

Northern Ireland Foundation School - Matching Process

Background

The Northern Ireland Foundation School participates in the national recruitment process for Foundation Programmes.

NIFS follows the guidance from the United Kingdom Foundation Programme Office. Applicants are asked to rank foundation schools during the application process. They are scored in their first choice foundation school on the basis of their “white space” answers on their application form.

The score determines their foundation school allocation.

Matching to programme

NIFS uses the Application MMC "auto match" facility to allocate successful applicants to programmes within the school. This is an automatic allocation to programme based on score obtained and applicants' ranked order of posts.

Applicants will be allocated to their highest available preference taking the applicants in score order (starting with the highest).

Note this is a simple match in score order - no special treatment for first preferences all preferences count.

Where two or more applicants have the same score, “auto match” will use random selection to decide which applicant to take first.

Where "auto match" runs out of preferences it will simply use random allocation. Applicants should make their preferences in time and give sufficient preferences to avoid this arising. Applicants are advised to rank all 234 programmes within the NIFS.