

Foundation of the University 1767 -1899



Although the University received its Royal Charter in 1900, the foundations for its establishment were being laid for years previously. Already pushing forward the boundaries of research in medicine and the sciences, Birmingham was beginning to change the world.

Date Fact

1767-1768	Mr John Tomlinson holds 29 weeks of medical education seminars. The first such seminars to be held outside London or south of the Scottish border.
1825	William Sands Cox founds the Birmingham Medical School beginning a tradition of medical teaching in Birmingham which continues to this day with current academic areas ranging from cancer studies to stem cell research.
1875	Foundation of Mason Science College by local industrialist and philanthropist Sir Josiah Mason.
1880	The Lapworth Museum of Geology (http://www.lapworth.bham.ac.uk/) opens; it is now one of the oldest specialist geological museums in the UK and has been formally designated as being 'of outstanding National and International Importance'.
1882	Departments of Chemistry, Botany, Physiology, Physics and Comparative Anatomy established at Mason Science College.
1891	John Henry Poynting, Professor of Physics, is the first person to successfully calculate the mean density of the Earth.
1898	Mason University College established on 1 January, paving the way for the establishment of the University of Birmingham.
