



University
of Glasgow

Opportunities to contribute to the Student Selected Components for the MBChB programme



The Undergraduate School of Medicine is looking to recruit enthusiastic clinicians and scientists to contribute to the Medical School's Student Selected Components programme for years 2, 3 and 4.

What are Student Selected Components?

Student Selected Components (SSCs) complement the MBChB degree programme by offering students the opportunity to choose subjects they wish to study in depth. This fulfils the GMC requirement which states that a minimum of 10% of the curriculum should be made available for student choice. The Medical School recruits clinicians from ST5 onwards and senior scientists/academics to supervise SSCs.

It is for each UK medical school to design its own SSC programme to suit its own circumstances. At the University of Glasgow this takes the form of a 5 week dedicated block selected by students from a wide range of options and is undertaken once in each of year 2, 3 and 4. SSCs are delivered across a variety of teaching formats and cover topics such as research projects, the study of core curriculum-related topics in more depth, and topics outside medicine including humanities and languages.

Although programmes vary between medical schools, the GMC provide the following guidance as to what particular skills students should have the opportunity to develop:

- Learn about and begin to develop and use research skills.
- Have greater control over their own learning and develop their self-directed learning skills.
- Study, in depth, topics of particular interest outside the core curriculum.
- Develop greater confidence in their own skills and abilities.
- Present the results of their work verbally, visually or in writing.
- Consider potential career paths.

SSCs also help in addressing the GMC graduate domain "Doctor as a Scholar and Scientist" and "Outcome for Graduates"

What is the role of an SSC Supervisor?

- Provide a written outline for a 5 week module including aims and intended learning outcomes (template provided www.gla.ac.uk/media/Media_674091_smxx.docx).
- Decide on the delivery method of the SSC.
- Decide on which block(s) and the number of student places (i.e. 1-2 per block, more if applicable).
- Set aside time to supervise – this varies according to the nature of the SSC.
- Consider the most appropriate method for assessing the SSC (at least 60% written format with remainder usually being supervisor's assessment and/or oral presentation).
- Encourage the development of a wide and varied range of skills such as curiosity, the ability to critically evaluate evidence, problem-solving and generic skills.

So, essentially for a supervisor to offer an SSC all that is required is to let us know the block dates, number of students and complete a module outline (https://www.gla.ac.uk/media/Media_674091_smxx.docx)

What are the benefits for a SSC Supervisor?

- Satisfaction from supervising enthusiastic and interested students for an intense 5 week period.
- Anonymised student feedback is provided which can be included in job planning and appraisals.
- Help with clinical governance tasks such as audits, reviews, clinical effectiveness, etc.
- Increase the potential for future recruitment into your speciality.
- Improve staff skills and training such as supervision and assessment expertise.
- Promotes interaction with the Medical School which can be formalised by applying for honorary status:
www.glasgow.ac.uk/colleges/mvls/honorarystatusinformation/

How do I find out more?

We are always keen to encourage more staff to offer modules and can provide guidance and support. More information can be found at:
www.gla.ac.uk/schools/medicine/mus/currentstudents/ssc/

Dr Joanne Burke, SSC Director

Dr Antonia Roseweir, SSC Director

To contact the SSC Administrator, please email med-sch-ssc@glasgow.ac.uk

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SSC Dates	
Session 2025-2026	
	Dates
Year 4 (5 weeks)	8th September – 10th October 2025
	13th October – 14th November 2025
	17th November – 19th December 2025
	12th January – 13th February 2026
Year 2 (5 weeks)	12th January – 13th February 2026
Year 3 (5 weeks)	19th January – 20th February 2026
	23rd February – 27th March 2026
	13th April – 15th May 2026 (May Day 4th May)
	18th May - 19th June 2026 (Spring Bank Holidays 25th May)

For existing supervisors, please note that due to curriculum changes, we now have a Year 3 SSC at the start of January which means there is now an overlap with a Year 4 SSC block.



Email: med-sch-ssc@glasgow.ac.uk

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