



# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR NORTH AMERICAN APPLICANTS

RCSI DEVELOPING HEALTHCARE LEADERS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE WORLDWIDE



## Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland – Medical University of Bahrain (RCSI Bahrain)

RCSI Bahrain was established in 2004 with a mission to educate, develop and inspire competent and caring graduates who are well prepared to enter specialty training programmes and assume leadership roles in their respective disciplines.

Today, RCSI Bahrain's diverse and multicultural student body is representative of over 30 nationalities, with students from North America accounting for 15% of the student population. At RCSI Bahrain, we recognize that our capacity to continue to attract high quality students from around the world rests primarily on our reputation as a center of excellence in teaching and learning. For this reason the student experience is paramount in terms of the quality of education they receive and skills set they bring with them into the workforce. To date, the quality of our graduates and undergraduates who have engaged in clinical placements is already attested to by employers and by the continued success of our graduates in securing prestigious internships in institutions throughout the world.

## Globally Accredited

Graduates of RCSI Bahrain are conferred with the Licentiate of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (LRCSI) and the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (LRCPI), as well as the internationally recognized medical MB BCH BAO degrees of

both RCSI Bahrain and the National University of Ireland. Our medical programme is benchmarked against the World Federation of Medical Education and our Medical School is included in the World Health Organization (WHO), Directory of Medical Schools (Avicenna Directories), and the International Medical Education Directory (IMED) of the Foundation for the Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER). The University is listed in the Health Profession Education Directory of the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office of the World Health Organization and on the UNESCO run directory, the International Association of Universities – List of Universities of the World.

Locally, RCSI Bahrain's undergraduate medical programme was granted full confidence, the highest outcome achievable following an external review by Bahrain's National Authority for Qualifications and Quality Assurance of Education & Training (NAQAET). In addition, RCSI Bahrain has also received accreditation from the Sri Lankan Medical Council, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research in Jordan and the Medical Board of California, to name a few.

More recently, RCSI Bahrain was designated as an eligible institution for student financial assistance purposes for students in the different provinces in Canada. This designation enables eligible students to apply for provincial and federal funding for post-secondary education in RCSI Bahrain.

## Career Development

At RCSI Bahrain, guidance, support and advice, are provided to students at different stages of their medical education. The University provides students with career guidance and individual counselling to help students achieve their potential and prepare to apply for postgraduate training. Regular seminars and networking events are also provided to students in senior cycle in preparation for the next phase of their career. Guidance and support are provided for opportunities and services such as:

- Clinical and Research Electives
- US/Canadian Residency Applications
- Medical Student Performance Evaluation/Record
- Mock interviews
- United States Medical Licensing Exams (USMLE) Information Seminars
- Kaplan Live Lectures
- Canadian Residency Matching Service (CaRMS) Information Seminars
- Medical Council of Canada Evaluating Examination (MCCEE)
- Medical Councils
- Internship / Postgraduate Opportunities
- Career Symposiums



## Licensing Exams

Preparation for licensing exams e.g. USMLE, MCCEE is recognized as critical to our student's application for Residency Programmes and is carefully timetabled within the academic calendar. Our students have ready access to online resources, including Q Bank, Kaplan Test Preparation exams and advice from international experts. This provides an excellent preparation as reflected by our high success rates.

RCSI Bahrain and Kaplan Medical, a division of the Kaplan Test Prep recently signed an agreement which will allow Kaplan Medical to offer its USMLE - Step 1 Live Preparation Programme at RCSI Bahrain as of the summer of 2014. This programme which includes live, in person lectures offered by Kaplan's world class US medical faculty with the quality, structured, interactive experience normally only offered in Kaplan's American centres.

## Electives

RCSI Bahrain students have been able to secure electives at the following institutions worldwide. We have formal or informal agreements with several of these institutions.

INSTITUTION	LOCATION
Agha Khan University	Pakistan, Karachi
American University of Beirut	Lebanon, Beirut
Case Western University	USA, Cleveland
Cleveland Clinic	USA, Ohio
Dalhousie University	Canada, Halifax
Dubai Health Authority	UAE, Dubai
Duke University	USA, North Carolina
Emory University	USA, Atlanta
Hamad General Hospital	Qatar, Doha
Harvard University	USA, Boston
King Faisal Specialist Hospital	KSA, Dammam
King Hussein Cancer Centre	Jordan, Amman
King's College London	UK, London
Mayo Hospital, Rochester	USA, Rochester
McGill University	Canada, Quebec
McMaster University	Canada, Ontario
Memorial University	Canada, Newfoundland
Mubarak Al Kabeer Hospital	Kuwait
Taipei City Hospital	Taiwan, Taipei
University College Hospital Galway	Ireland, Galway
University of Alabama at Birmingham	USA, Alabama
University of British Columbia	Canada, British Columbia
University of Malta	Malta, Msida
University of Massachusetts	USA, Massachusetts
University Sharjah	UAE, Sharjah
Vanderbilt University	USA, Nashville, Tennessee
Weill Medical College of Cornell University	USA, New York
Yale University	USA, Connecticut

## International Affiliations

In 2013, RCSI Bahrain joined the Global Education in Medicine Exchange (GEMx) of the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduate (ECFMG) and the Global Health Learning Opportunities Collaborative (GHLO) of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). Both initiatives provide a network of collaborating institutions from around the world, facilitating global mobility for medical students pursuing clinical or research electives outside their home country.

## Residency

The ability of US and Canadian graduates to secure Residency Placements in North America after completing their medical programme overseas is essential. RCSI graduates enjoy an enviable reputation for securing competitive residencies throughout North America. The range of clinical specialties and location of Residencies secured by RCSI Bahrain graduates are shown below.

USA - HOSPITAL / UNIVERSITY	PROGRAMME
Griffin Hospital, Connecticut	Internal Medicine
Henry Ford, Michigan	Internal Medicine X 2
Marquette General Hospital, Michigan	Family Medicine
Saints Mary & Elizabeth Medical Centre, Chicago	Family Medicine
St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Michigan	Internal Medicine X 2
University of Kentucky	Internal Medicine
University of Texas, Houston	Internal Medicine X 2
Wayne State University, Detroit	Psychiatry
University Medical Center Brackenridge Hospital, Austin	Internal Medicine
University of Nevada, Las Vegas	Internal Medicine

CANADA - HOSPITAL / UNIVERSITY	PROGRAMME
McMaster University	Internal Medicine
McMaster University	General Pathology
McMaster University	Orthopedic Surgery
Queens University	Neurology
University of Manitoba	Internal Medicine
University of Manitoba	Family Medicine x2
University of Manitoba	Medical Microbiology
University of Ottawa	Psychiatry
University of Toronto	Family Medicine
University of Saskatchewan	Family Medicine
University of Western Ontario	Family Medicine



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## Reflections from RCSI Bahrain Medical Graduates

*Dr Sabrina Berdouk, Canadian –  
Currently in residency in University of Toronto*

“Having graduated in 2013 from RCSI Bahrain and now as a resident at the University of Toronto, I can look back and say how RCSI Bahrain is a solid and great medical school. Being in a small group, we came to know each other really well and with that came the privilege of having an open-door policy with our professors. In fact, most of them called us by our first names.

Before the clinical years started we were allowed to encounter patients as observers and, when our clinical years began, we had almost one-on-one teaching with preceptors. Hence they got to know us really well and trust our skills. They allowed us to do procedures under supervision, such as intubations and central line insertions. This is the kind of experience that one does not get in bigger, less intimate schools.

Outside the classroom, Bahrain is a charming island. It’s a mixture of the East and West. The weather is always sunny; the people are so warm and friendly. After five years of medical school it has become a second home for me.”

*Dr Sobia Asad Zuberi, Canadian –  
Currently in residency at the University of Manitoba*

My experience at RCSI Bahrain was nothing short of extraordinary. From the moment I first saw the school and met with the students and faculty, I knew that it was where I wanted to attend. Having the educational excellence of the experienced RCSI Dublin together with the dedication of the staff put me in a position to confidently embrace residency training. Being a Pakistani/Canadian that grew up in Saudi Arabia, the cultural diversity and friendly atmosphere of the Kingdom of Bahrain helped me find some of my closest friends. Learning to communicate with people with different experiences than mine has led me to great clinical success. The numerous clubs & societies at RCSI Bahrain provided

me with many opportunities grow and excel by becoming involved on campus and in the community. It was easy to participate in activities in which I was interested. Be it Student Council, the Medical students’ Association, or clubs geared towards one’s cultural background, I vastly enjoyed my experience - and these moments became part of my greatest memories at university.

Since completing my medical degree in 2012, I have been an internal medicine resident at University of Manitoba, and afterward, aspire to continue on to a cardiology fellowship. My experiences at university have not only led me to where I am now, rather, they have been my greatest ally in getting to where I am today. I feel privileged to have been part of the RCSI Bahrain community, and thank my university for all the wonderful years.

*Dr Talal Hilal, American – Currently in residency at the  
University of Kentucky*

As a Syrian growing up in Bahrain, I had plans to travel abroad to pursue undergraduate and medical education due to the limited options available in the region. It was in 2004 when RCSI-Bahrain recruited the first class of future physicians; the idea of becoming part of the history of RCSI and graduating from one of the most prestigious and historical medical schools grabbed my attention and altered my original plans.

During my time as a medical student of RCSI-Bahrain I witnessed the college grow, met people from different parts of the world and learned the true art of medicine from some of the most exceptional professors. It was definitely a wonderful experience that I would recommend for any individual wishing to come to the region to pursue medical education. Being an RCSI-Bahrain graduate is a unique feature that puts you at an advantage over many other medical school graduates. The school ensures the delivery of a strong foundation of medical knowledge opens opportunities for leadership and scholarly activity and provides an atmosphere of camaraderie. If I had to choose again I would choose the RCSI Bahrain!

*Dr Asma Shahid, American – Currently in residency in  
Marquette General Hospital, Michigan*

I am proud to have been part of RCSI Bahrain. After finishing undergraduate studies in Canada, I was interested in pursuing medicine in Ireland. However, when I found out about the awesome opportunity of studying medicine at RCSI Bahrain, I wasted no time and applied. On retrospect, choosing RCSI Bahrain was one of the smartest decisions I’ve made thus far in life.

Why RCSI Bahrain? Firstly, because of the close connection the university has with Dublin campus. Secondly, my desire to return to Arabia since I had been raised here and was familiar with the common culture. Studying medicine in a nourishing friendly environment with great student body and excellent team of faculty are just a few features unique to RCSI Bahrain.

Despite being a tiny, not well-known island, I found Bahrain surprisingly multicultural and multilingual. In the hospital setting, disease forms and pathologies I witnessed were diverse and complex. As a non-arabic speaker, I had no major issue finding an English speaker or two where ever I went. I recommend RCSI Bahrain to anyone and everyone without hesitation and I can reassure that you would learn a great holistic approach to Medicine like no place else!

### **RCSI Bahrain**

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