Medical students committee election guidelines 2019
Election principles

- The BMA MSC (medical students committee) conducts annual elections for medical student representatives of each medical school in the UK. The role profiles for each type of representative are available online at the MSC election page.
- For each medical school, one student representative and one deputy representative are elected. For multi-campus universities, such as Nottingham-Derby, one BMA student representative is elected for the entire medical school and one deputy representative is elected for each campus.
- Each medical school will hold one election. The candidate receiving the most votes will be elected as the representative, with the candidate with the next highest number of votes elected the deputy representative. For split campus medical schools the highest placed runners-up for each campus will be elected as the deputy representative for their respective campus.
- Elections are advertised by the BMA and current representatives at medical schools, on medical schools’ Facebook pages, via direct emails from the BMA, Twitter and the BMA website.
- Candidates submit their nominations online at the BMA elections website.
- Voting is by single transferable vote and is online.
- Detailed instructions on how to vote are provided.

Eligibility – to stand for election

Only BMA student members may run for positions in BMA elections. Students must be registered as full-time medical students. Intercalating students may stand for election if they are completing their additional degree at the same university as their medical school.

To nominate yourself, please login to the BMA’s elections webpage here.

Eligibility – to vote in BMA elections

Only BMA student members may vote in MSC elections. In order to ensure that ballot notifications are received by emails, students must make sure that the BMA has their correct contact information – please go to bma.org.uk/membership

Once voting opens, to submit your vote please login to the BMA’s elections webpage here.

Election conduct

- Candidates are expected to conduct their election campaigns in a mature and respectful manner and be fair and courteous to other candidates.
- Campaigning must conform to medical school regulations about posters and political activity.
- Disparagement of or defamatory comments about other candidates will not be tolerated.
- Concerns or complaints about the election process must be directed to the MSC secretariat in the first instance and should be expressed in writing (email or letter).
- The MSC has a formal complaints procedure if an issue cannot be resolved at a local level.
Election schedule

- The BMA medical student committee secretariat holds annual national elections every spring to appoint BMA student representatives and deputies.
- Early spring (March–April) elections are advertised at medical schools by the MSC secretariat, existing MSC representatives and BMA employment advisors.
- Nominations will be open online from 12pm Thursday 28 March to 12pm Thursday 18 April.
- Once nominations have closed, all nominations are reviewed for eligibility before the voting stage begins.
- All BMA student members will be emailed notifying them of the opening of online voting. The voting period lasts for approximately two weeks and the deadlines are advertised well in advance.
- Voting will take place from 12pm Thursday 25 April – 12pm Thursday 9 May. Members may only vote for candidates at their own medical school.
- Once the polls have closed, the results of each election are calculated.
- As soon as possible after the results have been calculated, and dependent upon any further elections being necessary, the MSC secretariat contacts all candidates to let them know the outcome of the elections in late May.
- Election results are then posted on the BMA website, Facebook and Twitter account in May.

To submit a nomination or vote in the election, please login to the BMA’s election webpage here.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the elections process, please contact the elections team at elections@bma.org.uk