

## 2020 UK Foundation Programme (FP)

### UKFP Application Statement (External)

#### Summary

At the close of the application period, the number of FP applications received exceeded the number of foundation training places available by **349**. Based on previous withdrawal trends, from the number of indicative programme places and the numbers of applications received this year, it is predicted that the 2020 UK Foundation Programme will be undersubscribed.

#### Current Position

Country	Indicative Posts			Number of Applicants from Each Nation and Eligibility Office*			Variance (number of applications minus the number of posts)		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
England	6,111	6,122	6,143	5,865	5,955	5,925	-246	167	-218
Northern Ireland	252	253	253	255	260	252	3	-7	-1
Scotland	849	849	849	818	853	839	-31	-4	-10
Wales	339	339	368	339	353	378	0	-14	10
Eligibility Office	N / A	N / A	N / A	582	695	568	N / A	N / A	N / A
<b>National Total</b>	<b>7,551</b>	<b>7,563</b>	<b>7,613</b>	<b>7,859</b>	<b>8,116</b>	<b>7,962</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>349</b>

\*Eligibility Office includes overseas graduates and UK medical school graduates who qualified more than two years prior to the start of the programme.

#### UK Medical School Nominations and Applications

At the time of the close of the application window, a total of 7,594 students / graduates had been nominated by UK medical schools, 7,394 (97.37%) of whom submitted an FP application. The percentage of nominees who applied decreased slightly for 2020, with 97.37% of students choosing to submit an application for FP.

#### Eligibility Office Applications

The overall number of applicants who applied through eligibility decreased by 168 in 2020 compared to 2019, largely due to a decline in applications received from graduates from EEA medical schools. A total of 635 applicants who applied through eligibility were considered eligible or eligible with conditions.

A total of 568 (89.45%) applicants who applied through the eligibility process have subsequently applied to FP.

#### Withdrawals

The withdrawal trend from previous application cycles has been consistent at a rate of approximately 7% since 2012-13 (for the allocation to FP 2013). When applying the 7% reduction, the data suggests there will be sufficient withdrawals to allocate all applicants to places, with **208** vacancies at the start of the programme.

	FP 2015	FP 2016	FP 2017	FP 2018	FP 2019	FP 2020
Total number of applicants	8,125	7,858	7,742	7,860	8,116	7,962
Total number of posts	7,621	7,615	7,644	7,551	7,563	7,613
More applicants than posts	504	243	98	308	553	349
Minus predicted 7% withdrawal rate	568	550	542	550	568	557
<b>Estimated Vacant Posts</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>208</b>

### **Primary List / Reserve List – Number of applicants expected in March 2020**

Based on the average withdrawal rates from 2013 to 2019, it is predicted that 30% of the total number of applicants expected to withdraw will do so prior to the primary list allocation. Applicants who are not allocated to the primary list will be placed on the reserve list. Previous reserve list numbers have ranged from 25 – 425 (the highest number placed in 2019). The combination of applicant and programme numbers for 2020 indicates that the number of applicants will exceed the number of places available at the time of the primary list allocation. The figures suggest that 182 applicants will be placed on the reserve list.

	<b>FP 2016</b>	<b>FP 2017</b>	<b>FP 2018</b>	<b>FP 2019</b>	<b>FP 2020</b>
More applicants than posts	243	98	308	553	349
Minus 30% pre-allocation withdrawals	165	163	165	170	167
<b>Number of applicants on reserve list</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>-65</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>182</b>

In 2019, only 21% of withdrawals occurred prior to the primary list allocation. If this trend were to continue, a total of 233 applicants will be placed on the reserve list for 2020.

The UKFPO will allocate reserve list applicants as soon as vacancies arise due to applicant withdrawals.

### **Academic Foundation Programme (AFP)**

A total of 2,558 applications for AFP have been received for 2020; 2,302 for England, 34 for Northern Ireland, 170 for Scotland and 52 for Wales.

UK Foundation Programme Office  
October 2019