note that entering classes are highly competitive, and applications completed early have the advantage of being reviewed at the beginning of the admissions process.

The time necessary to secure official transcripts, standardized test scores and letters of recommendation should be taken into consideration. The Board reserves the right to defer an application to the following semester if there are no available seats.

What are the average MCAT scores and GPAs*?

Average MCAT Average GPA
Verbal Reasoning 8 Undergraduate 3.2
Physical Science 8 Science Undergraduate 3.1
Biological Science 8 Graduate 3.5

*Registered Freshmen, Fall 2004; North American Matriculated Students.

What is the average grade for those matriculated students who are educated outside of North America?

A "B" average for degree holders or further education beyond the secondary school level.



Medicine and Graduate

THINK BEYOND

Can I complete any of the Premedical Sciences course requirements in Grenada?

The Premedical Sciences years of the MD program are delivered on our True Blue Campus of Grenada, West Indies. These years of study incorporate basic undergraduate courses in reading, writing and mathematics with the necessary science foundation courses for a well-rounded education. The Premedical Sciences curriculum is designed as a firm foundation for the advanced studies offered later in the Medical Sciences years.

How long is the Premedical Sciences Phase?

The Premedical Sciences Phase is three years in length; however, applicants are placed into the appropriate term based on their academic background. The first two years cover the requisite science courses in Biology, Chemistry, Math and Physics and also include General Education and Arts and Humanities courses. The third and final year of the Premedical Sciences consists of upper-level biomedical science courses that provide a sound foundation for the medical school program. Students who do not hold a first degree and enter into the appropriate track are eligible for a bachelor of medical science degree at the completion of the first year of medical school.

What are the requirements for promotion from the 3rd year of Premedical Sciences into the first year of Medical Sciences?

To be eligible for promotion into the first year of Medical Sciences, a student must successfully complete the 3rd Premedical Year with a 3.2 GPA (B+), pass the Premedical Science Comprehensive Examination (PMSCE), and receive a favorable review. Students who enter the Premedical Sciences in the 1st or 2nd year must achieve a "B" average to maintain satisfactory academic progress.

What is the application process?

Upon receipt of your application, the Office of Admissions will inform you if any required supporting documents are missing. As soon as all materials are received, the candidate will be notified that the application is complete and is being reviewed to determine whether an interview will be granted. Applicants are assigned an admissions officer and are given the e-mail address and telephone extensions of their officer.

Must I attend an interview?

Yes, all candidates being considered for acceptance by the Board of Admissions must attend an interview. Approximately 50-60% of all applicants are granted interviews to find those unique individuals who are exceptional candidates for medical school.



Medicine and Graduate

THINK BEYOND

Applicants from the United Kingdom: Can I apply to St. George's University through UCAS?

St. George's University is not a member of UCAS, which means that candidates should apply independently to St. George's University and may still apply to four medical schools through the UCAS system.

Are Advanced Level students penalized in their admissions evaluation if they take a gap year?

No. In evaluating a student for admission, we look beyond academic achievement to the student's relevant work experience, community involvement, commitment to medicine, and range of personal interests. Whether it is a financial necessity or an opportunity to pursue non-academic interests, we recognize that a gap year can be an enriching and rewarding experience for someone preparing for the rigors of medical school.

Applicants from the United Kingdom: Where do the interviews take place?

All applicants are encouraged to visit the Grenada campus for the interview. However, in recognition that time and financial constraints may prohibit a Grenada interview, interviews are conducted regionally throughout the United States, the Caribbean and other countries (the United Kingdom, Canada, Bermuda, Australia, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Botswana, South Africa, Lebanon, UAE, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Taiwan) which best serve the diverse applicant pool.

Is financial aid available?

The School of Medicine has been approved by the US Department of Education to participate in the US government-sponsored student loan program.

There is an alternative loan program which supplements these loans to the cost of attendance for creditworthy US borrowers. The University offers partial loan/scholarship schemes to eligible non-US students. Approximately 80% of St. George's University School of Medicine students uses financial aid to pay for all or part of their educational expenses.

Our Financial Aid counselors are well trained and willing and eager to share their knowledge as you consider the financial aspects of your medical education. Please call them at (631) 665-8500 or (800) 899-6337, extension 232.

How do I obtain more information about tuition and fees?

There are rate cards available from the University that detail the cost of tuition, or you can visit our website at www.sgu.edu.