

HPAT 2026

Common questions about HPAT answered by MedEntry,
the leading and most trusted HPAT Preparation Institution



What is HPAT?

HPAT stands for Health Professions Admission Test. HPAT is an online, two and a half hour test consisting of multiple choice questions from three sections: Logical Reasoning and Problem Solving, Interpersonal Understanding and Non-Verbal Reasoning.

What courses require HPAT?

You will need to sit HPAT if you are interested in any of the following courses:

University	Course(s)
UCD	Medicine
TCD	Medicine
RCSI	Medicine
UCC	Medicine
UG	Medicine
UL	Medicine
	MSc Occupational Therapy
	Msc Speech and Language Therapy

What are the key dates for HPAT 2026?

HPAT registrations open	November 2025
HPAT registrations close	16 January 2026*
HPAT takes place	13-16 February 2026
HPAT results released	Late June 2026
Deadline to apply to CAO	1 February 2026

*Late registrations accepted until 1 February 2026
(late fees apply)

How can I register to sit HPAT?

You can register for HPAT by visiting hpat-ireland.acer.org/registration. The fee to sit HPAT is €164. You can sit HPAT in your final year of high school (6th year) and any year thereafter.

Do I need to prepare for HPAT?

Yes! Many practicing doctors agree that HPAT is the most difficult test they faced in their medical career. Even students who obtain leaving cert points of 625 have missed out on a place in medicine due to a poor HPAT score. It is completely different to any other test you have sat at school. Quality preparation is therefore essential.

HPAT prep will also help with your school study as it enhances your thinking and test-taking skills.

But ACER/unis discourage HPAT preparation

There are many reasons for this. For example, the more you know about HPAT, the harder their job becomes. They also want a level playing field where all students have the same level of preparation for HPAT. Unfortunately, this does not exist. Informed and motivated students will prepare for HPAT, and MedEntry provides quality materials to help them do so.

What HPAT score do I need to get into medicine?

The minimum points required to get into medicine varies from year to year and between universities, but a total of at least 730 points is usually required.

This is the addition of:

- Your adjusted Leaving Certificate points
- Your HPAT overall score

Students who obtain higher than 550 points in the leaving certificate will have their points adjusted so that each additional 5 points achieved over 550 is adjusted to 1 point.

The maximum score that can be achieved in HPAT is theoretically 300, but anyone who gets more than 200 has done exceptionally well and is in the top 1% of candidates sitting HPAT.

Where can I get more information about HPAT?

Please visit www.MedEntry-hpat.ie for a free trial exam, free HPAT handbook, blogs about HPAT and to enrol in one of our HPAT preparation packages. You can also call or email us. Follow MedEntry on social media for HPAT tips and updates!

Why MedEntry?

MedEntry is run by doctors and academics with 25 years' experience in preparing students for HPAT and its predecessor, UMAT. We are medical entry specialists - it is the only thing we do! The quality and extent of our resources is unparalleled. We get more students into medicine than all other prep courses combined.

For more information, please visit www.MedEntry-hpat.ie