

UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA

Medical School



**DOCTOR OF
MEDICINE - MD**

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The University of Nicosia Medical School

Pioneering medical education in Cyprus

The University of Nicosia started the first medical programme in Cyprus in 2011 by offering the St George's, University of London graduate-entry course through a franchise agreement. More than 300 students from around the world are now enrolled in our Medical School.

The University of Nicosia Medical School offers the following programmes of study:

1. A **Doctor of Medicine (MD)**. 6-year undergraduate entry degree awarded by the University of Nicosia
2. A **Postgraduate Diploma/MSc in Family Medicine** degree for physicians awarded concurrently by the University of Nicosia and St George's, University of London
3. The **St George's, University of London Bachelor in Medicine and Bachelor in Surgery (MBBS)**, a 4-year graduate-entry British medical degree that is quality assured by the UK General Medical Council. This degree is offered through a franchise agreement.

University of Nicosia: an international education philosophy

The University of Nicosia is the largest institution of higher education in Cyprus, combining the best elements of Western education, quality standards and an international philosophy. Located in the nation's capital, the University of Nicosia is a global educational centre with students representing over 80 different countries in a multicultural learning environment that promotes friendship, cooperation and understanding.

With instruction in English and an emphasis on critical thinking and lifelong learning skills, the University of Nicosia's diverse range of academic programmes at both the undergraduate and postgraduate level prepare students for leadership roles in the private and public sectors. Over the past two decades, the University of Nicosia has led the development of health and life sciences programmes in Cyprus. In addition to the undergraduate-entry Medical degree, the Medical School offers a St George's, University of London MBBS programme and a Master in Family Medicine. The University of Nicosia also has degree programmes in Pre-medicine, Human Biology, Nursing and Sports Science, while programmes in Nutrition and Dietetics, Physiotherapy and Pharmacy have been added. Furthermore, several postgraduate courses have been added: MSc Biomedical Sciences, MSc Clinical Dietetics, MSc Orthopaedic Science and Rehabilitation, MSc Science and Physical Education, MSc in Mental Health Nursing and MSc in Contemporary Nursing. In this manner, the University of Nicosia has developed a strong academic infrastructure to support the delivery of the MBBS and MD programmes and created conditions that support inter-professional learning and development.

The University of Nicosia is actively involved in local, European and international research projects as a partner and as a coordinating institution. The research projects conducted by its faculty and its research centres have strong impact on every aspect of activity in Cyprus and beyond, including health, technology, education, economy and social issues. Additionally, the University of Nicosia received approval for an Erasmus University Charter and is an official participant in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).



Medical School Block A

In October 2010, the University of Nicosia was awarded the Diploma Supplement Label by the European Commission, one of only 106 European universities to hold this distinction. The University of Nicosia is also actively involved locally and internationally with campaigns for various causes, such as the support of an orphanage and hospital for HIV-positive children in Kenya, diversity, migration, gender and racial equality issues, and environmental protection. In recognition of this work the University of Nicosia received the prestigious “Global 500” award from the United Nations.



Library





Professor Andreas Charalambous
Executive Dean

Executive Dean's Welcome

A great place to study

The University of Nicosia started the first medical programme in Cyprus in 2011 by offering the St George's, University of London graduate-entry MBBS through a franchise agreement. Building on our experiences with the MBBS programme, the University of Nicosia Medical School is now offering a 6-Year MD degree programme designed for high school leavers and an MSc in Family Medicine for practicing General Practitioners. Our Medical School and its MD programme are listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools, a free web-based resource for accurate and up-to-date information about international medical schools that are recognised by the appropriate government agency in the countries where they are located. The MD programme has been evaluated by the Evaluation Committee of Private Universities and is recognised/approved by the Cyprus Ministry of Education and Culture and the State.

We are justifiably proud of our achievements in medical education and research, and you will benefit from world-class faculty members, experienced and supportive staff, international partnerships, and state-of-the-art facilities and learning resources. The student-centred curriculum allows for the early development of clinical skills and reasoning, and promotes collaborative learning, critical thinking and reflection, skills that are essential for your future career in medicine. Once you successfully complete our programme, you will receive an MD degree from the University of Nicosia Medical School that is recognised worldwide.

The University, built on liberal democratic principles, welcomes students from over 80 different countries and is a place where you will feel included from the very start. We look forward to welcoming you to Nicosia and to the MD programme.

Professor Andreas Charalambous

Executive Dean

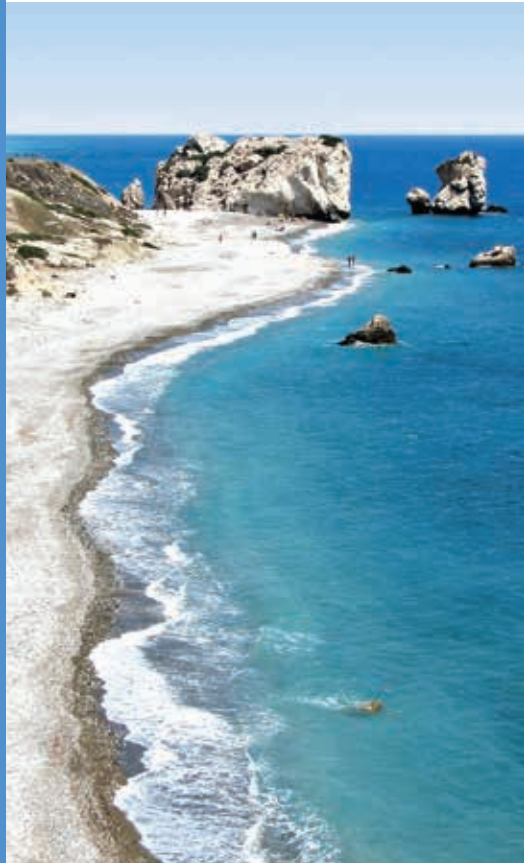
Cyprus

An international education centre

Cyprus is located in the Northeast corner of the Mediterranean Sea, at the meeting point of Europe, Asia and Africa. A member of the European Union since 2004, Cyprus is an ideal centre in which to study, combining a modern infrastructure, multicultural population, rich history and cultural heritage, and beautiful natural environment with an excellent quality of life - reasons why the island and the University of Nicosia have become major international education destinations.

Cyprus enjoys a wonderful Mediterranean climate, with sunny weather and warm temperatures prevailing from April through November. With almost three million visitors coming to Cyprus each year, the island offers excellent facilities for sport, leisure and shopping, and an exciting and varied night-life. Blessed with natural beauty, Cyprus gives visitors and residents alike the opportunity to enjoy golden beaches, rugged coastlines, and forest-clad mountains dotted with picturesque villages. What's more, the people of this country are famous for the warm and friendly welcome they extend to visitors.

A business and financial centre for Southeast Europe and the Middle East, Cyprus also enjoys a high standard of living, and is a member of the Eurozone. However, the cost of living is still lower than in most European countries, there is a very low crime rate, and the general pace of life is more relaxed.





For more information on the experiences waiting for you in Cyprus, go to visitcyprus.com



Professor Peter McCrorie
Dean for Medical Education

Message from Dean for Medical Education

A modern programme in a traditional framework

The MD programme is an interesting hybrid - an innovative programme hiding behind a conventional structure. It is a 6-year course, predominantly for school leavers, starting fairly didactically with the basic sciences underlying medicine and ending up with almost full-time practical exposure to patients undergoing investigation and treatment in hospital.

The early years, though heavy in the sciences, involve time spent with patients as well - so called "early clinical exposure". Wherever possible, learning is in context and is presented in an integrated and co-ordinated way. We don't want you to memorise a load of excessively detailed facts that are of little relevance to medicine. We want you to undergo a process of deep learning rather than superficial learning. We want you to *think* rather than learn by rote. Siting your learning in the context of clinical scenarios and real patients will help you achieve this. And our assessments are likewise geared to test *reasoning*, not *factual recall*.

Medicine is not just about knowledge; it's about people - their health, their emotions, their expectations, their beliefs and their social backgrounds. Our programme encompasses all of that. We teach you how to communicate with patients, how to take histories from them, how to examine them, how to treat them ethically and with respect and how to relate to their social and cultural backgrounds. We help you understand the importance of public health and diseases affecting communities. And of course we help you learn how to diagnose and treat patients, including those who are terminally ill. You will work with babies, infants, adolescents, pregnant women, and people of all ages and from all backgrounds.

You will be exposed to a wide range of teaching methods - lectures, tutorials, discussions, practicals, case-based learning, clinical skills sessions, role play, bedside teaching, teaching in clinics, teaching in the community, research projects and more. And you will be exposed to a wide range of teachers too - scientists, clinicians, other healthcare professionals, medical ethicists and behavioural scientists. Clinical teaching will largely be consultant-led and will take place in both the private and public sectors in Cyprus. You will have the chance to study abroad for your elective. Altogether a wealth of opportunity awaits you.

I believe we have designed an exciting programme, one which retains the best of the old and introduces the best of the new. Enjoy!

Professor Peter McCrorie
Dean for Medical Education



Dr Adonis Ioannides
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Message from Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Drawing on our rich experience

The University of Nicosia established the first Medical School in Cyprus in 2011 delivering the prestigious graduate-entry MBBS programme of St George's, University of London. The Medical School marked another key milestone in 2014 with the launch of a 6-Year, undergraduate-entry medical programme leading to the award of an MD degree from the University of Nicosia. In doing so, the School became the first on the island to offer medical programmes for both graduates and school-leavers. Students on the MD programme joined a thriving international community of aspiring doctors and set about pursuing their dream of a career in Medicine.

The MD programme has been specifically designed to combine a comprehensive grounding in the basic sciences with an emphasis on clinical context and an early introduction to the clinical environment. It draws on the rich experience of academics and clinicians from the School's faculty and benefits greatly from the School's robust quality assurance processes. Our commitment to safeguarding standards is exemplified by the inclusion of an international benchmark of academic excellence, in the form of the USMLE Step 1 examination, as a progression point for the programme. The aim is for our graduates to excel as caring, professional and well-rounded practitioners of medicine and to be highly competitive when it comes to sought-after opportunities for postgraduate training around the world.

I look forward to welcoming you to Nicosia and to the programme.

Dr Adonis Ioannides

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs



*President of Cyprus
Nicos Anastasiades*

First graduation of doctors in Cyprus

Graduation 2015 was a landmark not only for the Medical School but also for the country as a whole, because it celebrated the first graduation of doctors in Cyprus.

With an impressive ceremony held at the State Theatre in Nicosia on 15 May 2015, featuring as keynote speaker President of Cyprus Nicos Anastasiades and attended by parents and guests from across the globe, the University of Nicosia Medical School celebrated the graduation of students in the graduate-entry programme that is offered in collaboration with St George's, University of London. All graduates received a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) and subsequently secured employment in their country of choice.





University of Nicosia main campus

Introduction to programme

Graduates of the 6-Year programme will earn a Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree awarded by the University of Nicosia, allowing them to apply for residency programmes in their home countries.

The MD programme is quality approved by the Evaluation Committee of Private Universities (ECPU) of the Cyprus Ministry of Education & Culture (<http://www.ecpu.ac.cy>)

- The MD Programme is also listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools that has been developed through a partnership between the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME) and the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER) in collaboration with the World Health Organization (www.wdoms.org)
- The MD Programme has been recently accredited by Greece's National Academic Recognition Information Center (Διεπιστημονικός Οργανισμός Αναγνώρισης Τίτλων Ακαδημαϊκών και Πληροφόρησης, Δ.Ο.Α.Τ.Α.Π.)

All students who successfully complete Years 1-4 (i.e Phases I and II of the MD programme) will be awarded a BSc in Biomedical Sciences. This degree will offer an opportunity to students who either do not want or cannot progress from Phase II to Phase III of their studies to obtain a BSc degree that will help them follow a different career path.

Accreditation

The MD awarded by the University of Nicosia is a recognised European Union degree, accredited by the Cyprus Government. The University of Nicosia Medical School is listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools, which has been developed through a partnership between the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME) and the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER) in collaboration with the World Health Organization and the University of Copenhagen.

Faculty

Our faculty include academics and clinicians trained in medical education, and who have teaching experience in Cyprus and abroad. They are drawn from the country's leading hospitals, representing the full range of medical specialities.



Programme profile

General objectives

This programme of study provides students with the opportunity to receive high quality education in Medicine. The general programme objectives are:

1. To train students in the practice of scientific evidence-based medicine.
2. To encourage students to practise medicine holistically, encompassing ethical, legal, psychological and social considerations.
3. To produce highly competent and caring physicians.
4. To foster the development of lifelong commitments to scholarship and service toward patients.
5. To promote health and wellness through disease prevention and research.
6. To contribute toward the establishment of Cyprus as a regional centre of excellence in medical education.

Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of this programme, students should be able to:

1. Apply an understanding of normal and abnormal human structure, function and behaviour to the diagnosis, management and prevention of health problems.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the factors which influence the health of the population and the respective roles of the promotion of health, the prevention of illness and the treatment of disease.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the contribution of genetic, legal, social, environmental, political, economic, historical and behavioural factors to health, illness and disease within a global context.
4. Elicit and interpret clinical symptoms and signs by interviewing and examining patients systematically and with sensitivity, and use this information to order investigations, make differential diagnoses and form management plans.
5. Keep accurate clinical records based on their own observations and communicate their findings to others clearly and concisely.
6. Recognise and manage life-threatening conditions and provide immediate care for medical emergencies, including First Aid and resuscitation.
7. Prescribe drugs safely.
8. Develop an understanding of the work of other health care professionals, and demonstrate a willingness and ability to work inter-professionally and to learn from other professional groups.
9. Work cooperatively as a member of a team, accepting and providing leadership as appropriate.
10. Analyse and critically appraise clinical data and published work to determine their validity and usefulness.
11. Practise ethical behaviour in meeting the needs of patients and families; concern for confidentiality and respect for individual autonomy, enabling patients and their families to make informed decisions in relation to their medical care.



Cell Biology Laboratory

12. Possess an on-going commitment to the advancement of knowledge within a community of medical scholars and to life-long learning to maintain high professional standards.
13. Possess skills in the recording, organisation and management of information including the use of appropriate information technology.
14. Understand the therapeutic nature of the patient-doctor relationship and the impact on that relationship of the individual characteristics of both patient and doctor.

Career prospects

Graduates will be eligible to apply for registration with the Cyprus Medical Council in order to proceed with Residency applications in Cyprus or other EU countries. In order to be registered, applicants must additionally satisfy specific Greek language requirements. The Medical School provides free-of-charge Greek language lessons to support students with this. To practice in countries not within the European Economic Area, non-EU graduates will

need to meet any other requirements of the country in which the graduate will apply for licensure. Your Admissions Advisor will be able to provide further information to guide you on this.

Access to further studies

Graduates will be eligible for postgraduate specialty training leading to the award of a certificate of completion of training and also have the option of pursuing a postgraduate academic programme (PgDip, Masters or Doctoral) depending on their chosen career path.

BSc in Biomedical Sciences

All students who successfully complete the courses of Years 1-4 (i.e., Phases I and II of the MD programme) will be awarded a BSc in Biomedical Sciences. This degree will offer an opportunity to students who either do not want or cannot progress from Phase II to Phase III of their studies to have a BSc degree that will help them follow a different career option.

Message from MD Programme Director

A student-centred programme



Dr Constantina Constantinou
MD Programme Director

It was with great pleasure and honour that we welcomed our first student cohort to the Doctor of Medicine (MD) Programme in September 2014, and we look forward to welcoming new student cohorts in the years to come.

An innovative curriculum

Students in the MD Programme benefit from an innovative curriculum that was developed by using the most updated research in medical education. In this curriculum we have merged tradition with innovation. This is a 6-Year programme for high school leavers. The programme consists of three phases: *Phase I: Basic Sciences*, *Phase II: Integrated Studies (Basic and Clinical Sciences)*, *Phase III: Clinical Studies*. Our students will develop a very strong background in the basic sciences during the first four years on the programme.

This will support their learning not only in the clinical years (Years 5 and 6) but also in their clinical practice or in their research (for those who choose a research-related career). A valuable quality of the programme is that the curriculum has been enriched with courses in related social sciences such as medical psychology, medical ethics and medical sociology. The inclusion of these courses is a requirement of all modern medical curricula because clinicians benefit substantially from learning about the social aspects of health and illness and health behaviour. The innovation in the programme is evident in the development of the Integrated Clinical Practice Courses students take from Years 2-4. In these courses the students are trained in clinical and communication skills and attend clinical placements in hospitals (starting from Year 2). The body systems are covered in an integrated manner and students learn by case-based learning. The concepts are re-visited in subsequent years to enhance student learning. We believe that our programme will encourage students to practise medicine holistically encompassing ethical, legal, psychological and social considerations. Our goal is to produce highly competent and caring physicians.

Multiple teaching and learning methods

Students in the MD Programme are exposed to a variety of teaching and learning methods. Lectures, small group tutorials, case-based learning, laboratory practicals, visits to laboratories and hospitals are all used from Year 1 of the programme. The different teaching and learning methods aim to meet the different students' learning styles. Our goal is to help our students develop the multiple skills required for good medical practice.

A high quality programme

The MD programme is accredited by the Evaluation Committee of Private Universities (ECPU) of the Cyprus Ministry of Education & Culture and listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools. Assessment in the MD Programme is aimed at evaluating the students' *professionalism, academic knowledge and skills*. Continuous assessment in the initial years is aimed at supporting learning and helps the transition from high school to university. Furthermore, the curriculum is mapped to the topics of the United States Medical Licencing Exam Step-1, and our students need to pass the USMLE Step 1 Exam to progress from Year 4 to Year 5 (from Phase II to Phase III). The USMLE exam is an international benchmark that ensures the offering of a high-quality programme that meets the highest international standards.

A student-centred programme

The MD Programme is a student-centred programme. As students you will discover that your feedback is highly valued. We consider communication with our students essential to maintain our high quality. You will also discover that as students in the MD Programme you will receive continuous support from a variety of people in different Student Support Services. Our goal is to provide our students with ongoing support to complete their medical education with the best results!

Our ultimate goal is to exceed our students' expectations and make their experiences memorable. We look forward to welcoming you to the MD Programme!

Dr Constantina Constantinou

MD Programme Director



Sjofn Ragnarsdottir
Class of 2021, Iceland

Coming all the way from Iceland, I think it's wonderful to live in a country where there is almost always sun and good weather. It makes it really easy to wake up in the morning and go to school and it also lightens your mood. Cyprus is a very relaxed environment. From my first day here the people of Cyprus have been really warm and welcoming. That's why I felt immediately at home.

The MD-6 year programme is extremely organised and has a competitive student body. It is really easy for international students to adapt because we get a lot of support from all the school's staff as well as students from the second year. One of the biggest pros of the programme is the wide range of nationalities and cultures because students come from all over the world. Here I can experience an adventure, expand my horizons and meet new people from different backgrounds who are driven and strive for the same goal: to help people.

Innovative and modern curriculum

The curriculum of the MD Programme is innovative and is based on the most recent research in the field of medical education. Students learn through case studies and have small group tutorials for most of their courses. In addition, there is a strong emphasis on the social sciences including medical ethics and sociology.

Curriculum development has focused on the guidelines of professional bodies, such as the General Medical Council of the UK (GMC), which places particular emphasis on social sciences because patients are social beings and clinicians benefit substantially from learning about the social aspects of health and illness and social health behaviour.

Furthermore, there is currently a discussion about training both medical students and clinicians to be culturally competent in order to improve their interaction with patients. Medical Sociology has a crucial role to play in this training because it covers issues that relate to patients' health beliefs, the experience of chronic illness, migration and health, cultural values and health behaviour, socio-cultural environment and mental illness, and socioeconomic background and health.

Today medical schools can no longer afford to negate the importance of medical ethics in the undergraduate curriculum if they are to adhere to the prerequisites of professional bodies such as the General Medical Council, the World Medical Association and the World Federation for Medical Education which, among other professional bodies throughout the world, deem medical ethics as a core part of the medical curriculum. Ethics is a philosophical discipline and medical students, who may be more adept in the sciences, need an appropriate amount of time dedicated to this subject. Therefore, we strongly feel that one full course, in addition to integrated lectures in medical ethics throughout the curriculum in a six year medical programme, is necessary to form doctors who are aware that ethics is crucial to good medical practice and will have the clinical ethical competence skills required by these professional bodies. The attainment of scientific knowledge is not sufficient to become a good doctor. Students need to know how to use, and not misuse, such knowledge.

In addition the curriculum has been designed to encourage spiral learning. Therefore topics visited in first years are revisited in subsequent years to build on further experiences.

Overview of the curriculum

The programme is structured around 12 academic semesters over a period of 6 years. In each semester students take 30 ECTS credits, completing 360 ECTS credits after 12 semesters of full-time tuition.

Phases of the MD programme

Phase I consists of years 1-3, Phase II consists of year 4 and Phase III consists of years 5 and 6.

REQUIREMENTS		ECTS
Phase I Basic Medical Sciences		
Year 1	60 ECTS	180
Year 2	60 ECTS	
Year 3	60 ECTS	
Phase II Integrated Studies-Basic and Clinical Sciences		
Year 4	60 ECTS	60
Phase III Clinical Studies		
Year 5	60 ECTS	120
Year 6	60 ECTS	
Total Requirements		360

Phase I (Basic Medical Sciences)

During Phase I (years 1-3) students gain knowledge in the basic medical sciences: general chemistry, organic chemistry, physics, biology, anatomy, histology, biochemistry, physiology, genetics, microbiology and virology, immunology, pharmacology, general pathology and essential medical statistics. In addition students take courses in the social sciences related to medicine such as medical sociology, medical psychology and medical ethics. Students also take courses in Integrated Clinical Practice where they develop the important clinical and communication skills required for medicine. Students will have the opportunity to meet, under supervision, selected patients in local hospitals and clinics to practise these basic skills.

Phase II (Integrated Studies - Basic and Clinical Sciences)

During the first semester of Phase II (year 4) students take courses in haematology, systematic pharmacology, and public health and epidemiology. They also carry out a research project. In the second semester of Phase II the students take a course in Integrated Clinical Practice in which they build on the clinical and communication skills they developed during the previous years. The aim is for students to practise further clinical and communication skills related to the courses running concurrently, initially on each other and professional role players, and subsequently on selected patients. The students will visit local hospitals, clinics and the community to allow further practice of the skills they have learnt and to understand how medicine is practiced in these settings. Students take part in clinical attachments in medicine, surgery and general practice.



Pathology Laboratory

Phase III (Clinical Studies)

The objectives of Phase III (years 5 and 6) are to provide students with extensive experience in the clinical environment, mainly in hospitals but also in the community, so that they can utilise their learning over the previous 4 years to practise their clinical, communication, diagnostic and reasoning skills on real patients, and to learn about the management of patients, from a medical, therapeutic, surgical, psychosocial and caring perspective. Students take part in clinical attachments in cardiology, cardiothoracic and vascular surgery, respiratory medicine, thoracic surgery and breast surgery, gastroenterology and GI surgery, nephrology, urology and transplant surgery, rheumatology and dermatology/plastic surgery, neurology, neurosurgery and palliative care, psychiatry, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, internal medicine, general surgery, emergency medicine and intensive care, orthopaedics, otorhinolaryngology & ophthalmology, therapeutics and prescribing, general practice and geriatric medicine. Students also do a Clinical Attachment Elective, spending six

weeks on a chosen activity or medical speciality of their choice. Students are encouraged to broaden their experiences by undertaking their elective in a different environment. This includes the option of carrying out an elective in teaching hospitals abroad.



Melina Mahr
Class of 2020, Belgium

Within the first weeks we were already immersed in the world of science, not only by learning a multitude of new diverse topics but also by delving deeper into any previously acquired knowledge from school. This, coupled with dedicated, caring and helpful faculty members, has facilitated the transition from high school to a university-level standard, maturity and professionalism. Living in multicultural and historical Nicosia has helped optimise this experience through the beautiful Mediterranean weather and delicious food along with its inhabitants' kindness and helpfulness.

Clinical attachments and placements

Affiliated hospitals

American Medical Center, Nicosia

The American Medical Center is a state-of-the-art private health care facility that offers a wide range of specialist medical and surgical services, including adult cardiology, cardiothoracic surgery, neurology, general surgery, transplant medicine and spinal surgery. Its technologically advanced medical environment was presented with the “Green Building Award 2011” from the European Commission.

Apollonion Hospital, Nicosia

Founded in 1991, Apollonion is an ultramodern private hospital purposely built to offer the best and most complete medical care to its patients. Its facilities include First Aid and Intensive Care units, an endoscopy and bronchoscopy department, in-vitro fertilization unit, microbiology, biochemistry, haematology, Ultrasound and mammography, X-ray department, CT scan, doppler, peripheral angiography, neurophysical laboratory, osteoporosis lab, lithotripsy, pneumonology lab, laser centre, physiotherapy and cardiac lab.

Archbishop Makarios III Hospital

The Archbishop Makarios III State Hospital is principally a specialist paediatrics centre with a capacity of 241 beds. Among clinical specialties and services are thalassaemia, cardiology, oncology, endocrinology, metabolic disorders, paediatric surgery, neonatal intensive care, obstetrics and gynaecology and ENT.

Aretaeio Hospital, Nicosia

Aretaeio Hospital is a new private medical facility with high-tech equipment and highly trained and motivated medical and ancillary staff. The hospital provides beds for 70 patients and comprises all diagnostic, therapeutic, medical and surgical services including 6 operating theatres, haematology, biochemical, microbiological, and radiology laboratories, physiotherapeutic E.N.T., in vitro fertilization and operational endoscopy units and a treadmill stress test laboratory.

BOC Oncology Centre, Nicosia

BOC Oncology Centre is a not-for-profit charitable organisation devoted to the treatment of cancer with the use of state-of-the-art technology. It comprises two main departments: the Department of Radiation Oncology and Diagnostics and the Department of Medical Oncology.

Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics (CING)

The Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics (CING) functions as a National Centre of Excellence and a Regional Referral Centre in the areas of neurology, genetics, biomedical, medical and other similar and related sciences. The CING develops and provides high-level medical and clinical laboratory services, develops and pursues advanced research, and provides education in these fields.

Evangelistria Medical Centre

Evangelistria Medical Centre provides acute and specialist hospital services. Clinical departments include general surgery, laparoscopic surgery, orthopaedic surgery, urinary surgery, vascular surgery, neurosurgery, endocrine surgery, paediatric surgery, cardiology, intensive/coronary care, oncology/haematology etc.

Limassol General Hospital

The Limassol General Hospital is the second largest hospital in Cyprus with a capacity of 410 beds. It provides medical services to 200,000 inhabitants for the city of Limassol and its district. It also covers the district of Paphos for some specialties which are not offered at the Paphos General Hospital. Limassol General Hospital is also a teaching Hospital for nurses and doctors in six main specialties (surgery, internal medicine, cardiology, orthopaedics, gynaecology/obstetrics and nephrology).

The Limassol General Hospital is the only hospital in Cyprus in which there is a special unit providing services for infectious diseases. There is also a centre which offers training programmes supporting trauma patients (ATLS PHTLS).

Nicosia General Hospital

The Nicosia General Hospital (NGH) is the largest state hospital in Cyprus, located on the outskirts of the country's capital. It has 500 inpatient beds and covers a wide range of medical specialties, being the only referral hospital on the island. Offering secondary and tertiary health care as well as diagnostic and laboratory tests, NGH is equipped

with the latest biomedical and laboratory technology and employs 2,200 medical, nursing, paramedical, technical and other staff.

Among clinical specialities and services at NGH are heart, vascular and thoracic surgery; neurosurgery; plastic surgery; a burns clinic; oral and maxillofacial surgery; transplantation; magnetic tomography; lithotripsy; and nuclear medicine. NGH's departments include a state-of-the-art intensive care unit; a fully equipped department of radiology; histopathology, cytology, audiology and nuclear medicine laboratories; physiotherapy, endoscopy and urodynamic units; a department of interventional cardiology; and other clinical laboratories.

Each year NGH admits over 22,000 patients and performs 7,000 operations, in addition to seeing 300,000 outpatients and over 130,000 emergency cases.

Ygia Polyclinic, Limassol

Ygia Polyclinic is a private hospital located in the second largest city of Cyprus, Limassol. It offers modern facilities with a wide range of departments including general surgery, oncology, plastic surgery, ENT, gynaecology, obstetrics and paediatrics. It contains 152 beds, 11 operating theatres, a chemical laboratory, x-ray facilities, tomography (CT & MRI), and a multi-dynamic intensive care unit (ICU).



Stavros Tsemideidis
Class of 2021, Greece

The first thing you notice about the MD programme is its clear structure. The small steps it takes and the philosophy each one of them represents are there in order to take the best out of each medical candidate. At first, the programme introduces you to the basic medical courses and then it gradually emphasises clinical skills. In addition, there are laboratory, practical and tutorial sessions for almost every course so the knowledge that someone acquires does not stay at theoretical levels only. Moreover, the environment that the University provides is one of a kind. The friendly staff and the caring professors put a smile on your face no matter the circumstances. Overall the MD programme at the University of Nicosia is a very exceptional course that provides the best material, equipment and environment that students can ask for. If medicine is your choice of study, then this programme can be a life-changing opportunity.

Academic path

Phase I: Basic Medical Sciences

Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
	Type	Course Code/Title	ECTS		Type	Course Code/Title	ECTS		Type	Course Code/Title	ECTS
Semester 1	R	MED-101 Physics in Medicine I	6	Semester 3	R	MED-201 Anatomy I	6	Semester 5	R	MED-301 Brain and Behaviour	6
	R	MED-102 General Chemistry	6		R	MED-202 Histology I	6		R	MED-302 Microbiology and Virology	6
	R	MED-103 Biology I	6		R	MED-203 Physiology I	6		R	MED-303 Pharmacology	6
	R	MED-104 Medical Psychology	6		R	MED-204 Biochemistry I	6		R	MED-304 General Pathology	6
	R	MED-105 Medical Ethics	6		R	MED-205 Integrated Clinical Practice I	6		R	MED-305 Integrated Clinical Practice III	6
			30				30				30
Semester 2	R	MED-106 Research Methods in Medicine and Essential Medical Statistics	6	Semester 4	R	MED-206 Anatomy II	6	Semester 6	R	MED-306 Medical Genetics	6
	R	MED-107 Physics in Medicine II	6		R	MED-207 Histology II	6		R	MED-307 Immunology	6
	R	MED-108 Organic Chemistry	6		R	MED-208 Physiology II	6		R	MED-308 Systematic Pharmacology I	6
	R	MED-109 Biology II	6		R	MED-209 Biochemistry II	6		R	MED-309 Systematic Pathology	6
	R	MED-110 Medical Sociology	6		R	MED-210 Integrated Clinical Practice II	6		R	MED-310 Integrated Clinical Practice IV	6
			30				30				30

Phase II: Integrated Studies (Basic and Clinical Sciences)

Year 4				Year 5				
	Type	Course Code/Title	ECTS		Type	Course Code/Title	ECTS	
Semester 7	R	MED-401 Haematology	6	Semester 8	R	MED-405 Integrated Clinical Practice V (Internal Medicine, General Surgery, General Practice, Clinical and Communication Skills)	30	
	R	MED-402 Systematic Pharmacology II	6					
	R	MED-403 Public Health and Preventive Medicine	6					
	E	MED-404 Research Project	12					
			30				30	

Phase III: Integrated Studies (Clinical Studies)

	Type	Course Code/Title	ECTS		Type	Course Code/Title	ECTS	
Year 5	Semester 9	R	MED-501 Cardiology, Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery	6	Semester 10	R	MED-506 Neurology and Palliative Care	6
		R	MED-502 Respiratory Medicine, Thoracic Surgery and Breast Surgery	6		R	MED-507 Psychiatry	8
		R	MED-503 Gastroenterology and GI Surgery	6		R	MED-508 Paediatrics	8
		R	MED-504 Nephrology, Urology and Transplant Surgery	6		R	MED-509 Obstetrics and Gynaecology	8
		R	MED-505 Rheumatology and Dermatology/Plastic Surgery	6			30	
					30			

	Type	Course Code/Title	ECTS		Type	Course Code/Title	ECTS	
Year 6	Semester 11	R	MED-601 Internal Medicine	10	Semester 12	R	MED-604 Orthopaedics, Otorhinolaryngology and Ophthalmology	6
		R	MED-602 General Surgery	10		R	MED-605 Therapeutics and Prescribing	4
		R	MED-603 Emergency Medicine and Intensive Care	10		R	MED-606 General Practice and Geriatric Medicine	10
		30	E	MED-607 Elective Clinical Attachment		10		
							30	



Alexandra Christina Popa
Class of 2021, Cyprus

What I find exciting about this specific programme is that at the end of our course we have opportunities in both Europe and USA. Having classmates with nationalities spanning from Iceland to South Africa, one can easily see the benefits and how it helps the students grow in different aspects than just academically. The programme, despite being quite new, has already built a good reputation and if the students have any complaints, the staff takes into consideration every detail to help improve the programme in every way possible. Overall, the level is very professional, with many facilities (for example, the only medical school in Cyprus with cadavers), but also delightfully friendly.

Teaching and learning

Teaching and learning methodology

The curriculum of the MD Programme is based on learning objectives. Learning objectives for each course form the basis of all teaching and assessment.

The programme uses a number of teaching methods including lectures, small group tutorials, communication skills tutorials, role-playing, clinical skills tutorials, case-based learning, large group discussions, laboratory practicals, clinical placements and independent learning. Students gain clinical experience early on in the curriculum starting with clinical and community placements in year 2. Clinical placements in years 5 and 6 are at teaching hospitals in Cyprus. In addition, students have the option to carry out their elective for 6 weeks in teaching hospitals abroad.

Self-directed learning is strongly encouraged throughout the programme. In addition to carrying out their own research project in year 4 of the programme, the students also do a Clinical Attachment Elective, spending six weeks on a chosen activity or medical specialty and at a hospital of their choice (including hospitals abroad). Lastly, numerous invited talks and seminars take place on campus and students are strongly encouraged to attend these sessions to enhance their learning experience.

Learning platform - Moodle

The students have access to all of their learning material on Moodle, our online virtual learning environment. Important information such as Student Handbooks, Timetables, Scheme of Assessment, information on assignments and lecture notes are all uploaded on Moodle. Furthermore, submission of all assignments takes place electronically in an attempt to work in a student friendly green environment.

Student centred programme

Throughout the programme, students are the centre of our attention.

- We constantly strive to provide students with ongoing support to complete their medical education with the best results
- Students receive ongoing support from their Personal Tutors, the Programme Coordinator and the Course Director

Feedback from our students is very important throughout the MD Programme and essential to maintain our high quality. We receive feedback through student representation in various committees. In addition, students evaluate their learning objectives every week electronically but also evaluate their courses and Course Leads at the end of each semester.



Jacomien Nel
Class of 2021, South Africa

Warm weather, buzzing cafes and beautiful sunsets, Nicosia welcomed me home on the first day of my arrival in Cyprus. The international atmosphere that both the city and the University of Nicosia provided me with was one of excitement to learn about new cultures, an integral part of becoming a doctor. With a small cohort of students, within a week everyone had become friends, and the experienced faculty quickly got us settled into our semester subjects. With innovative labs and lively campuses, I can't wait to see what new experiences the University of Nicosia will bring into my life as a medical student!

Assessment

The assessment in the six years of the medical programme is designed to thoroughly evaluate the knowledge and skills the medical students will need to attain to allow them to practice medicine.

In the six years of the programme we assess the students' professionalism, academic knowledge and practical skills following the UK General Medical Council (GMC) recommendations for the three categories of outcomes, namely *Doctor as a Professional, Doctor as a Scholar and a Scientist and Doctor as a Practitioner (GMC, Tomorrow's Doctors, 2009)*.

Professionalism is assessed:

1. As part of individual courses (starting year 1)
2. By Workplace Based Assessments (WBAs) (in years 4,5,6)

Academic knowledge is assessed by:

1. Lab reports
2. Coursework
3. Written papers
4. Posters
5. Oral presentations
6. Midterm exams
7. Final exams
8. End of Year exams (EYE)

Practical skills (Clinical and communication skills) are assessed by Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs). OSCEs are practical exams that assess the students' clinical and communication skills with involvement of real and simulated patients in a setting similar to clinical practice. OSCEs are marked by trained examiners, many of whom are clinically qualified.

The details of assessment for each year of the MD Programme are thoroughly described in the **Scheme of Assessment** which is available to the students upon enrolment on the programme.

Assessment of the highest quality

In the MD Programme several mechanisms are in place to ensure assessment is of the highest quality. All faculty of the MD Programme are trained to ensure the development of high-quality examinations that will also prepare the students for taking the USMLE Step 1 Examination. The exam papers are blueprinted against the curriculum and thoroughly reviewed by Internal Moderators and an Assessment Panel. The results of each exam are reviewed during Results Meetings.

The USMLE step 1 examination

The curriculum of the MD Programme is mapped against the topics of the United States Medical License Examination (USMLE) Step 1 Examination. In order to progress from Phase II to Phase III, the students in the MD Programme will have to pass the USMLE Step 1 Exam. The University of Nicosia Medical School provides the students in the MD Programme with the opportunity to take USMLE Step 1 Practice Tests which are offered through the National Board of Medical Examiners. The questions in these practice tests are derived from the USMLE Bank of Questions which is used to generate the official USMLE Step 1 Examination. The USMLE exam is an international benchmark that ensures the offering of a high quality programme that meets the standards of high quality international programmes. Taking the USMLE is also the first step in the process to become a physician in the United States.

Resources

At the MD programme the expertise and support of some of the finest teaching professionals in healthcare will be at your disposal from day one. Your progress will also be reinforced by some extraordinary on-site resources.



Anatomy Centre

Facilities

The Medical School is housed in brand new facilities featuring the latest technology, including state-of-the-art anatomy and clinical skills laboratories. Students benefit from a gross anatomy/neuroanatomy lab, readily available resources for histology and histopathology, a human performance lab, an METI human patient simulation suite, a number of microbiology/molecular biology labs, human nutrition labs and physiotherapy labs.

Anatomy centre

The dissecting room is big enough to accommodate 25 cadavers. The sophisticated ventilation system allows for the entire volume of air to completely change every 5 minutes. We also have hundreds of plastic models, bones, handouts, a screen and sound system for educational videos, dozens of posters and other teaching aids including books and dissecting guides.

Clinical skills laboratories

In our clinical skills laboratories students can perfect basic skills such as taking blood pressure and pulse, checking vital signs and practising resuscitation techniques. Using the latest patient dummies (or their fellow students) they will recreate and learn to solve health problems they are sure to encounter when they begin to practise.



Clinical Skills Laboratories

IT

Our computer lab is equipped with modern hardware and the latest software programmes, and Wi-Fi is available throughout the campus. The medical school also has multifunction colour copiers for printing, scanning and copying.



Library

The University of Nicosia Medical School Library comprises more than 3,400 titles in the basic sciences and clinical medicine and is part of the University of Nicosia's Library Information Gateway. This gateway provides access to an integrated library system whose resources can be accessed by users both on and off campus. The shared online catalogue, known as InterCat, enables our library users to search our own collection as well as the more than 90,000 titles in the University of Nicosia's library collection, to reserve material, to view outstanding loans and renew books at any time via the internet. In addition, the library provides electronic access to an extensive collection of medical databases, e-books and journals.

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UNICAFE Restaurant at the Research and Technology Building

Student support

The Medical School supports our students for whatever needs they may have throughout the six years of the MD Programme. The following are some of the support systems available:

Personal Tutor

Every student has a Personal Tutor (PT) who monitors the student's academic progress and advises if there are problems. The Personal Tutor acts as a referral point for academic or personal issues.

Student Affairs

Our Student Affairs team provides students with support regarding visa procedures, accommodation and health insurance.

Counselling Support Services

Counsellors provide medical students with sympathetic support and informed advice, helping students to develop independence, discover their own resources and find their way through their difficulties.

Support for students with physical and learning disabilities

Students with learning disabilities can receive support from the Learning and Disabilities Service of the University of Nicosia Medical School.

Support for students with general health problems

In the event that a health problem arises during the course of the programme medical students can receive support from Occupational Health.

Careers Office

The Careers Office is the point of contact for students who have questions regarding residency and practising medicine in their chosen country. Students are provided with detail on the application process, licensing requirements and timelines for the countries to which they wish to apply. Support is provided to students throughout the application process for residency positions.

Graduates will be eligible to apply for registration with the Cyprus Medical Council in order to proceed with Residency Applications in Cyprus or other EU/ International Countries. They may also need to meet any other requirements of the country in which the graduate will apply for licensure (e.g. knowledge of local language).

Supplementary Student Support Services from the University of Nicosia

Students on the programme will also have full access to the student support services offered at the University of Nicosia. This is detailed in the supplementary student guide provided by the Student Affairs team.



*Department of Primary Care and
Population Health*

Mobile Clinic Expeditions

Medical Students get the chance to participate in Mobile Clinic expeditions organised by the school throughout the academic year. Supervised by clinical faculty, student volunteers offer free diagnostic tests to residents of remote areas and to specific populations in need. They also raise health awareness by presenting various topics followed by related tests. The expeditions offer the opportunity for inter-professional learning opportunities by collaborating with other health professionals and by learning from each other through collaborations with medical societies and health-related NGOs.



November 2, 2013: Inauguration of the Mobile Clinic with an expedition to Kambos and Tsakistra villages



Blood pressure measurement at a remote village of Troodos mountains



Spirometry tests during asthma week in one of the shopping malls in Nicosia



Philip Papadimitriou
Class of 2020, Greece

Studying medicine at the University of Nicosia is an opportunity to learn the concepts of medical science along with all the clinical skills that a good doctor must obtain. During our first day, we got to see most of the medical school's laboratories as well as the state-of-the-art facilities used for clinical training. However, what makes this place so special is not only the high level of education that it provides, but also the amazing student life that is on offer in Cyprus. The spectacular weather, good nightlife, and delicious Mediterranean food all contribute to a great experience.

Admissions criteria

1. **High school leaving certificate** with 90% overall score (18/20 overall in the Lyceum Apolytirion), to include similar grades in Biology and one of Chemistry, Physics or Maths.
Or: GCE A' Levels with grades ABB, to include Biology and one of Chemistry, Physics or Maths, and one more subject
Or: International Baccalaureate with 32 overall and a combined score of 16 at Higher Level, to include Biology and at least one of either Chemistry, Physics or Maths.

The Medical School will also consider applicants from other education systems. For any other qualifications please contact us so we can assess your eligibility.

2. **English language requirements:**
6.5 overall in the IELTS (with 6.5 in writing and a minimum of 6.0 in all other elements)
Or: 213 overall in the computer-based TOEFL (550 paper based, 79 internet based)
Or: grade B in the GCSE
Or: a score of 5 in English in the International Baccalaureate Standard Level (SL)
Or: a score of 70% in English in the European Baccalaureate.

Students from the UK, USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand are exempt from this requirement as long as they have graduated from an English speaking high school.

Candidates who hold a Bachelor's Degree in a field relevant to Medicine can be considered for admission to the first year of the course. Depending on their coursework, they might be able to start in Year 2 of the programme following a review of qualifications by the Admissions Committee. Such candidates from English-language universities would be exempt from the English-language requirements.

3. **An interview** - either in person or online.

You can begin your application online at med.unic.ac.cy



Medical School, Block B

Tuition and living costs

Annual tuition is €18,000 for the first 3 years and €22,000 for the final 3 years. Living costs depend on your lifestyle. On average, staying in Nicosia for the whole year will cost a minimum of €7,000 - €8,000.

In addition to tuition, the following fees also apply:

Fees	Local/EU Euro €	International/non EU Euro €
Application fee (one-off/non refundable payment)	60	60
Entry visa fee (one-off/non refundable payment)	-	90
Annual health insurance fee (compulsory for non EU only)	180	180
Annual malpractice insurance fee	300	300
International student guarantee (one-off/refundable payment)	-	400
Visa extension fee for one year*	-	105
Renewal of visa after one year*	-	35
Personal Accident Insurance	50	50

***Please note that visa fees may be subject to change.**

Financial assistance

Scholarships of up to 20% based on demonstrated financial need are available to help eligible students partially fund their studies. Students from certain countries may be entitled to financial support from their home governments - our Admissions team can advise further.





Ahmet Ozyigit
Class of 2020, Cyprus

I take pride in being a part of the University of Nicosia Medical School community. The opportunities that we have been granted as medical students are innumerable. The experiences we have been offered in and out of lectures are indescribable. And the people who have stepped into our lives and not only provided us with their knowledge and experiences, but also became friends with us, are simply one of a kind. The University of Nicosia Medical School is my home.

Visas

EU citizens may travel freely to Cyprus but are required to submit an Application for Issue of Residence Permit to the Migration Department within 3 months of their date of entry into the country. Our Student Affairs team will assist you with this procedure.

Non-EU students require a visa to study in Cyprus. Our Student Affairs team will work with students to facilitate the migration procedure.

For more information on visa requirements for non-EU students, or if there is anything you would like to ask our Student Affairs team, please email admissions@med.unic.ac.cy and we'll get right back to you.



Student Life

In and around the Medical School campus

From the outset, two things will strike you about our student population and faculty in Nicosia: how diverse and how friendly they are. Both have a profound effect on the quality of student life here, from the day you join to the day you graduate. It doesn't take long to find your way around, or to appreciate the fact that because faculty members, support staff and students all share the same facilities, getting to know people and making friends is that much easier too. You'll also have an opportunity to build on your language skills through the free Greek courses on offer. The course has been designed specifically for medical students and covers not only conversational Greek but also medical terms, including how to take a history from a patient in Greek.

What's more, our Host Family Programme offers international students the opportunity to make new friends, experience Cypriot family life, and contribute to greater understanding of exchange of other cultures.

Together, we do everything we can to help you settle in and feel part of the University community. Our Student Affairs Department helps you with the practicalities: everything from finding accommodation to hooking up to free Internet access on campus. Our team of counsellors can help resolve relationship issues, work stresses and family matters by listening, exploring options and offering impartial advice with sympathy, sensitivity and in complete confidentiality.

All medical students are automatically members of the Medical Students' Society. Student Clubs are formed for the enjoyment, benefit and enrichment of students and to encourage personal development through extracurricular activities. The activities of current clubs include community service, sports, wellness and cultural interests. To register, students can team up with their fellow students and apply through the Student Service Centre. Alternatively, they can join the variety of ethnic or academic clubs and societies at the University of Nicosia if the Club they wish to form already exists there.

A number of events are organised each year by the society, including charitable causes, raising health awareness for students, a mentoring programme for new students, and a year-end ball.



At the University campus

The University of Nicosia sponsors numerous lectures, symposia, conferences, dance and music performances, student societies and sports clubs, guaranteeing a packed programme of events, so you'll never be short of opportunities to mix! The main campus also accommodates an open-air amphitheatre for concerts and theatre, a cinema, a gym, a games room, cafeterias, a restaurant and recreational facilities where students can meet and socialise.





Venetian walls



State theatre



Nicosia by night

Living in Nicosia

The capital of Cyprus and the country's largest city, Nicosia, offers a fascinating blend of lifestyles, culture and history. From a centuries-old walled city centre that sees monuments in close proximity to late-night clubs, to downtown bargain shopping and brand new suburban malls, and a range of local and international restaurants to suit every palate and budget, Nicosia has something for everyone. And the compact size of Cyprus means that world-famous beaches or charming mountain villages are equally easy to reach - no more than a 45-minute drive from Nicosia. If you're up for it, at certain times of year you could go skiing in the mountains in the morning and then hit the beach for a swim in the afternoon.

Cultural activities include museums, art galleries, theatres and cinemas. Live concerts feature throughout the year, with recent performances ranging from leading opera companies to major world music stars. Getting around Nicosia is easy. Depending on your location, many areas of the city are within easy walking distance. The public transportation system has been recently upgraded, with brand new buses serving a wide network of routes.

Bike paths also link the University of Nicosia and other educational institutions with the city centre. Many students even take advantage of the wide and affordable selection of used cars on the market, as parking on campus is free of charge and readily available, and having your own car makes it even easier to explore Cyprus during your free time.





Athena Michaelides
Class of 2020, South Africa

Having the opportunity to study medicine abroad, specifically in Cyprus, was an opportunity that I could not turn down. The small scale classes ensure maximum individual attention allowing each one of us to flourish and reach our full potential. This is done under the wings of highly educated, easily approachable faculty, who are always willing to go the extra mile. In addition to this, we get to use state of the art facilities in a friendly and safe environment. This international program broadens horizons as one gets the opportunity to experience a variety of cultures in one classroom. The beautiful surroundings of Cyprus as well as the buzzing student life are bonuses that add to the overall student experience.

Accommodation

Students in Nicosia can choose from a variety of very affordable housing options, many of which are only a short walk to our campus. Our Student Affairs team can assist you in finding suitable accommodation for your needs and budget, closer to the time of your arrival. These include privately owned properties and halls of residences close by.

If you are willing to share a flat, we can put you in touch with other students who are looking for roommates. Two or three people typically occupy an apartment; each student has their own bedroom with a shared bathroom, kitchen, and living/dining space. In case you need further details regarding accommodation, please do not hesitate to contact the Student Affairs team at the Medical School (admissions@med.unic.ac.cy).



Contact Details

If you want to find out more about the MD degree offered by the University of Nicosia Medical School, please take a look at our website, **med.unic.ac.cy** or get in touch with us at:

Email: admissions@med.unic.ac.cy

Phone: + 357 22 471900

You can visit us at:

93 Agiou Nikolaou Street
Engomi, Nicosia 2408, Cyprus

