



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH

Postgraduate Opportunities

2021

Medicine & Biomedical Sciences

www.ed.ac.uk/medicine-vet-medicine/postgraduate

Open to
the world



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH

Top 50[†]

We're consistently ranked one of the top 50 universities in the world. We're 20th in the 2021 QS World University Rankings.

19TH

We're ranked 19th in the world's most international universities‡. Since 2010, we have taught students from 160 countries.

4TH

We're ranked fourth in the UK for research power, based on the 2014 Research Excellence Framework.†

Top 100

We're ranked in the top 10 in the UK and in the top 100 in the world for the employability of our graduates.§

7TH

Edinburgh is ranked the seventh best student city in Europe and 15th in the world.*

19

There are 19 Nobel Prize winners who are alumni of the University or who have been members of academic staff here.

Online leader

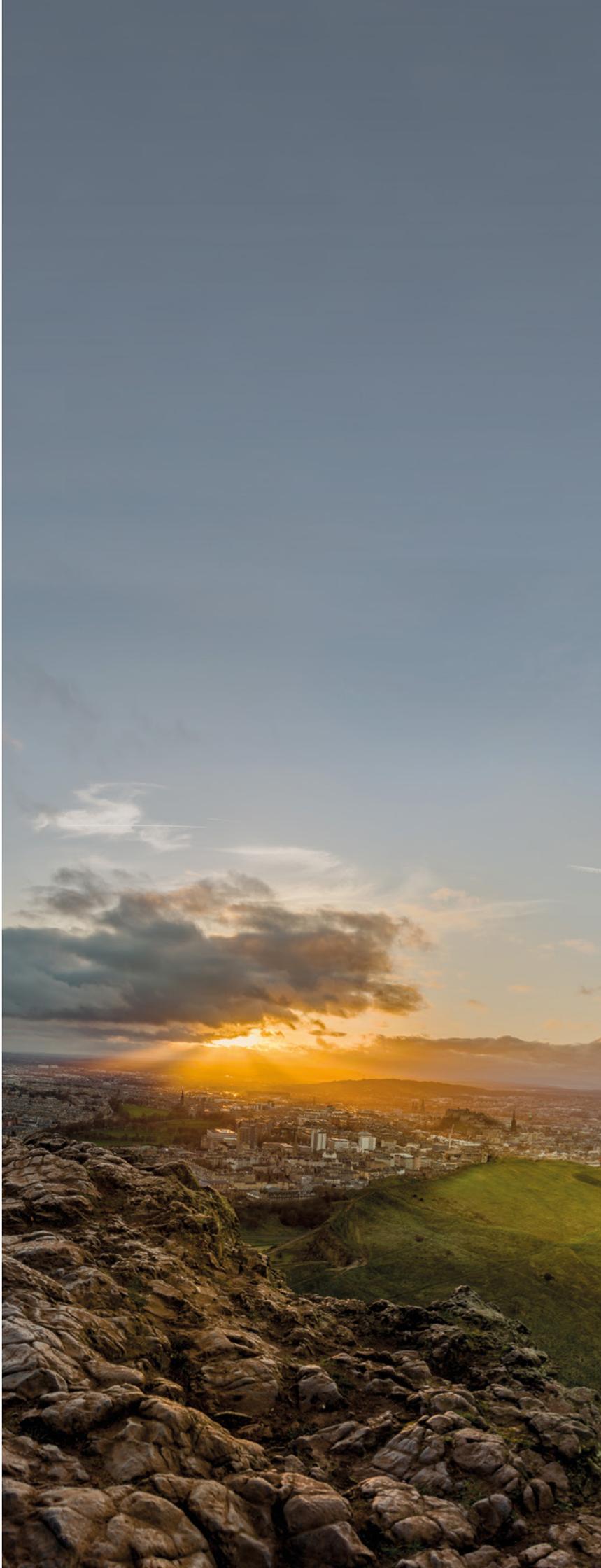
Edinburgh is one of the largest providers of online postgraduate programmes in the UK.

‡ Times Higher Education, The World's Most International Universities 2020

† Times Higher Education, Overall Ranking of Institutions

§ Times Higher Education, Global Employability University Ranking 2019

* QS Best Student Cities 2019



Open to the world

We're open to the world today so we can influence the world tomorrow. The University brings people with new ideas and perspectives together in a spirit of interdisciplinary innovation and collaboration. This has already shaped the world in so many ways, from the great thinkers of the Scottish Enlightenment, to the discovery of the Higgs boson particle and the development of a genetically engineered vaccine for Hepatitis B. Our 21 Schools, across three academic Colleges, embody our approach.



About Edinburgh Medical School

Established in 1726, Edinburgh Medical School was the pre-eminent medical centre of the 18th and 19th centuries. Today it retains its status as a leading force internationally in basic-to-clinical translational research and teaching.

We offer you the opportunity to study in an environment where research is an important component of every student's life, nurturing a way of thinking that will equip you to deliver positive change for humanity. By bringing together clinicians and basic scientists, we create opportunities to develop cutting-edge work that makes a real difference to people's lives.

Here at Edinburgh you will find a broad range of world-leading research centres, including Medical Research Council-funded centres, working side by side. We offer state-of-the-art facilities; co-location and close collaboration with NHS Lothian hospitals; all major imaging technologies; clinical trials support; and commercialisation training and opportunities. Our ground-breaking collaboration with Edinburgh BioQuarter, a landmark life science development on the Little France campus, is establishing Edinburgh and Scotland as one of the world's major centres for biomedical commercialisation.

Breadth and diversity

We offer enormous breadth and depth of research and learning opportunities. Our research themes include:

- cancer;
- cardiovascular science;
- application of basic animal sciences in human and veterinary medicine;
- genetics and molecular medicine;
- global health;
- infectious diseases;
- inflammation;
- neuroscience;
- regenerative medicine; and
- reproductive health.

Research excellence

Edinburgh Medical School is part of the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine. The College's reputation as one of the world's leading centres of medical and veterinary medical research was reaffirmed by the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014 results. The College's three submissions to REF were some of the largest REF submissions in the UK. This emphasises the enormous power of the University's research in human and animal medicine and health. In clinical medicine, 88 per cent of our research activity was rated 4*, world leading, or 3*, internationally excellent, on the overall quality profile. Clinical medicine was the University's largest REF submission and was ranked in the UK top five by research power (*Research Fortnight* REF 2014). In psychology, psychiatry and neuroscience we were ranked fourth in the UK by research power (*Research Fortnight* REF 2014), out of a total of 82 submissions, representing a major advance.

Pioneers and trailblazers

Pioneering staff and students have included the following distinguished individuals:

- Lorna Marson, first female president of the British Transplant Society;
- Sarah Tabrizi, who led the fight against Huntington's Disease;
- Clara Mpanga Munthali, first female Malawian graduate of surgical sciences;
- Lorna Williamson, pioneer of blood, stem cell and tissue donation for transplantation;
- Gertrude Herzfeld, Scotland's first female practising surgeon;
- Joseph Lister, discoverer of life-saving antiseptic;
- Charles Darwin, world-renowned naturalist and author of *On the Origin of Species*;
- Sir James Young Simpson, pioneer of chloroform use;
- Margaret Barry, the first woman to graduate from a British medical school;

- William Gregory, who devised a procedure for crystallising morphine, opening up its use for pain relief;
- James Horton, who was one of the first Africans to study medicine in Europe;
- Sir George Beatson, the father of oophorectomy;
- Sir John Crofton, who led the team that developed a cure for tuberculosis, the biggest killer of adults in the western world at the time;
- Sir Paul Nurse, who discovered several key regulators of the cell cycle, a breakthrough for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize;
- Sir Robert Edwards, awarded the Nobel Prize in recognition of his role in pioneering in vitro fertilisation or IVF;
- Sir Kenneth Murray, one of the pioneers of DNA sequencing methods and inventor of the first genetically engineered vaccine for hepatitis B;
- Matthew Kaufman, one of the first scientists to culture the embryonic stem cells of mice and cultivate them in a laboratory, paving the way for stem cell research;
- Ian Frazer, who discovered that human papilloma virus (HPV) could develop into cervical and other types of cancer.

Structure

Edinburgh Medical School consists of three Deaneries:

- Edinburgh Medical School: Biomedical Sciences
- Edinburgh Medical School: Clinical Sciences
- Edinburgh Medical School: Molecular, Genetic & Population Health Sciences.

Edinburgh Medical School offers key programmes in medical and clinical education.

Global influence

Medical research at the University has an impact in more than 100 countries, including many developing countries, and benefits millions of individuals in areas such as sleeping sickness, childhood pneumonia prevention, reduction in blood transfusions, more effective cardiovascular and liver surgery, ovarian cryopreservation and stroke prevention and management. Our 'one medicine, one health' strategy is built upon the integration of research from bench to bedside and from process to population. We are constantly developing global networks and innovative research opportunities with partner institutions. Our suite of practical and clinically appropriate online learning qualifications enables students to train in their own countries to deliver the services so desperately needed by their communities. Edinburgh Medical School has more than 1,000 online learning students from 100 countries around the globe.

Our teaching and learning ethos

Interdisciplinary research and high-quality teaching are at the heart of our ethos. Clinical and basic scientists work closely together linking basic and translational research goals. This allows us to offer you an outstanding educational experience with a wide range of interdisciplinary opportunities and learning outcomes.

Our association with the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies provides further opportunities for collaboration and interaction. We aim to provide you with all the support and training you require to enhance your career and allow you to reach your full potential.



Our community

Our aim is to foster a close community of postgraduate staff and students.

We know that informal structures can play an enormous role in the quality of your university experience, so we encourage you to make connections with your tutors and fellow students and take advantage of all opportunities to nurture these networks and link into wider communities of interest.

There is a wide range of seminar series, and team building and development exercises that are made available through the Institute for Academic Development (see page 5).

You should also consider joining professional societies, as they can be beneficial to your postgraduate training and can afford you membership of a wider academic community. In many cases, societies offer travel grants for students, and membership usually entitles you to reduced or waived registration fees for society meetings.

Masters student community

If you study on-campus as a masters student, you will work as closely as possible with your classmates through tutorials, lectures and seminars, becoming part of a close-knit group over the duration of your degree.

However, distance isn't a barrier if you choose to study your masters degree online. Students studying online are a diverse group from all over the world, united by their academic interests. By using our interactive learning environment, our online students and academic tutors maintain a supportive, virtual community that ensures successful online study. Distance is not a barrier to graduation either, as you can attend your graduation ceremony either in person or virtually.

Research student community

If you are a research student, you will join an individual research centre within the College. Within each centre there are social and academic opportunities to integrate with the wider postgraduate community, such as seminar series, team building and development exercises at College and University level, or through the University's Postgraduate Society.

Research students are encouraged to get to know each other and interact through a series of induction activities within their Deanery and through campus-based postgraduate societies.

You are encouraged to interact with the wider University postgraduate community through cross-school networks such as Edinburgh Neuroscience, Edinburgh Infectious Diseases and the Edinburgh Immunology Group, and by participating in the University-wide Three Minute Thesis competition.

You are also encouraged to take part in public engagement events to actively communicate your work to an audience outside the University. Networking spaces are vital in the fostering of a strong community and we are fortunate to have excellent communal spaces for this purpose on all our campuses.



Employability and graduate attributes

The University is here to support you in the successful completion of your postgraduate training and to prepare you for your career. We provide information and advice on how to plan your career and develop the skills you will need now and in the future.

Throughout your postgraduate studies we support you with advice and training on effective study, exams and assignments, numeracy and data analysis, specific postgraduate writing skills, and finding and using academic sources. We offer learning opportunities to develop your information and IT skills, for personal development and to help you work, study and research more effectively.

We run a series of workshops for taught masters students, specifically Masters Study Skills: Critical Reading, Essay Planning and Writing. Our research students can develop their planning skills, professional development, communication and IT skills through a wide range of courses developed specifically with the medical and veterinary medicine sectors in mind.

Institute for Academic Development

All postgraduate students can benefit from our Institute for Academic Development (IAD), which provides information, events and courses to develop the skills you will need throughout your studies and in the future. IAD events also offer the perfect opportunity to meet and network with other postgraduates from across the University.

Further information is available online:
www.ed.ac.uk/iad/postgraduates

For taught postgraduates, the IAD provides a popular study-related and transferable skills support programme. It is designed to help you settle into postgraduate life, succeed during your studies and move confidently to the next stage of your career. It offers on-campus and online workshops and one-to-one study skills consultations, as well as online advice and learning resources in the Study Hub (www.ed.ac.uk/iad/studyhub). The programme and learning resources cover key study skills tailored to different academic stages, including prearrival sessions; getting started with your studies; critical reading, writing and thinking; managing your exams; and planning for and writing up your dissertation.

IAD also provides a comprehensive programme of transferable-skills training, resources and support for researchers completing a doctorate. The programme consists of workshops that are designed to help you successfully prepare for the various milestones of your PhD, from getting started with your research, to writing up and preparing for the viva, as well as developing personal and professional skills that can be transferred to your future employment. Workshops cover topics such as writing skills, reference management tools, statistics, preparing for conferences, delivering presentations, time and project management, and personal development. IAD also offers online resources and planning tools to help get your research started, as well as support for tutoring and demonstrating, and public engagement and communication.

Careers Service

Our Careers Service plays an essential part in your wider student experience at the University, offering a range of tailored careers and personal development guidance and support. We support you to recognise the wealth of possibilities ahead, while at university and after graduation, helping you explore new avenues, tap into your talents and build your employability with confidence and enthusiasm.

From exploring career options to making decisions, from CV writing to interview practice, from Employ.ed internships to graduate posts and from careers fairs to postgraduate alumni events, we will help you prepare for the future. We sustain and continually develop links with employers from all industries and employment sectors, from the world's top recruiters to small enterprises based here in Edinburgh. Our employer team provides a programme of opportunities for you to meet employers on campus and virtually, and advertises a wide range of part-time and graduate jobs.

More information:
www.ed.ac.uk/careers/postgrad

Platform One

We provide opportunities for students to draw on the knowledge and experience of our worldwide alumni network through lectures, workshops and panel discussions, and online via Platform One. This supportive environment allows students, alumni, staff and volunteers to gather to share their knowledge and experiences and discuss ideas, plans and possibilities.

More information:
www.ed.ac.uk/platform-one

Open to new ideas

If you consider yourself something of an entrepreneur, you'll be interested to know that Edinburgh is an entrepreneurial city, home to two of the UK's \$1 billion-valued unicorn companies. We boast one of the most entrepreneurial student bodies in the UK and have helped students launch nearly 100 startups in the last two years. One in five of those startups was a social enterprise. Edinburgh Innovations, the University's commercialisation service, offers free support to student entrepreneurs including one-to-one business advice and a range of workshops, bootcamps, competitions and networking events. Successful recent clients include Orfeas Boteas, creator of the Dehumaniser sound effects software used by Hollywood movies and blockbuster video games; Douglas Martin, whose company MiAlgae aims to revolutionise the global aquaculture and pet food industries; and Aayush Goyal and Karis Gill, whose gift box enterprise Social Stories Club brings ethical products to a wider market: www.ed.ac.uk/edinburgh-innovations/for-students

Open to the world



UNCOVER: Collaboration in crisis

When the UK lockdown was announced, the School's health researchers and information specialists quickly pulled together, establishing a network of volunteers with staff, students, alumni, and friends and associates of the University.

They identified a need for rapid evidence reviews, responding to questions from policymakers, healthcare professionals and clinicians all under pressure to make difficult decisions in an increasingly uncertain environment.

The team provided information at short notice, quickly searching relevant studies, collecting high-quality evidence and cutting months of research down to days or even hours. To prevent duplication of effort, they created UNCOVER, a worldwide, searchable database of these reviews, which is free to use and updated regularly.

The team worked for both the Scottish and UK Governments and secured funding from Data-Driven Innovation and Wellcome Trust's Institutional Strategic Support Fund (ISSF3).

Student volunteer Rima Nundy said it was enormously positive for those involved: "UNCOVER provided an opportunity to be a part of a team which felt like a close-knit community supporting one another to produce commendable work in very challenging settings... a very enriching experience overall."

Project lead Ruth McQuillan, Senior Lecturer in the Usher Institute, said: "The best thing about being involved in UNCOVER has been the response from the University and feeling part of a community when we were all physically isolated. I think there has been a really powerful sense of us working together to use our skills in a positive way to make a difference."

The team is now reverting to in-depth research and considering how future students could work on live public health issues. Student volunteers are also making a video for their peers, advising them how to stay safe and protect each other from the virus.

The University of Edinburgh has been influencing the world since 1583. Our Schools have a long history of making a difference but it isn't one we take for granted. To this day, we strive to deliver excellence and help address tomorrow's greatest challenges.

Here's a snapshot of what your School's community has been up to recently.

Tobacco use and control during the pandemic

A rapid response study examining tobacco use and control during the pandemic supported public health response and policy in Africa and Asia.

Researchers worked with colleagues in Bangladesh, India, Ghana, Uganda, Ethiopia and Pakistan, producing country-specific Covid-19 and tobacco policy briefings.

Smoking is a significant risk factor for respiratory infections and recovery, with the underlying health conditions that increase the danger of Covid-19 more common among smokers.

The team, led by Fiona Dobbie, identified a need to better integrate responses to infectious disease epidemics and tobacco control interventions, particularly in low- and middle-income countries where health service capacity is limited.

Postgraduate students used a desk-based mapping exercise to identify data-sources that had not previously been published in peer-reviewed journals. In-country collaborators helped ensure the robustness of the search, identifying additional sources and providing translation.

Across all six countries, the study found a key, consistent message to stop using tobacco products but there was no evidence of a population-level policy response to promote tobacco cessation or strengthen or enforce existing tobacco control measures.

The research emphasises the importance of clear and comprehensive health risk communication during a pandemic.

For further information, see: www.ed.ac.uk/usher/research/projects/covid-19-and-tobacco

Genetic code could predict Covid-19 severity

Researchers are studying the genetic blueprints of severely ill Covid-19 patients to find out why the disease affects some more seriously than others and suggest potential treatments.

A UK-wide initiative is sequencing the whole genomes – the genetic code – of patients to identify the specific genes that cause predisposition to the disease.

The project is led by Consultant and Senior Clinical Research Fellow Dr Kenneth Baillie and is a collaboration between Genomics England, the NHS, and the GenOMICC (Genetics of Susceptibility and Mortality in Critical Care) consortium – a global collaboration to study genetics in critical illness.

The partnership allows whole genome sequencing to take place across the NHS, involving up to 20,000 people currently or previously in an intensive care unit with Covid-19, and 15,000 people who have mild symptoms.

The project hopes to explain one of the biggest mysteries about Covid-19: why some people get no symptoms at all, while others become critically ill, or die.

By discovering why some people are predisposed to developing life-threatening symptoms, scientists will be able to identify treatments for clinical trials and potentially highlight people at extreme risk.

The study's results will also inform global strategic planning for possible later waves of Covid-19 and future pandemics.

The work has been enabled by £28m of funding from Genomics England, UK Research and Innovation, the Department of Health and Social Care and the National Institute for Health Research.

“Our genes play a role in determining who becomes desperately sick with infections like Covid-19. Understanding these genes will help us to choose treatments for clinical trials. The GenOMICC study was launched before this outbreak and it is recruiting in 170 intensive care units across the country with tremendous support from the critical care community.”

Dr Kenneth Baillie



Clues to ageing in map of brain cell links

Striking images of some five billion brain cell connections have been created by scientists from the Centre for Clinical Brain Sciences, mapping a lifetime's changes across the brain in minute detail.

The colourful pictures of the whole mouse brain at different ages are the first of their kind and a pivotal step forward in understanding behaviour.

The images are of synapses – vital connections that carry electrical and chemical messages between brain cells. Synapses store memories and synapse damage is linked to more than 130 brain diseases.

Researchers led by Professor Seth Grant colour-coded the different types of molecules to highlight the range of synapses in mouse brains from birth to old age. They discovered that the number and molecular makeup of synapses shifts with age in different parts of the brain. This happens at three main phases – childhood, middle and elderly age.

Synapse type shifts with age in patterns unique to areas of the brain, blossoming into a diverse array in midlife. Images from middle-aged brains burst with colour, illustrating a wide variety of synapses. Both very young and very old brains show fewer synapses and less complexity.

The findings could shed light on why we are more likely to develop brain conditions at certain ages, helping to explain why schizophrenia often starts in adolescence, or why dementia affects older adults.



Tackling antibiotic over-prescribing

A team from the Usher Institute is working on a major initiative to tackle antibiotic over-prescribing in the UK by improving existing hospital electronic prescribing systems.

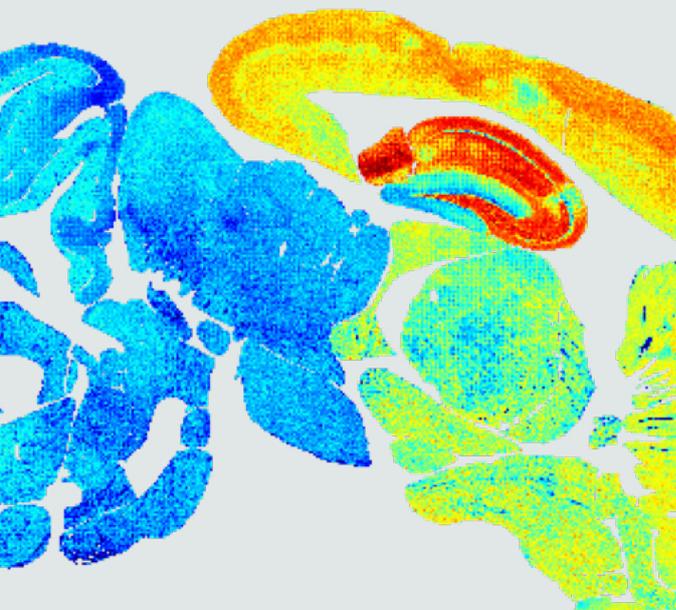
With bacteria increasingly no longer responding to antibiotics, patients can experience more severe infections, lasting longer than they previously did and, in some cases, be at an increased risk of dying.

This is due to too much inappropriate use of antibiotics. The reasons for this include doctors not having relevant information when prescribing antibiotics, concerns about missing possibly serious infections, and time pressures/lack of continuity of care, limiting opportunities for doctors to review diagnoses and stop antibiotics if no longer needed.

The team will build on their recently completed research, which developed an ePrescribing Toolkit. This has promoted the use of hospital ePrescribing systems across NHS England. As ePrescribing systems become more widely available, the team want to see if they can be used to safely reduce antibiotics prescribing with no change in mortality.

“Antibiotic resistance is now a major global concern. Reducing inappropriate prescribing of antibiotics will help to minimise the development of antibiotic resistance, saving lives.”

Professor Aziz Sheik
Chair of Primary Care Research and Development



Landmark MND trial launched

Hundreds of people living with motor neurone disease (MND) are taking part in one of the UK's most comprehensive clinical trials in a generation.

The UK-wide trial – called MND-SMART – aims to find treatments that can slow, stop or reverse disease progression. The long-term study by the University's Euan MacDonald Centre for MND Research will ensure that new medicines can be tested for years to come.

MND is a progressive condition that causes muscles to waste away. It occurs when nerve cells called motor neurons, which send messages from the brain and spinal cord to the body's muscles, stop working properly. More than 1,500 people are diagnosed with the disease in the UK each year. There is no cure and half of people die within two years of diagnosis.

Typical trials focus on a single drug. Patients receiving the active drug are compared with those who receive an inactive substance, known as the placebo.

MND-SMART, however, will allow more than one treatment to be tested against a shared placebo group so that patients have a higher likelihood of receiving an active treatment.

The clinical trial is designed to be adaptive so researchers can modify their approach according to emerging results. New drugs can be added, while medicines that prove ineffective can be dropped.

The trial will test drugs that are already licensed for use in other conditions. This repurposing of existing drugs avoids some of the lengthy approvals processes associated with new drugs and could cut years off the time taken for the medications to become available to people with MND through the NHS.

Euan MacDonald, who is living with MND and co-founder of the Euan MacDonald Centre for MND Research with his father Donald, said: "This is the result of 10 years of hard work and collaboration and we are thankful to those involved. Clinical trials like this provide hope that people around the world with MND will one day have access to safe and effective treatments."



Our teaching

We offer an extensive and flexible range of taught masters-level degrees across each of our subject areas:

On-campus degrees

We offer a range of taught masters and master of science by research (MScR) degrees as well as several doctor of clinical dentistry (DClinDent) degrees.

A taught masters is an intensive, higher level academic degree normally consisting of a series of taught courses, delivered through lectures, tutorials and practical work, and culminating in the submission of a dissertation or project. A taught masters will provide you with an excellent opportunity to delve deeper into a specific area of knowledge or to acquire expertise in a field that you haven't studied academically before. This might be particularly relevant if your career aspirations involve professional examinations or qualifications.

Studying a masters by research will allow you to increase your specialised subject knowledge and gain experience of practical research work in an environment that promotes independence. This will get you out of the classroom and into a working environment. You will learn by undertaking focused project work, embedded in an established research area, combined with elements of training in vocational and translational skills. This provides direct experience of the realities of working at the forefront of academic research and is ideal if you are considering a PhD but would like more research experience or wish to increase your research experience before entering employment.

Online learning

The University of Edinburgh is one of the largest providers of online postgraduate study in the UK's Russell Group. We offer a range of flexible online masters degrees and postgraduate diplomas (PgDip) and certificates (PgCerts). Our online master of science (MSc) and master of surgery (ChM) degrees are academically equivalent to on-campus study and are making a difference to a new generation of postgraduate students around the world. All your teaching and interaction with your tutors and classmates happens within our online learning platform, which hosts course materials, readings and resources, and is accessible 24/7. This makes online learning an excellent choice for students who are not in a position to take a year out of their busy lives and careers to attend a campus-based degree.

It is also possible to study either a single course or multiple courses via Postgraduate Professional Development (PPD or PgProfDev). This is aimed at working professionals who want to advance their knowledge through a postgraduate-level programme, without the time or financial commitment that is required to embark on a full degree.

At the time of printing, our planned taught degrees for 2021 are:

On-campus taught masters and masters by research

- **Biomedical Sciences (Life Sciences)** (MScR)
- **Cardiovascular Biology** (MScR)
- **Endodontology** (DClinDent)
- **Medical Sciences** (MMedSci by Research)
- **Neuroscience (Integrative Neuroscience)** (MScR)
- **Oral Surgery** (DClinDent)
- **Orthodontics** (DClinDent)
- **Paediatric Dentistry** (DClinDent)
- **Prosthodontics** (DClinDent)
- **Public Health** (MPH)
- **Regenerative Medicine & Tissue Repair** (MScR)
- **Reproductive Sciences** (MScR)
- **Science Communication & Public Engagement** (MSc)

Please check our online degree finder for the most up-to-date information available on our taught postgraduate opportunities and to make an application:

www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/degrees

Online learning

- **Anatomical Sciences** (PgDip)
- **Applied Medical Image Analysis** (PgCert)
- **Biodiversity, Wildlife & Ecosystem Health** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert/PgProfDev)
- **Clinical Education** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert)
- **Clinical Management of Pain** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert/PgProfDev)
- **Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert/PgProfDev)
- **Clinical Ophthalmology** (ChM)
- **Clinical Trials** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert/PgProfDev)
- **Critical Care** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert)
- **Dental Sedation & Anxiety Management** (PgCert)
- **Family Medicine** (MFM/PgDip/PgCert)
- **General Surgery** (ChM)
- **Global Health & Infectious Diseases** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert/PgProfDev)
- **Global Health Challenges** (PgCert/PgProfDev)
- **Global Health Studies** (PgCert/PgProfDev)
- **Imaging** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert/PgProfDev)
- **Internal Medicine** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert)
- **International Animal Health** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert/PgProfDev)
- **Neuroimaging for Research** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert/PgProfDev)
- **NHS eGlobal Health** (MSc)
- **Paediatric Emergency Medicine** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert)
- **Patient Safety & Clinical Human Factors** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert)
- **Primary Care Ophthalmology** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert)
- **Public Health** (MPH/PgDip/PgCert/PgProfDev)
- **PET-MR Principles & Applications** (PgCert)
- **Restorative Dentistry** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert)
- **Science Communication & Public Engagement** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert)
- **Stem Cells & Translational Neurology** (MSc/PgProfDev)
- **Surgical Sciences** (MSc/PgDip/PgCert)
- **Transfusion, Transplantation & Tissue Banking** (MSc)
- **Trauma & Orthopaedics** (ChM)
- **Urology** (ChM)
- **Vascular & Endovascular Surgery** (ChM)

Facilities and resources

Our postgraduate students have access to state-of-the-art learning and scientific facilities and infrastructure, which we constantly develop and evolve.

Many of our students are located within the Edinburgh BioQuarter, a leading global destination for healthcare delivery, groundbreaking medical research and life sciences innovation and entrepreneurship.

Beyond our impressive academic facilities, we also invest in welfare, support, leisure and community facilities that will help you make the most of your time with us.

The University encourages and supports collaborative and interdisciplinary research. Students completing research projects have benefitted from state-of-the-art laboratories, facilities and techniques, including for:

- Bioinformatics
- Cell culture
- Confocal microscopy
- Core histology services
- Electrophysiology
- Flow cytometry
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging
- Positron Emission Tomography (computed tomography)
- Real time polymerase chain reaction
- Small vessel myography.

Sports and Exercise

Edinburgh is one of the UK's leading sport Universities. Whether you are a recreational gym-user or a performance athlete going for gold, our world-class sports facilities and coaches cater for you. Our 10 gyms include our spin studio, Velo-city, the recently upgraded Katherine Grainger Rowing Gym and a 102-station cardiovascular gym, complete with network fitness.

Library facilities

You will have access to vast and diverse library collections, excellent study spaces, and award-winning library staff. In total, our Main Library, site libraries and library storage facilities hold in excess of 1.8 million printed volumes and provide access to a host of electronic resources, including:

- 10 million journal article downloads;
- 8 million e-book chapter downloads;
- 700,000 e-books;
- 100,000 e-journals; and
- 700 licensed databases.

You can access our electronic resources on or off campus, 24 hours a day.

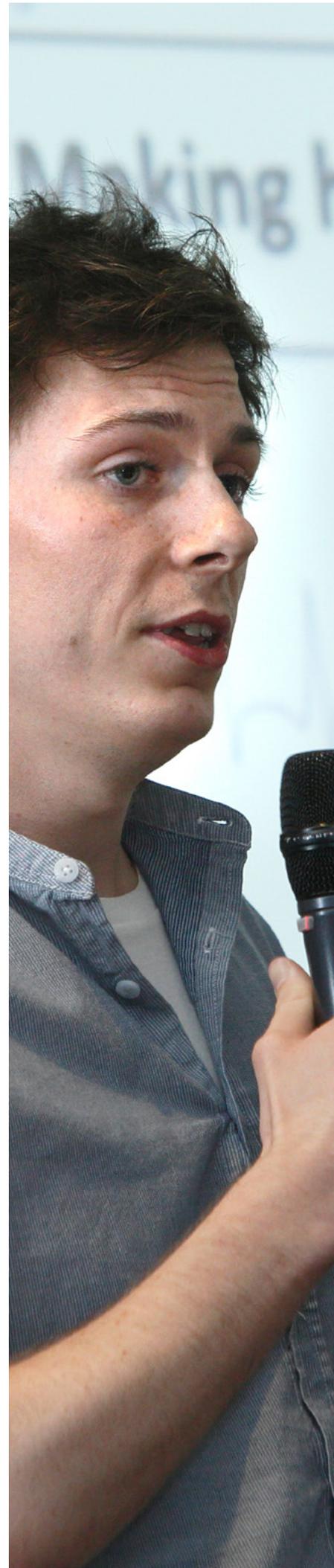
After graduating from the University, you will still have remote access to some licensed library e-resources enabling you to continue your research and enrich your mind.

Online learning platforms

A variety of platforms are used to deliver content and enable you to collaborate with other students and academic staff. These platforms will typically include: virtual learning environments (VLEs) such as Moodle or Learn; discussion boards and web forums; real-time video conferencing and collaboration tools; and video streaming services like YouTube or Vimeo.

Lynda.com: online skills development

You will also have free access to **Lynda.com** while you are a student here. This online skills development service offers an extensive library of more than 250,000 high-quality video tutorials in digital, technology, creative and business skills.



Studying for a PhD: a world-class research experience

We produce world-leading and internationally recognised research. Our research centres and institutes are based at campuses across the city, providing an exceptional environment for trainees.

What are the different types of doctoral study and who are they for?

We offer a number of different models for PhD study, including:

- the traditional 3-year research programme;
- 3.5- and 4-year programmes;
- 1+3 programmes, with an introductory masters by research year followed by the PhD project;
- PhDs with integrated study, in which you take credit bearing courses to complement your research work; and
- studentships with an industrial placement.

Many of our programmes have the option of part-time as well as full-time study. Increasingly, our PhD programmes are cohort-based, allowing you increased administrative and peer support to complement the support you receive from your supervisors.

Why choose our different doctoral study options and what to expect

For many students, the choice of programme is directed by the research on offer, enabling specialised research training in a specific subject area. Some students may want to start immediately on their PhD project, while others prefer the opportunity to take a 1+3 programme and gain experience of several different projects before deciding which is their preferred PhD.

Where will you study – our institutes and research groups

The College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine has facilities in several different parts of the city. Most of our research is conducted in modern state-of-the-art research centres or institutes. You will be embedded in the team of your research supervisor(s) but collaboration is encouraged, providing you with the opportunity to work with colleagues in different labs. You should expect to work hard in well-equipped labs under the supervision of committed and supportive senior staff

How to become a research student with us

The best way to apply to become a PhD student at the University of Edinburgh is through the links to specific programmes on our website or through FindAPhD.com.

If you are interested in specific projects, we recommend you contact the member of staff linked to the project to ask for further details.

Destinations

Completing a PhD opens up a multitude of potential career pathways for our graduates. These include careers in academia, industry, science engagement and communication, and scientific writing.

“My research project has taught me such a huge and diverse set of skills. I feel I will be able to rely on what I’ve learned during my PhD no matter where my career takes me, whether it is in academia or not.”

Bérengère Digard, PhD Psychiatry



Research opportunities

Many of our research areas are available to study at PhD and MSc by Research level.

We offer two types of masters by research (MSc by Research) degree. Those listed below are pure research programmes where you will spend 12 months in one lab working on one project. This gives you an excellent grounding in research that can serve as a stepping stone to a PhD. Alternatively we offer MSc by Research degrees that contain a significant taught element (see page 10), allowing you to study two 20-week research projects in two different lab environments, and MMedSci by Research Medical Sciences which begins with a month of teaching before you spend the rest of the year in one lab.

A PhD is a research degree entailing research training and supervised research, either on an individual basis, or as part of a team. The aim of the PhD is to provide a thorough training in a particular academic area, through original investigation and experimentation. A PhD typically takes three years to complete and is assessed by thesis.

Potential applicants should get in touch with the contacts listed online to informally discuss a proposed project before applying.

Funded PhDs

Several of our PhDs offer eligible candidates full funding for the duration of study. If you are not eligible for funding, you are still welcome to apply to study on these degrees but will be required to self-fund or identify an external source of funding. Our funded PhDs include:

- BBSRC EASTBIO Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP)
- Cancer (Edinburgh Cancer Research Centre)
- Centre for Cardiovascular Science studentships
- Medical Research Council (MRC) DTP in Precision Medicine
- MRC Centre for Reproductive Health
- MRC Human Genetics Unit
- Wellcome Trust 4-year PhD in One Health Models of Disease: Science, Ethics and Society
- Wellcome Trust 4-year PhD in Translational Neuroscience

For further information, see: edin.ac/mvm-funded-phds

Additional funding opportunities

Many of our other PhDs may also offer funding. Available funding will usually be advertised on the relevant programme page online and on FindaPhD.com.

At the time of printing, our planned research opportunities for 2021 are:

- Anatomical Sciences (Biomedical Sciences) (PhD)
- BBSRC EASTBIO Doctoral Training Partnership (PhD)
- Cancer (Edinburgh Cancer Research Centre) (PhD/MScR)
- Cardiovascular Science (PhD/MScR)
- Child Life & Health (PhD)
- Clinical Brain Sciences (PhD)
- Clinical Education (PhD)
- Dentistry (PhD)
- Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)
- Doctor of Medicine (MD)
- Genetics & Molecular Medicine (MRC Human Genetics Unit) (PhD/MScR)
- Genomics & Experimental Medicine (PhD/MScR)
- Geriatric Medicine (PhD)
- Global Health (PhD)
- Infectious Diseases (MScR)
- Infection Medicine (Biomedical Sciences) (PhD)
- Inflammation (PhD/MScR)
- Integrated Studies in Medical Sciences with Engagement (PhD)
- Integrative Biomedical Sciences (Based in China) (PhD)
- Integrative Physiology (PhD/MScR)
- Medical Informatics (PhD)
- Neuroscience (PhD/MScR)
- Optical Medical Imaging with Healthcare Innovation & Entrepreneurship (PhD)
- Orthopaedic & Trauma Medicine (PhD/MScR)
- Pathology (PhD)
- Population Health Sciences (PhD/MScR)
- Precision Medicine (PhD)
- Psychiatry (PhD/MScR)
- Regenerative Medicine (PhD)
- Reproductive Health (PhD)
- Respiratory Medicine (PhD)
- Science Communication/Public Engagement (PhD)
- Surgery (PhD/MScR)
- Translational Neuroscience (PhD)

Please check online for up-to-date information on our postgraduate research opportunities and to make an application.

Research degree index: www.ed.ac.uk/studying/postgraduate/degrees/research

PhD research projects: www.ed.ac.uk/studying/phd-research-projects

Advice on finding a research supervisor: www.ed.ac.uk/studying/postgraduate/research



Funding

A large number of scholarships, loans and other funding schemes are available for your postgraduate studies. It is only possible to show a small selection in print. To see the full range, please visit: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/postgraduate

Awards are offered by the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine, the University of Edinburgh, the Scottish, UK and international governments and many funding bodies.

The majority of our taught students are self-funded although there are some funding packages available for both on-campus and online learning students.

Here we list a selection of potential sources of financial support for postgraduate students applying to the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine. This list was correct at the time of printing but please check the full and up-to-date range online (see above).

University of Edinburgh Alumni Scholarships

We offer a 10 per cent scholarship towards postgraduate fees to all alumni who graduated from the University as an undergraduate, and to all students who spent at least one semester studying at the University on a visiting programme: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/alumni-scholarships

Key

- Taught masters degrees
- Masters by Research degrees
- Research degrees

Scholarships at the University of Edinburgh

• College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine Funded PhDs ●

The College offers a number of funded PhD programmes every year, including:

- Wellcome Trust 4-year PhD in Translational Neuroscience
- Wellcome Trust 4-year PhD in One Health Models of Disease: Science, Ethics and Society
- Medical Research Council (MRC) DTP in Precision Medicine
- BBSRC EASTBIO Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP)

For further information on funded PhDs see: edin.ac/mvm-funded-phds

• Edinburgh Global Online Learning Masters Scholarship ●

The University offers a number of awards, for postgraduate online programmes, which eligible students can apply for: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/e-learning/online-distance

• Polish School of Medicine Memorial Fund/Boloz-Kulesza Trust Fund ●●

These scholarships are aimed at medical scientists, normally doctors, at the outset of their careers and working in Polish medical universities and research institutes: Dr Maria Długołęcka-Graham MBE Polish School of Medicine Coordinator psmscourse@ed.ac.uk

• Principal's Career Development PhD Scholarships ●

These prestigious scholarships give access to any applicant from around the world to undertake discipline training and additional skills development. Students are encouraged to engage with entrepreneurial training, teaching, outreach and industrial engagement. Each award covers the tuition fee and full stipend: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/development

• Wellcome Trust PhD Awards ●

The Wellcome Trust offers studentships to support applicants studying Translational Neuroscience or One Health Models of Disease. These studentships cover UK/EU tuition fees, research costs and a stipend: www.edinburghneuroscience.ed.ac.uk/funding www.ed.ac.uk/edinburgh-infectious-diseases/teaching/phd-programmes/one-health-models-disease

Research council awards

Research councils offer awards to eligible masters and PhD students in most of the Schools within the University of Edinburgh. All studentship applications from the research councils must be made through the University, through your School or College office. Please check the eligibility criteria for each opportunity online: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/development

Loans available for study at the University of Edinburgh

The University of Edinburgh is a participating institution in the following loans programmes, meaning we certify your student status and can help with the application process.

• The Canada Student Loans Program ●●●

The University is eligible to certify Canadian student loan applications: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/canadian-loans

• Postgraduate Doctoral Loans England ●

Student Finance England offers postgraduate loans for doctoral study, payable to eligible students and divided equally across each year of the doctoral programme: www.gov.uk/doctoral-loan

• Postgraduate Doctoral Loans Wales ●

Student Finance Wales offers loans for postgraduate doctoral study, payable to eligible students, divided equally across each year of the doctoral programme: www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/postgraduate-students/postgraduate-doctoral-loan

• Postgraduate Loans (PGL) England ●●

Student Finance England offers postgraduate loans for taught and research masters programmes, payable to eligible students: www.gov.uk/postgraduate-loan

• Postgraduate Loans (PGL) Northern Ireland ●●

Student Finance Northern Ireland offers eligible students a tuition fee loan for taught and research programmes, at certificate, diploma, and masters level, which will be paid directly to the University: www.studentfinanceneni.co.uk

- **Postgraduate Loans (SAAS) ●●**

The Student Awards Agency Scotland offers eligible students tuition fee loans for taught and research programmes at diploma and masters level, which will be paid directly to the University. Eligible students can also apply for a non-income assessed living cost loan: www.saas.gov.uk

- **Postgraduate Master's Finance Wales ●●**

Student Finance Wales offers eligible students postgraduate finance for taught and research masters programmes: www.studentfinancewales.co.uk

- **US Student Loans ●●●**

The University is eligible to certify loan applications for US loan students. Full details on eligibility and how to apply can be found online: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/us-loans

Other sources of funding

The following are examples of the many scholarships and support schemes available to students from particular countries who meet certain eligibility criteria.

- **Chevening Scholarships ●●**

A number of partial and full funding scholarships are available to one-year masters students: www.chevening.org

- **Colt Foundation Fellowships in Occupational/Environmental Health ●**

The Colt Foundation supports high-quality research projects in the field of occupational and environmental health, particularly those aimed at discovering the cause of illness arising from conditions in the workplace. The Foundation makes a number of grants each year to PhD students who are investigating topics relevant to this field of research: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/colt

- **Commonwealth Scholarships ●●●**

Scholarships available to students who are resident in any Commonwealth country, other than the UK: www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk

- **Marshall Scholarships (USA) ●●●**

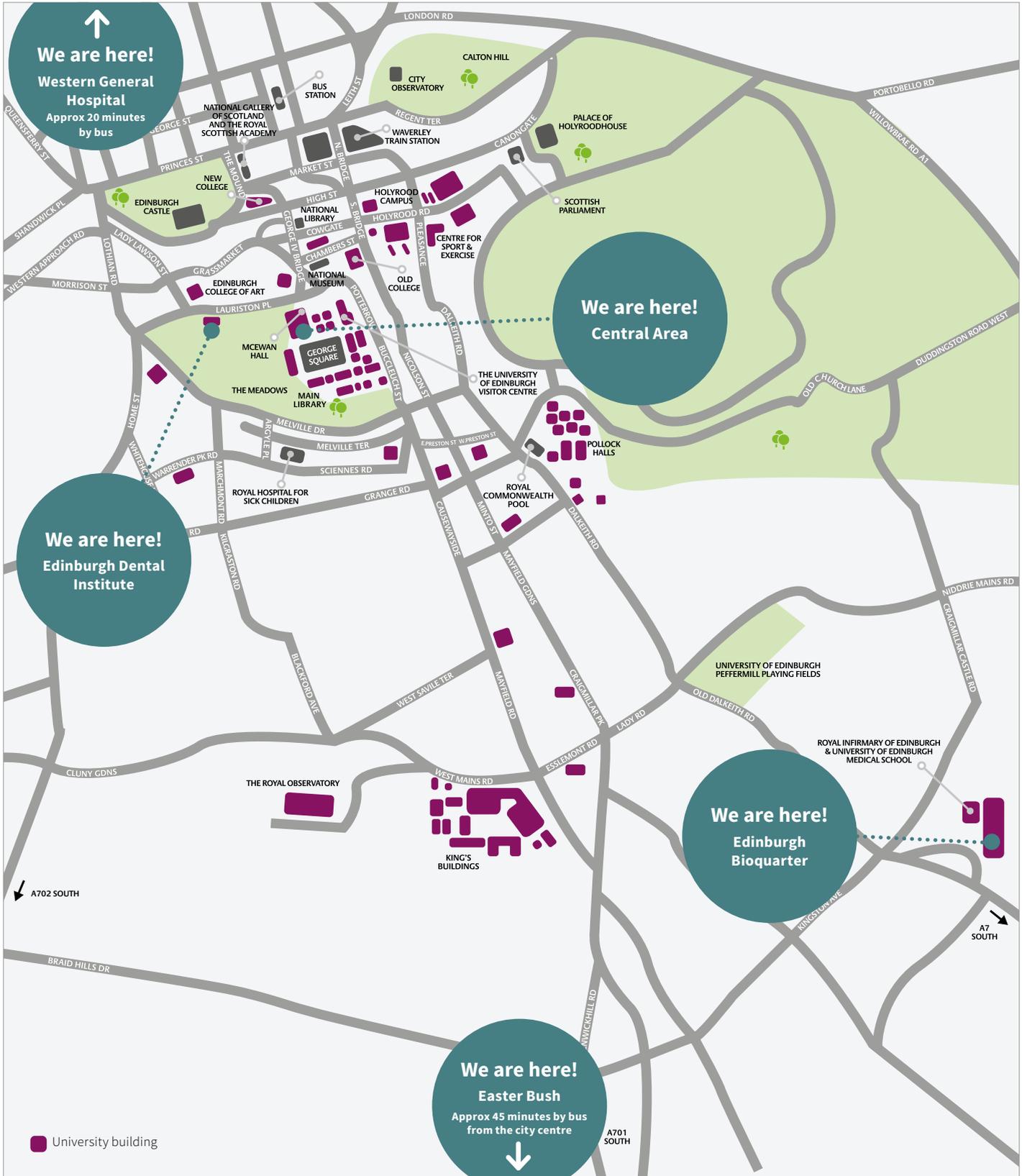
Scholarships available to outstanding US students wishing to study at any UK university for at least two years: www.marshallscholarship.org



Where we are

The College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine is based at sites throughout the city of Edinburgh. Many of our teaching and research facilities are located side by side with clinical practice.

Detailed maps can be found at: www.ed.ac.uk/maps



What's next?

Contact us

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Email mvmpeg@ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk/medicine-vet-medicine/postgraduate

Explore postgraduate life through our films, ezines and student blogs.

www.ed.ac.uk/medicine-vet-medicine/postgraduate-life

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 @EdClinEd

Visit us

We offer many opportunities for you to join us in Edinburgh and find out more about the University – including Online Information Sessions to access from the comfort of your own home and Open Days you can attend in person or online. Find out what event we're hosting next: www.ed.ac.uk/visit/open-days

Virtual Visit

Can't visit Edinburgh in person? Our Virtual Visit allows you to virtually explore the University and the city. View a range of videos, 360° photos and image galleries to find out what it is like to live and study here:

www.virtual-visit.ed.ac.uk

Chat online

Wherever you are in the world, we offer you opportunities to get in touch and speak directly to us about studying here.

We offer all postgraduate students online information sessions. To find out more and see when the next session will be:

www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/online-events

Our visits to you

If you are unable to visit the University, we attend events worldwide whenever possible during the year. Find out about your next opportunity to speak to us in person:

www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/meet-us



We know these are uncertain times but at the University of Edinburgh your safety is our priority. We hope to welcome you on campus and are committed to ensuring you're taught as safely as possible during the pandemic. To find out about the steps we're taking, in line with Scottish Government guidance, visit: www.ed.ac.uk/news/covid-19

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The UK formally left the European Union (EU) on 31st January 2020. UK and Scottish Governments have confirmed that most non-UK EU students commencing study in 2021/22 will no longer be treated as 'home' students in relation to fee status or access to funding. Final fee regulations are not yet available but are expected to clarify fee status for those with settled status and for Irish citizens (under the Common Travel Agreement). For the latest information for students and applicants from the EU, please visit our website: www.ed.ac.uk/news/eu

The University's standard terms and conditions will form an essential part of any contract between the University of Edinburgh and any student offered a place here. Our full terms and conditions are available online: www.ed.ac.uk/student-recruitment/terms-conditions

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Innovative. Individual. Inspirational.

Open to
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Medicine & Biomedical Sciences

“My programme is designed to build your skills and techniques, which will be beneficial in both academic and industrial careers, irrespective of your background. It also gives you valuable opportunities to meet and interact with renowned scientists from across the biomedical sector.”

Nithya Nair

MSc by Research Biomedical Sciences