

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

PROGRAMME APPROVAL

Guidance on the approval route when seeking to use an existing MSc programme as an intercalated programme

The University recognises the value of offering intercalated programmes to medical students.

Intercalated degrees are an optional extra year of study in which students can take a break from medical learning and broaden their horizons, drawing on the expertise of academics in other parts of the College of Life Sciences. Students have the opportunity to research a health-related subject.

Students may intercalate one year of additional study leading to the BSc (intercalated) or MSc (intercalated). The additional year of study is taken after completion of a specified number of years of the course for the MBChB. Applications from external students are also considered.

An increasing number of MSc programmes are being proposed to be included in the intercalated offer.

Where an MSc existing programme is being proposed as an intercalated programme the below approval indicators should be considered:

Approval indicator criteria	Yes	No	Date changes*
The programme or award type is new			
Are there any changes to the mode and types of study as the existing programme?			
Are there any changes to the registration periods in comparison to the existing programme?			
Are there any amendments required to the timing of:			
• Teaching (start, end and intensity)			
• Dissertation (start, end/submission date, duration and intensity)			
• The Panel of Examiners (taught and final)			
• Exam Board (taught and final)			
Do the entry requirements differ from the existing programme?			
Are there any changes to the programme's aims and ILOs?			
Are there any changes to the modular structure of the programme?			
Are taught sessions separated for students on the existing and intercalated programmes?			
Are there any changes to the way students are assessed?			
Are there changes to the point when students will progress to the dissertation?			
Are there any changes to the structure of the programme?			

If 'no' is answered to all of the above the introduction of the intercalated programme can be considered for approval by the Quality and Standards Sub-Committee.

If 'yes' is answered to any of the above please consult with the Quality Office, programme approval may be required.

*Please note timing differences/date changes (if applicable).

iBSc programmes will require programme approval.