K12 ACADEMICS — INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERIES

Studying in Georgia

A guide for international students & families — how Georgia's higher education works, the student visa and residence permit, affordable English-medium medicine (MBBS/MD), and recognition.

K12 ACADEMICS

Find Your Community

2026 EDITION

ABOUT K12 ACADEMICS

The world's largest education resource.

Online since 2004, K12 Academics has helped millions of families, students and educators **find the right school, college, camp, business and program in their community** — for every kind of learner.

AFFORDABLE ENGLISH-MEDIUM MEDICINE, EUROPEAN-ALIGNED

Georgia (the country, in the Caucasus, bridging Europe and Asia) has become a leading destination for **affordable, English-medium medical education (MBBS/MD)** — led by Tbilisi State Medical University, with students from 70+ countries. Its degrees are **globally recognized** (WHO, WFME, ECFMG) and follow the European **Bologna Process**. Students obtain a **student visa and residence permit**. This guide walks it in **ten steps**.

General guidance, not legal, immigration, or medical-licensing advice. Georgian rules, tuition, and recognition change, and **licensing depends on where you'll practice — verify with the relevant council**. Confirm details with your university and the Georgian mission. (This is Georgia the country, not the US state.)

1

STEP 01 OF 10

Understand Why Students Choose Georgia

WHAT TO KNOW

Georgia offers **affordable, English-medium MBBS/MD; globally recognized degrees; a European (Bologna) curriculum with credit transfer; no IELTS/TOEFL requirement; and a safe, budget-friendly, EU-candidate setting** — a practical route for aspiring doctors.

BY THE NUMBERS

Affordable	Recognized	Bologna
English MBBS/MD	WHO/WFME/ECFMG	European standards

HOW TO HELP

Weigh Georgia's **affordable, European-aligned, recognized medical degrees** against the need to pass licensing exams where you'll practice — strong value with a European credit framework.

WATCH OUT

Georgia follows the **Bologna Process**, aligning with European standards and enabling **credit transfer within Europe** — a distinctive advantage.

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STEP 02 OF 10

Understand the System

WHAT TO KNOW

The flagship is **Tbilisi State Medical University (TSMU)** — Georgia's oldest and most respected government medical university — with faculties in Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Public Health, and Nursing. Many other accredited Georgian medical universities also offer English-medium MBBS/MD, mostly in Tbilisi, Batumi, and Kutaisi.

BY THE NUMBERS

TSMU	Faculties	Also
flagship (1918)	Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy	many other universities

HOW TO HELP

Choose an **accredited Georgian medical university** (TSMU and others) for English-medium MBBS/MD — confirming accreditation and recognition for your target country.

WATCH OUT

Confirm your university is **WHO/WDOMS-listed and WFME-accredited** — important for licensing (e.g., ECFMG requires WFME accreditation).

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STEP 03 OF 10

Get the Student Visa & Residence Permit

WHAT TO KNOW

Admitted students obtain a **student (immigration "D3") visa** at a Georgian embassy/consulate, or — for visa-free nationalities — enter and apply for a **residence permit for study** after arrival. The **residence permit** is your legal status for the program; your university guides the process.

BY THE NUMBERS

Student visa	Residence permit	University
or visa-free entry	for study	guides it

HOW TO HELP

Get a **student (D3) visa** at a Georgian mission, or (if visa-free) enter and apply for a **residence permit for study** — your university guides the process.

GOOD TO KNOW

Whether you need a visa first depends on nationality — either way, secure a **residence permit for study** for your legal status.

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STEP 04 OF 10

Apply to Universities

WHAT TO KNOW

Apply **directly (usually online)** with your secondary-school records and passport. There's typically **no entrance exam and no IELTS/TOEFL**; you receive an **offer letter**, then complete enrollment. Universities often have **two annual intakes** and flexible deadlines. Applicants are usually **17+ by the year's end**.

BY THE NUMBERS

Apply directly	No entrance exam	Two intakes
online	or IELTS/TOEFL	flexible deadlines

HOW TO HELP

Apply **directly (online)** with your school records — no entrance exam or English test is usually required — and receive an offer letter; there are typically two intakes a year.

GOOD TO KNOW

Indian students should note **NEET is required to later practice in India** (and FMGE/NExT after) — check your home-country rules.

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STEP 05 OF 10

Plan for Tuition & Costs

WHAT TO KNOW

Tuition is **affordable**: roughly **$4,000–8,000 per year** for MBBS/MD — far below the US, UK, or Australia. Living costs are low ($300–500/month). Some universities offer scholarships based on academic performance — ask each institution.

BY THE NUMBERS

Tuition	Low	Scholarships
~$4,000–8,000/yr	living costs	merit-based

HOW TO HELP

Budget the **affordable tuition** (~$4,000–8,000/year) plus low living costs, and ask each university about merit scholarships.

GOOD TO KNOW

Georgian medical tuition is **far below Western fees** — the main draw for international students.

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STEP 06 OF 10

Meet the Financial Requirement

WHAT TO KNOW

For the visa/permit you show **proof of funds** covering tuition and living, plus **medical insurance** (typically ~$7–25/month) and standard documents. Confirm the exact requirements with your university and the Georgian mission.

BY THE NUMBERS

Funds	Insurance	Confirm
proof required	~$7–25/month	per mission

HOW TO HELP

Prepare **proof of funds** and **medical insurance** — confirm the exact requirements with your university and the Georgian mission.

GOOD TO KNOW

Medical insurance is **inexpensive (~$7–25/month)** and required — arrange it for each academic year.

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STEP 07 OF 10

Meet Language Requirements

WHAT TO KNOW

MBBS/MD is taught **entirely in English**, so there's no language barrier for study, and **no IELTS/TOEFL is required**. Universities provide **Georgian-language courses** to help with clinical rotations and local patients; some Georgian helps daily life.

BY THE NUMBERS

English	No IELTS/TOEFL	Georgian
medium of instruction	needed	for clinicals

HOW TO HELP

Study **entirely in English** (no language test needed), and take the **Georgian-language courses** universities provide — useful for clinical rotations and daily life.

GOOD TO KNOW

Universities include **Georgian-language courses** so you can communicate with patients during clinical rotations.

8 STEP 08 OF 10

Prepare for the Move

WHAT TO KNOW

After acceptance, **secure your residence permit, arrange housing, and set up insurance and banking**. Universities offer on-campus and private housing; living costs are low. Most students are based in **Tbilisi (the capital), Batumi, or Kutaisi**. Georgia is safe and welcoming.

BY THE NUMBERS

Residence permit	Insurance + banking	Cities
+ housing	set up	Tbilisi, Batumi, Kutaisi

HOW TO HELP

Handle arrival admin — **residence permit, housing, insurance, banking** — and settle into Tbilisi, Batumi, or Kutaisi; Georgia is safe and affordable.

GOOD TO KNOW

Universities offer **on-campus and private housing** — affordable and convenient in Georgia's student cities.

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STEP 09 OF 10

Understand the Program Structure

WHAT TO KNOW

The **MD (MBBS-equivalent) program runs six years**: about **five years of academic study (basic and clinical sciences)** plus a **final internship year** with clinical rotations in affiliated hospitals. The curriculum follows **European (Bologna) standards**, supporting credit recognition and mobility.

BY THE NUMBERS

6 years	5 academic	Bologna
total	+ 1 internship	European standards

HOW TO HELP

Plan for the **6-year structure** (5 academic + 1 internship) under **European Bologna standards** — and use the hospital-based clinical training fully.

GOOD TO KNOW

The Bologna framework supports **credit recognition and mobility within Europe** — a real advantage.

10 STEP 10 OF 10

Thrive & Practice After Study

WHAT TO KNOW

Your degree is **globally recognized (WHO/WFME-listed, ECFMG-accepted)**, but to practice you'll typically need to **pass the licensing exam of your target country** (e.g., USMLE for the US, PLAB for the UK, FMGE/NExT for India). **Verify recognition and requirements** before committing — the crucial final step.

BY THE NUMBERS

Recognized	Licensing exam	Verify
WHO/WFME/ECFMG	in your target country	before you rely on it

HOW TO HELP

Plan early for your target country's **licensing exam** (USMLE, PLAB, FMGE/NExT, etc.), and **verify recognition** before committing.

WATCH OUT

The degree opens the door, but **passing your country's licensing exam is essential to practice** — prepare throughout your studies.

QUICK REFERENCE

Studying in Georgia: The Essentials

A snapshot — recognition and licensing vary by country, so verify with the relevant medical council, your university, and the Georgian mission. (Georgia the country, not the US state.)

The system

Tbilisi State Medical University (TSMU, the flagship, founded 1918) and many other accredited Georgian medical universities offering English-medium MBBS/MD, mainly in Tbilisi, Batumi, and Kutaisi; faculties include Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, and Nursing.

Visa & permit

Admitted students obtain a student (D3) visa at a Georgian mission, or (if visa-free) enter and apply for a residence permit for study; the residence permit is your legal status for the program.

Tuition & program

Tuition ~$4,000–8,000/year (far below Western fees); the MD/MBBS program runs 6 years (5 academic + 1 internship) under European Bologna standards; English-medium, no IELTS/TOEFL; low living costs.

Money & language

Show proof of funds plus inexpensive medical insurance (~$7–25/month); study in English, with Georgian-language courses provided for clinical rotations.

Recognition

Degrees are WHO- and WFME-listed and ECFMG-accepted, but practicing requires passing your target country's licensing exam (USMLE, PLAB, FMGE/NExT, etc.) — verify recognition before you commit.

YOUR GEORGIA JOURNEY STARTS HERE

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