

Medicine: Education

Written Answers

Sarah Wollaston Chair, Health Committee

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what estimate he has made of the number of extra UK medical school places that will be made available to international medical students after the removal of the cap on the number of such places.

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps he plans to take to ensure that additional medical student places are fairly allocated to students from (a) the UK and (b) other EU countries.

Philip Dunne The Minister of State, Department of Health

The Government has announced a historic expansion in domestic supply of the medical workforce by funding an additional 1,500 medical school places in England available to domestic students from 2018-19. In addition, from 2019-20 English universities will not be limited in the number of international students they can recruit on a full fee paying basis.

For medical school intake targets, the only distinction that is made is between home or European Union students and those from outside the EU. As such, the additional 1,500 medical school places the Government is funding will be available to students from across the United Kingdom and all European Economic Area countries subject to the usual residency requirements.

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Sarah Wollaston Chair, Health Committee

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, for what reasons the Service Increment for Teaching funding allocation process is subject to the market forces factor; and what steps he plans to take to ensure that there is not an excessive regional disparity in allocations of that funding between London and non-London medical schools.

Philip Dunne The Minister of State, Department of Health

The funding for training placements in secondary care is allocated to placement providers by Health Education England using a tariff payment mechanism. These tariffs are calculated on the basis of average costs and do not take into account some features of cost that are likely to vary across the country. The tariffs are therefore adjusted by the Market Forces Factor in order to compensate for the cost differences of providing training placements in different parts of the country.

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