



COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH

Undergraduate Programmes for 2026 entry



College of Medicine and Health Undergraduate Programmes



CAO ENTRY

- CK701 Medicine⁺
- CK702 Dentistry⁺
- CK703 Pharmacy⁺
- CK704 Occupational Therapy⁺
- CK705 Speech and Language Therapy⁺
- CK706 Public Health Sciences[#]
- CK707 Medical and Health Sciences[#]
- CK708 Paramedicine^{*#}
- CK710 General Nursing^{+#}
- CK712 Children's and General Nursing (Integrated)^{+#}
- CK720 Mental Health Nursing^{+#}
- CK730 Intellectual Disability Nursing^{+#}
- CK740 Midwifery^{+#}

+Accredited Programme for Professional Registration

DIRECT ENTRY

- Dental Nursing
- Dental Hygiene
- BSc Nursing Studies
- BSc Paramedic Studies - Practitioner Entry

GRADUATE STUDY OPTIONS

CK791 Medicine (Graduate Entry)⁺

Alternative Entry

[Tertiary Pathway to BSc Occupational Therapy](#)

[QQI/FET Entry](#) available

Registered Healthcare Professionals



Comhairle na nDochtúirí Leighis
Medical Council



Bord Altranais agus
Cnáimhseachais na hÉireann
Nursing and Midwifery Board
of Ireland



Ag Rialáil Gairmithe Sláinte
agus Cúraim Shóisialaigh
Regulating Health +
Social Care Professionals

Dental Council
An Comhairle Fiaclóireachta

Pre-Hospital
Emergency Care
Council

CK701 Medicine Overview

DURATION 5 Years **EU Places** ~120

MINIMUM CAO POINTS 2025 730

Subject Requirements: H4 Chemistry, H4 either Physics or Biology.

Additional Requirements

- Garda Vetting and Fitness to Practise
- 480 points in the Leaving Certificate
- Complete HPAT

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/medical/> <https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck701>



DR NIAMH RYAN,
Medical Graduate

"The teaching is great and the facilities are top-class, with simulated wards and early patient contact. We have a large range of different hospital attachments in Kerry, Waterford, Tipperary and Cork, allowing us to experience different specialities and different hospitals. it is a thoroughly enjoyable five years!"

Key Subject Areas (earlier years)

- Foundations of Medicine: Anatomy, Physiology,
- Biochemistry, Pathology, Pharmacology
- Clinical Science & Practice
- Person, Culture and Society
- Special Study Modules (electives)

Key Subject Areas (Later years)

- Medicine, Surgery, Paediatrics, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Psychiatry, Sub-specialties etc
- Focus on Diagnosis
- Management, Holistic approach to patient care

Career Opportunities

Most graduates work as doctors, caring for people in the community or the hospital. Others choose to work in related fields such as medical research, public health, pharmaceutical or biomedical device companies, health insurance companies, or occupational medicine.

Medicine Points Explained

MODERATION OF LEAVING CERT POINTS

Points > 550 counted differently for Medicine

Every 5 points > 550 = 1 point

555 points becomes 551

560 points becomes 552

590 points becomes 558

601 points becomes 560

613 points becomes 563

And 625 points becomes 565

COMBINATION OF HPAT AND LEAVING CERT POINTS

Adjusted Leaving Cert points (up to 565); HPAT (up to 300) scores the highest combined scores get entry; applicants with max LC points may not get a place if their HPAT score is low.

Minimum combined score	730 (round 1)
Min Leaving Cert points	549
Min HPAT score	164
Highest HPAT score	241
Highest combined score of those admitted to First Year	806

HPAT

2.5 hour paper usually late February (register Jan)
MCQ – Online, with remote invigilation; students given their score /300 and a percentile

3 parts:

1. Logical reasoning and problem solving
2. Interpersonal understanding
3. Non-verbal reasoning.

<https://hpat-ireland.acer.org/>

From 2027

- *No moderation of LC points – all points will count the same:
625 points will count as 625 points
600 points will count as 600 points etc.*
- *HPAT will be worth only 150 points (not 300)*
- *Max score from 2027 (LC+HPAT) will be 775*

CK702 Dentistry Overview

DURATION 5 Years **EU PLACES** ~26

MINIMUM CAO POINTS 2025 613*

Subject Requirements:

H4 Chemistry, H4 either Physics or Biology.

Additional Requirements

Garda Vetting and Fitness to Practise.

1.5 years mainly on campus studying basic medical sciences.

3.5 years in the CUDSH and the attached Cork University Hospital allowing students extensive experience in the diagnosis and treatment of patients.

Career Opportunities

General practice, work in the community dental service, undertake further study with a view of specialising, or become university academics. Qualified dentists can currently work in EU countries, Australia, Canada, Malaysia, and Singapore.



Dr Martha Woods
Dentistry Graduate

“The degree blends academic excellence with clinical experience and a true sense of community. At the Dental School and Hospital, it’s so much more than just teeth; every student is known and supported, fostering confident, capable, and compassionate practitioners who are ready for the real world.”

Key Subject Areas

1. Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry
2. Pathology, Pharmacology
3. Clinical Dentistry
4. Restorative Dentistry
5. Dental Surgery
6. Oral Health and Development

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/dentalschool/>

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck702/>

Dental Nursing Overview

DURATION 2 Years (Full time)

PLACES 8

DURATION 16 month (Part-time)

PLACES 50

employed as a Dental Nurse of time of application

Subject Requirements:

Minimum grade O6 /H7 in 5 subjects

All applicants are interviewed

Additional Requirements

Garda Vetting and Fitness to Practise

Career Opportunities

Dental Nurses are valuable members of the dental team. The employment rate of our graduates is extremely high and it is also possible to work abroad with this qualification. Further study is possible, including dental radiography, conscious sedation, oral health promotion, dental hygiene and dental science.

The main duties of a dental nurse include:

- Infection Control
- Chair-side assistance
- Preparation and maintenance of the dental surgery
- Patient care and administration of the dental surgery



Skills required include:

- Communication and organisational skills
- Ability to use initiative
- Good manual dexterity
- Ability to provide support during dental treatment

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/dentalschool/>

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/dipdentnurs/>

Dental Hygiene Overview

DURATION 2 Years (Full time)

PLACES 12

Entry Requirements:

Minimum grade H5 in two subjects

Minimum grade O6/H7 in four other subjects. Must include Irish, English, another language, Mathematics, Biology

Additional Requirements

All applicants are interviewed

Garda Vetting and Fitness to Practise

Working under the supervision of a dentist, the dental hygienist carries out preventive and periodontal treatments



The main duties of a dental hygienist include carrying out procedures including scaling teeth, taking and recording radiographs, local infiltration and inferior block anaesthesia, application of fissure sealants, application of desensitising agents and providing dietary advice.

Sonja Cronin *“I thoroughly enjoyed my time studying dental hygiene at Dental Hygiene UCC. Although the course was challenging at times, I learned great practical skills and gained confidence in my abilities.”*

Career Opportunities

The majority of our graduates will find work in a general practice under the supervision of a dentist, in the community with the Health Service Executive (HSE), or in a dental hospital setting.

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/dentalschool/>

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/dipdh/>

Nursing and Midwifery Overview

PROGRAMMES AND DURATION	CAO 2025	PLACES
CK710 - General Nursing (4 yrs)	452	~134
CK720 - Mental Health Nursing (4 yrs)	400	~42
CK730 - Intellectual Disability Nursing (4 yrs)	356	~29
CK740 - Midwifery (4 yrs)	441	~40
CK712 - Children's & General Integrated (4.5 yrs)	522	~32

Distinct programmes with different emphases and different points of entry to the professional register of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (NMBI).

Transferring between programmes is not feasible

Subject Requirements:

Laboratory science subject (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Physics with Chemistry (joint) or Agricultural Science)

Additional Requirements

Garda Vetting and Fitness to Practise



EILEEN KELLEHER
Intellectual Disability
Nursing
Graduate

"I always knew I wanted a career which involved caring for others. I always felt drawn to a career in nursing however I was never sure what type of nursing I would like to pursue.

Having done my transition year work experience in a school that supports children with an intellectual disability, I realised I had a passion for supporting individuals with an intellectual disability. Intellectual disability nursing is extremely rewarding."

Subject Requirements:

Academic elements take place in the Brookfield Health Sciences Complex and Practical modules take place at various health service provider sites around Cork City and County.

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/nursingmidwifery/>

Nursing and Midwifery Overview



General Nursing

The General Nursing programme contains the essential elements that facilitate the development of professional knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to meet the nursing needs of patients who are acutely or chronically ill.

Career Opportunities

As a general nurse working in a wide range of areas, including hospitals, community/home nursing, schools, and nursing homes.

Some of our recent graduates are working as nurses in the HSE, Bon Secours Hospital, Mater Private.

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck710/>

Children's & General (Integrated)

This programme offers dual registration in both the children's division and the general division of the NMBI Register. Children's nurses provide nursing care for children and young people, mostly within the hospital environment. Children's nurses work in partnership with the child and the family

Career Opportunities

As children's or general nurses working in areas, including hospitals, community/home nursing, schools, and nursing homes.

Recent graduates are working as nurses in Beacon Hospital, Cork University Hospital, Crumlin Hospital, and Great Ormond Street Hospital in London.

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck712/>

Nursing and Midwifery Overview



Mental Health Nursing

Mental Health Nursing (also known as Psychiatric Nursing) is a specialist Nursing discipline. Mental Health nurses work in partnership with people who are experiencing mental health challenges, their family and supporters to enable them to mobilise their own inner resources along with professional support.

Career Opportunities

Mental Health nurses work in a wide range of areas, including hospitals and community mental health facilities.

Recent graduates from this programme are working as nurses for Cork University Hospital, Mercy University Hospital, community mental health services, and the child and adolescent mental health services

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck720/>

Intellectual Disability Nursing

The Registered Nurse Intellectual Disability works with persons with an intellectual disability and has a diversity of roles. This includes providing nursing support across a variety of environments such as home, education and community settings, as well as specialist practice, e.g. the family home, residential and respite services, schools, primary healthcare and acute settings.

Career Opportunities

Graduates can seek employment as an intellectual disability nurse, working in a wide range of areas, including acute care, community facilities, nursing homes, residential facilities, respite care, retirement care, and schools.

Recent graduates are working as nurses nationally and internationally across a range of services including Horizons, Enable Ireland and the Jack and Jill Foundation here in Ireland.

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck730/>

Nursing and Midwifery Overview

Midwifery

Midwifery involves the provision of care and support to women during pregnancy, labour and birth, and to women and their babies following birth. Midwives provide health promotion and education for women, their babies and their wider family circle. The concept of partnership between the woman and the midwife is fundamental to midwifery practice and is based on mutual trust, support and collaboration

Career Opportunities

Midwives can work in a variety of settings including hospitals, in the community setting, or providing homebirths in the comfort of the woman's home.

Midwives can also work in specialised areas like research, education, and management within healthcare systems.

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck740/>

School of Nursing and Midwifery



- *Top School of Nursing in Ireland*
- *In the top 30 in the World*



Clinical Skills Simulation Resource Centre

Traditionally, Irish Nurses & Midwives are highly regarded by other countries, enhancing work opportunities abroad, particularly in the UK, Australia, Canada, and the US.

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/nursingmidwifery/>

CK703 Pharmacy Overview

DURATION 5 Years **EU PLACES** ~74
MINIMUM CAO POINTS 2025 602

Subject Requirements:

H4 Chemistry, H4 either Physics or Biology.

Additional Requirements

Garda Vetting and Fitness to Practise

Integrates the science and practice of pharmacy through hands-on learning, industry and healthcare site visits and multiple placement opportunities with an eight-month placement in the final year.

Key Subject Areas

1. Pharmaceutical and medicinal chemistry
2. Formulation design
3. Drug action in the body
4. Practice of pharmacy

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/pharmacy/>



.....provided me with a tremendous amount of medicinal knowledge, I also gained really useful soft skills like presentation, team working and research skills.

This combination of skills and knowledge went a long way to help impressing recruiters, which gave me the best opportunity to find the most suitable job to start my career.

LONG NGUYEN QUANG

Pharmacist, McCabes Pharmacy

Career Opportunities

Professional careers in community pharmacy, hospital or industrial practice, research, lecturing, or wholesaling and regulatory work are possible.

Augment an entrepreneurial interest to manage or own your pharmacy-related business.

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck703/>



CK704 Occupational Therapy Overview



DURATION 4 Years **EU PLACES** ~40*

MINIMUM CAO POINTS 2025 566

Subject Requirements:

H4 in a laboratory science subject (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Physics with Chemistry (joint) or Agricultural Science).

Additional Requirements

Garda Vetting and Fitness to Practise

Occupational therapists are experts in analysing the activities that people need, want, or have to do, in their day-to-day life.

Occupational therapy is about enabling people to live life to the fullest, when they have been prevented from doing so due to ill-health, disability or other obstacles.

Key Subject Areas

1. Psychology, anatomy and physiology
2. Occupational therapy theories
3. Assessment and treatment approaches and practice

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/clinical-therapies/>

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck704/>



"The small class size allows for eye-opening class discussions and means that all students are noticed and supported by lecturers. Even if students do not end up practising occupational therapy after their degree, they will leave UCC with a more open-minded and compassionate view of the world and many skills that can be applied to any area of work."

Louise Coombes
Occupational Therapy Graduate

*Entry via Tertiary Degree Pathway

20 additional places are available for students entering via the Tertiary Degree Pathway. Students take a Foundation Year in either Morrisson's Island (Cork) or Kerry College (Tralee) comprising modules in anatomy, physiology, occupational theory, healthcare communication and academic writing in addition to a 5-credit module in UCC. They then apply through CAO to enter Year 1 of the UCC degree.

<https://nto.heia.ie/courses/bsc-hons-occupational-therapy/>

Career Opportunities

In a wide range of settings, including hospitals, health centres, care homes, schools, prisons, in the community and in peoples' homes and workplaces. Our graduates are employed as therapists, researchers, managers, and educators

CK705 Speech and Language Therapy

DURATION 4 Years **EU PLACES** ~32
MINIMUM CAO POINTS 2025 552

Subject Requirements:

H4 in a laboratory science subject (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Physics with Chemistry (joint) or Agricultural Science).

Additional Requirements

Garda Vetting and Fitness to Practise

Speech and Language therapists provide treatment, support and care for children and adults who have difficulties with communication, or with eating, drinking and swallowing.

Key Subject Areas

1. Anatomy and physiology
2. Linguistics and speech science
3. Behavioural science
4. Speech and language therapy theory, assessment and treatment approaches.

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck705/>



DAVID O'SHEA
Speech and Language
Graduate

"I decided to pursue a career in SLT as I felt it was an exciting mixture of both school-based and clinical-based services, which would allow me to work with infants, school-aged children, adults and the elderly population. It is the perfect career option for individuals who are caring, passionate and willing to advocate for those who may not be able to advocate for themselves."

Career Opportunities

You can work in hospitals, primary care community centres, voluntary organisations, and in private practices in Ireland or abroad.

Recent workplace destinations for our graduates include the Daughters of Charity, The Kids Clinic, The Language People and the HSE.

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/clinical-therapies/>

CK706 Public Health Sciences Overview



DURATION

4 Years

EU PLACES ~34

MINIMUM CAO POINTS 2025 414

Subject Requirements:

H4 in either a laboratory Science subject, Mathematics or Applied Mathematics.

Additional Requirements

Garda Vetting

Public Health professionals focus on preventing disease and promoting health in populations. The BSc Public Health Sciences will equip students with the wide range of knowledge and skills necessary to become a public health practitioner.

Some Subject Areas 1st Year

1. Epidemiology
2. Health Information Systems and determinants of Health
3. The Environment & Human Health,
4. Microbiology in Society,
5. Public Health & Health Promotion

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck706/>



Martin Keenan
Public Health Sciences
Graduate

“The BSc in Public Health Sciences affords students the opportunity to experience a multitude of subjects from biological sciences, sociology, epidemiology, nutrition, politics, statistics and social research. The course, while multidisciplinary in its approach has the added advantage of small classes that deliver personalised attention”

Career Opportunities

Graduates are employed in diverse public health roles and settings, including data analysis and disease surveillance, health and nutrition, health and safety, health communication, health promotion, international aid agencies, media and public relations, and public health research.

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/publichealth/>

CK707 Medical and Health Sciences



DURATION

4 Years

EU PLACES ~50

MINIMUM CAO POINTS 2025 532

Subject Requirements:

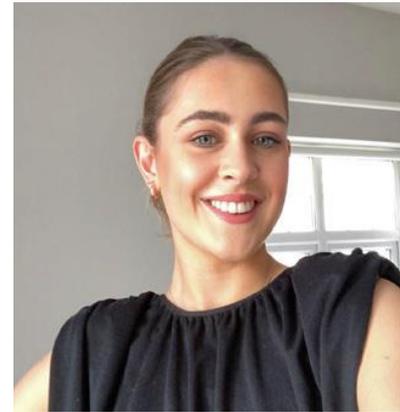
Min. grade H4 in two subjects, including Chemistry

Min. grade O6/H7 in four other subjects, including either Physics, Biology or Agricultural Science.

Students acquire a solid grounding in the core disciplines underlying the medical and health sciences, as well as having a strong focus on research.

Example Some Subject Areas 1st Year

1. Epidemiology
2. Human Biology
3. Cardiovascular Biology
4. Respiratory Biology
5. Gastrointestinal
6. Nutritional & Metabolic Biology
7. Translational Medicine
8. Pharmacology



Ava O'Flynn
Medical and Health Sciences
Graduate

“This course is perfect for anybody with a keen interest in the field of medical science and healthcare. It has exposed me to a variety of different modules and exciting career pathways in the pharmaceutical industry, scientific research and even business.”

Career Opportunities

Employment in the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical devices industries, and in health promotion, education and policy. Jobs to choose from in these fields, including clinical trials analyst, laboratory scientist, lecturer, medical researcher, medical sales representative, medical writer, and pharmaceutical scientist.

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/medical/prostud/>

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck707/>

CK708 Paramedicine Overview

DURATION 4 Years **EU PLACES** ~30
MINIMUM CAO POINTS 2025 496

Subject Requirements:

H4 in a laboratory science subject (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Physics with Chemistry (joint) or Agricultural Science).

Minimum grade H5 in one subject and minimum grade O6/H7 in four other subjects

Additional Requirements

Garda Vetting

Students on this programme will be required to obtain a full C1 driving licence by semester 2 of Year 3.

The course will provide you with a variety of modules in numerous settings including modules in theory and clinical practice.

In addition, you will participate in ambulance-supervised placements and multiple clinical settings such as emergency departments, coronary care units etc.



Placements

In major hospitals and ambulance bases throughout the State, enabling you to consolidate your learning and gain clinical exposure throughout the programme.

Clinical placements are facilitated by the HSE National Ambulance Service. Our extensive network of teaching hospitals includes Cork University Hospital which is a Major Trauma Centre.

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/medical/emergencymedicineprehospitalcare/>

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck708/>

Student Financial Supports & Advice Office



If you require any financial and/or budgetary advice, please make sure to contact us.



The Hub, Main Campus, UCC.



<https://www.ucc.ie/en/sfsa/>



studentbudgetingadvice@ucc.ie



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