

# Prioritisation and Allocation Mechanism for MTI Applications

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The primary purpose of the MTI is to contribute to improving the quality of healthcare in developing countries. Therefore, applications are prioritised based on the economic standing of each country, with DfID, Low Income and Lower Middle-Income countries being given priority. Prioritisation is based on the country of residence of the doctor at the time of their MTI application.

While doctors from developed countries can apply, the main intention of the scheme is to provide doctors from developing countries with a period of training and development in the NHS before returning to their home countries where their patients and colleagues can benefit from the skills and experience they have obtained in the UK.

It is therefore essential that the users of the MTI scheme are clear on its purpose which is that the MTI is used for training doctors and not therefore be seen as a way to fill rota gaps with first world country doctors. This mechanism demonstrates support for the Department for Health's main focus, which is for doctors from the DfID priority and L&LMI countries to benefit from the scheme. Therefore, priority will be given to developing healthcare systems.

The prioritisation and allocation mechanism reflects the principles and intent of the scheme and therefore the following priority will be given when allocating MTI placements:

- [Department for International Development \(DfID\)](#). Countries listed under the 'Country Offices' section of this website when the application is submitted will be processed as High Priority
- [Low Income Countries](#) as defined by the World Bank
- [Lower Middle-Income Countries](#) as defined by the World Bank.

All other countries will be considered low-priority and processed only when the Academy's monthly allocation allows for this. Doctors from within the European Union currently do not require visas to work in the UK and therefore will not be accepted under the Medical Training Initiative.

Once all application documents have been submitted, applications will be processed by the Academy in order of receipt. Under this mechanism, applications from DfID, LI&LMI countries will be processed within five business days of submission of all required application documents, subject to availability.

Applications will be processed based on the Academy's monthly quota. If the Academy reaches its monthly limit, any remaining applications will roll over to the following calendar month. If the Academy is likely to fall short of its monthly quota it will then process any outstanding low-priority applications.

The Academy currently receives an allowance of 1000 [Tier-5](#) Certificates of Sponsorship per year, allowing access to work in the UK for a maximum two-year period. Therefore, there is scope for an upper limit of 2000 placements at any one time, which is the absolute maximum allowed.

Please note the Department for Health is involved in work being led by WHO to review the mechanism for defining a list of countries with fragile health economies. The Academy may choose to include this list in the priority setting process when it is available.