Applying to Med Guide

AN OFFICIAL amsa PUBLICATION
The Applying for Med Guide was compiled entirely by medical students, who have volunteered their own time in researching medical schools, looking for the most current information, and assembling this guide to its current form. We would like to thank the presidents and members of medical student associations for writing and compiling student perspectives which adds a personal touch to this guide. We would also like to thank AMSA Rural Health and AMSA International Students’ Network, as well as the Medical Students Parents group for providing their unique perspective to this guide.

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Super built for students

student super

studentsuper.com.au
AMSA is the peak representative body for medical students in Australia. AMSA exists to connect, inform and represent each of the 17,000 medical students at Australia’s 20 medical schools. Each of the 20 medical schools in Australia elects a representative to sit on AMSA Council.

Advocacy: AMSA advocates for medical students through policy development, advocacy campaigns and representation to governments, universities and relevant medical and medico-political bodies. AMSA has a strong grass-roots approach to policy development, whereby ThinkTanks produce and review policy and other initiatives.

Events: The events calendar kicks off in May, with AMSA’s premier event, the National Leadership Development Seminar (NLDS). NLDS brings together 90 of Australia’s budding health leaders. There is focused upskilling in leadership, advocacy, and political engagement. In July, AMSA runs its famed National Convention, which has been held annually since 1960. Convention sees over 1,200 Australian medical students unite for the world’s largest entirely student-run event. AMSA’s Global Health Conference (GHC) runs each August, with over 700 delegates passionate about innovation and equity in global health.

Projects: AMSA’s projects cover a diverse range of topics including rural health, refugee health, LGBTIQ health and climate change. The Mental Health Campaign aims to improve medical student mental health and wellbeing. Vampire Cup unites AMSA and the Red Cross to pit medical schools against one another in a race to donate blood, registering 1,800 donations in a year - and counting. AMSA Academy is an online educational platform with courses on topics including global, sexual and mental health.

Publications: AMSA produces various publications, such as this guide, that are distributed both online and in hard-copy. These publications are an important conduit through which AMSA connects and informs Australian medical students.
From the AMSA President

Medicine is an exciting and rapidly evolving career, where you can work with people to make a meaningful difference in their lives. Health is a fantastic field, that is so rewarding. You can follow a medical degree into a wide range of professions, from clinical medicine, to research, to health advocacy.

It can also be difficult to navigate! With different application requirements and systems across the country, the Australian Medical Students’ Association has created this guide to help you out.

Throughout the journey of getting into medicine, I’d encourage you to remember a few key things.

- If it sounds like the career for you, you should follow your dreams and apply, but keep an open mind. It is competitive to get in, and there are plenty of fantastic, rewarding degrees outside of it.
- We are often asked which is ‘the best medical school’, but the truth is that there isn’t one- all of Australia’s medical degrees are accredited to train students to be good doctors. The most important thing is which medical school is right for you.
- Don’t expect to graduate as a neurosurgeon! Once you are through a medical degree, there are still many years of training to go, no matter which direction you go. Medicine is a career of life-long learning.
- For students applying from overseas, it’s important to know that international students who study in Australia are not guaranteed medical internships, and hundreds can miss out. The internship year is important for being qualified as a doctor, so work out if you have other options, like doing your internship in your home country. International students are valued and important members of our cohorts, but the ‘internship crisis’ can cause a lot of stress and concern, so that needs to factor into your decision to apply.

Importantly, for all future medical students, AMSA will be here to look after you. Whether it is advocacy for medical student mental health or internships, running project for everything from gender equity to refugee and asylum seeker health, or holding the world’s largest student-run event, AMSA has students’ backs. We create opportunities so that the medical school can be some of the best years of your life.

Good luck, and I hope to see you next year!
Sincerely,
Alex

How to Use This Guide

This guide was created with the purpose of providing an overview of the application process for medical schools in Australia and clarifying some of the questions that students frequently have.

FAQ Section
The FAQ section contains information on areas such as the UMAT, GAMSAT, interviews, types of places offered, as well as specific sections for rural students and international students.

Information by Universities
There are often multiple steps to applying for medicine with no clear cut-offs, plus the fact that it varies with different universities makes it a confusing process at times. This guide outlines in simple steps what you need to do to apply to each medical school, the key dates, as well as the minimum entry requirements. It is important to note however, that the entry threshold is often significantly higher than the minimum requirements due to the large amount of applications received by the universities.

All information on this guide is publically available, we have just done the research and summarised it all into one place so you can take in an overview. Please refer to more information on each university’s website.

The universities are sorted by state, and you will find information on the course length, type of degree, postgraduate vs undergraduate, and student intake number up the top for each university. For some universities, you will also find a “Student Perspective” section written by a current student about their experiences applying for and studying at their university. We hope that this provides a more personal touch, and that you can find a few pearls of wisdom amongst their perspectives.

It is impossible to include all the information there is, so where appropriate we have linked to external sources for further reading. This guide serves as a starting point for your application.

All the best for your application journey!

If you have any questions or comments about this guide please don’t hesitate to get in touch via email at pdo@amsa.org.au

Best wishes,
Lucy
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What is the difference between undergraduate and postgraduate medicine?
Undergraduate medicine requires the completion of year 12 (or equivalent) studies, but no prior university undergraduate degree. Examples of people who can apply for an undergraduate course include:
• Students who would have just completed year 12;
• Students who have taken a gap year after completion of year 12;
• Students who have commenced an undergraduate university degree but have not yet completed it;

Postgraduate medicine on the other hand, requires the completion of a previous undergraduate degree.

What is the difference between MBBS and MD?
You may notice that universities award different degrees upon completion. MBBS stands for Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery, and is a double degree taken over the course of 4-6 years. MD stands for Doctor of Medicine, and is a postgraduate degree involving components of research. It is considered a Masters level qualification (Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) level 9, where as MBBS is level 7 which is a Bachelor’s degree).

All medical degrees offered by medical schools in Australia are equivalent for the purposes of commencing practice as a doctor. They do not have a bearing on your future career path as a doctor in Australia.

Article published in Australian Medical Students’ Journal outlining this change
http://www.amsj.org/archives/5996

UMAT

What is the UMAT?
The Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT) is designed to assess general attributes and skills gained through prior experience and learning. It is used as a selection criteria for many undergraduate medical schools in Australia.

Which medical schools require UMAT scores?
Undergraduate courses requiring UMAT:
• The University of Adelaide
• Curtin University
• Flinders University
• Monash University
• The University of Newcastle/
• University of New England
• The University of New South Wales
• The University of Queensland (postgraduate guaranteed entry)
• University of Tasmania
• The University of Western Australia (postgraduate guaranteed entry)
• Western Sydney University

Undergraduate courses not requiring UMAT
• Bond University
• James Cook University
• University of Sydney (postgraduate guaranteed entry)
• University of Melbourne (postgraduate guaranteed entry)

What does the UMAT test?
UMAT is designed to measure ability in the following areas:
• Logical Reasoning and Problem Solving
• Understanding People
• Non-verbal Reasoning

There is no prior curriculum related knowledge required, all information required to answer the questions will be provided in passages or visual graphics in the test booklet.

Logical Reasoning and Problem Solving tests your ability to comprehend texts/tables/images and reach logical conclusions. Usually there is a stimulus passage or image, followed by one or more questions related to it.

Understanding People tests your ability to understand and think about people. Usually there is a text passage of interactions between people- often like a short story- followed by questions related to the thoughts, feelings, behaviours and intentions of the people involved.

Non-verbal reasoning tests your abstract thinking. Usually they involve patterns or shapes put in a particular sequence, requiring you to find the common “rule” and choose an option which would best fit into this rule.

What is the format of the test?
The UMAT test consists of 3 hours testing time, plus 10 minutes reading time.

The test contains 134 questions, presented in one test booklet and there are no rest breaks. All UMAT questions are in multiple choice format with 4 or 5 response alternatives and 1 correct response.
**When do I need to sit the UMAT?**

You are only able to sit the UMAT in your final year of schooling, or higher. I.e. you can sit the test in year 12 and after you graduate but not year 11 or earlier.

**Key dates for 2018**

Registrations open: Early December 2017
Registrations close: 5pm AEST 1 June 2018
Sit UMAT: 25 July 2018
Results released: Mid September 2018

For more information, read the information booklet (which also includes a few example questions)

**Do I need to study for the UMAT?**

The UMAT is a test that is not based on any curriculum knowledge, but rather on the critical thinking skills developed throughout education and life experiences.

The official position of ACER is that “Intensive preparation is not advisable or necessary. However, wide and critical reading may provide helpful preparation and, as with any test, some practice in answering questions of a similar type, and under similar time constraints as those found in the real test is helpful and reassuring to most candidates.”

In short, you should prepare in order to:
Be familiar with the test format and the type of thinking process required for the test
Develop time management skills to complete all questions in time

**What official resources are available?**

Along with your registration, you will receive 1 practice test with worked answers to familiarise yourself to the format of the questions.

An additional 3 practice tests are available for purchase online through the official website. These practice test do not change in content from year to year. Anecdotally from student forums, the actual test is of the same format but may be slightly more difficult than the questions in the practice tests.

The official website actually provides very good advice on how to prepare for the question types in the test, especially the pattern types you may encounter in Section 3. Read this section: [https://umat.acer.edu.au/prepare/preparation-strategy](https://umat.acer.edu.au/prepare/preparation-strategy)

ACER (the official body conducting the tests) does not endorse any commercial preparation programs.

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**GAMSAT**

**What is GAMSAT**

GAMSAT stands for Graduate Medical Schools Admissions Test, it tests the use of concepts in basic science as well as the acquisition of more general skills in problem solving, critical thinking and writing.

Which medical schools require GAMSAT scores?
All postgraduate universities in Australia require a GAMSAT score for application.

- University of Sydney
- University of Notre Dame Sydney and Fremantle
- Macquarie University
- University of Wollongong
- Australian National University
- University of Melbourne
- Deakin University
- University of Queensland
- Griffith University
- Flinders University
- University of Western Australia

What does the GAMSAT test/ what is the test format?

GAMSAT is divided into three sections designed to assess performance in the areas of:

- **Reasoning in Humanities and Social Sciences.** Questions in the Reasoning in Humanities and Social Sciences section demand varying degrees of complex verbal processing and conceptual thinking, logical and plausible reasoning, and objective and subjective thinking.
  - 75 MCQ
  - 10 minutes reading time + 100 minutes writing time

- **Written Communication.** Each task offers a number of ideas related to a common theme. The theme will be general rather than specific in nature. The first task deals with socio-cultural issues while the second deals with more personal and social issues. It is assessed on two criteria: the quality of the thinking about a topic and the control of language demonstrated in its development.
  - 2 long answer questions
  - 5 minutes reading time + 60 minutes writing time

- **Reasoning in Biological and Physical Sciences.** The level of subject knowledge required for the Reasoning in Biological and Physical Sciences section of the test generally corresponds to the first year of university studies in biology and chemistry, and A-level/Leaving Certificate/Year 12 in physics.
110 MCQ
10 minutes reading time and 170 minutes writing time
Questions in the three disciplines: Chemistry 40% Biology 40% Physics 20%

A full day is needed to sit the GAMSAT test. This is made up of five and a half (5.5) hours of testing time, 25 minutes reading time, and one hour of recess time.

When do I have to sit the GAMSAT?
GAMSAT is available to any person who has completed a Bachelor or an undergraduate honours degree, or who will be in the penultimate (second-last) or final year of study, at the time of sitting the test. There is no limit on the number of times you may sit the test.

GAMSAT results are valid for two years.

Key dates for 2018
There are two test dates each year in March and September. The registration and test dates for 2018 are as follows:

24 March 2018
Registrations open early November 2017 and Registrations close 9pm Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT) on Friday 2 February 2018
Late registrations until 9pm Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT) on Sunday 11 February 2018

12 September 2018
Registrations open mid-May 2018 and Registrations close 10pm Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST) on Monday 23 July 2018
Late registrations until 10pm Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST) on Wednesday 1 August 2018

Do I need to study for the GAMSAT?
There is a certain level of assumed scientific knowledge for section 3 of the GAMSAT (first year of university studies in biology and chemistry, and A-level/Leaving Certificate/Year 12 in physics), therefore, for non-science graduates some specific preparation covering relevant basic sciences to first year university level is highly recommended. Some candidates may wish to enrol in a short tertiary level science course to ensure adequate preparation.

For sections 1 and 2, the official recommendation is to read widely and practice thinking critically to draw conclusions and form opinions.

In addition to the above, practice of examination taking skills and familiarising yourself with the questions asked in the exam will likely be beneficial.

What are the official preparation materials?
- One full practice exam “Practice Questions” is included in the registration fee for GAMSAT. In addition to that, there are more practice materials available for purchase
- Practice Questions 2 and 3 are both full exam e-booklets
- Online Written Communication Practice Test and the Online Written Communication Practice Test 2 are both automatically marked and scored practices for section 2
- Sample Questions and Practice Questions are shorter publications which contain the same balance of question types found in a full test.

Please note neither ACER nor the graduate-entry schools recommend or endorse any particular texts or preparation courses. Nor do they support any commercially available preparation courses or have any association with commercial courses.

Read the information booklet for much more detail.

Do I need to study a science-related undergraduate degree for postgraduate medicine?
No, many postgraduate universities encourage students of diverse undergraduate studies backgrounds to apply. However, studying for the science proportion of the GAMSAT is highly recommended, some candidates may wish to prepare through textbooks or a short tertiary course on chemistry, biology and physics. Some universities require entry based on specific health/science related undergraduate courses, it is worth checking the admission requirements.

Certain universities also have prerequisite subjects - you can use the prerequisite checker to check if your course fits in the criteria

- University of Melbourne http://mdhs-study.unimelb.edu.au/prerequisites
  - Anatomy
  - Biochemistry
  - Physiology
- Macquarie University
  - Anatomy
  - Physiology
- University of Sydney
  - Assumed knowledge on entry to the MD Program will be in anatomy, physiology and molecular/cellular biology. At or before the start of the MD Program, students will be required to complete an online Foundation Knowledge Course and self-assessment.
What are the types of interview formats?
The most popular interview formats are the MMI (Multiple Mini Interview) or a semi-structured interview.

A Multiple Mini Interview usually consists of 6-10 stations each lasting 5-10 minutes in length, with a 2-3 minute break in between each station. There may be a rest station where there is no interview and the participant can take a break. During the 2-3 minutes in between stations, the participant may be given information on the next station they are about to enter, to allow time for them to mentally prepare. These stations may involve questions based on ethical scenarios, role playing with actors (and an observer), abstract puzzle solving, interview questions on your motivations to do medicine and why you are a good candidate. The format of the interview allows for a fresh first impression for each station, so that even if the participant did not perform well in one station, it does not impact the scoring on the rest of the stations.

Some universities also offer semi structured interviews consisting of one or two panel interviews. These usually consist of a set of questions that the university has prepared, combined with questions relating to your answers on the application form/portfolio - so know it well and be prepared to expand on what you have written!

How do I best prepare for an interview?
Train your interview skills
Practice with a friend and interview each other to get used to speaking on the spot
• Think of questions to ask one another, then time yourself under real interview conditions
• Always take a second to think about the question and what it is trying to ask
• Try to elaborate on answers rather than give very short ones, although interviewers usually would prompt you if they want to hear more or towards the right direction if you went off track
• Think of the experiences you’ve had in different scenarios, be able to tell the stories in detail in an interview. Examples can include
  ◦ when you worked in a team
  ◦ how you dealt with failure
  ◦ how you dealt with conflict
  ◦ how you resolved an ethical dilemma

Tips for scenario-based questions
Scenario-based questions may involve actors, or simply involve the examiner describing a scenario followed by questions. They test your problem solving skills, and in some cases indirectly your values and priorities.

It may be difficult to articulate your thoughts, so here are some tips:
• When reading/ getting asked the question, think to yourself
  ◦ who are the stakeholders in this scenario
  ◦ what are the current issues facing them
  ◦ are there underlying problems that need to be solved
  ◦ how can you achieve the best possible outcome for all parties
• Try to explain your reasoning behind your answers. There are no right answer, but they are interested in the way you think.

Tips for “Why medicine at our university?”
Be specific to the university you’re applying to! Of course, universities know that you apply to multiple places, but they will inevitably ask you why you chose their university.
• Gain a good understanding of the university’s curriculum structure, what makes them unique, and what they are passionate about.
  ◦ some universities have a strong rural focus
  ◦ some universities are more research-oriented
  ◦ many universities advertise a “strong clinical learning environment” and a hands-on course
• Also look up on the news section of google/the official university website for positive news on the university - you can bring these up to show that you have done your research
• Talk about how the university will help you grow as a person
• Talk about what you can bring to the university and its student life
• Look at the university’s values. Here’s a document by Medical Deans of Australia and New Zealand, on the “Inherent requirements for studying medicine in Australia and New Zealand”.

Lastly, remember that the interviewers are nice and they want to hear more about you! So just be yourself, follow their prompts, and communicate all your eagerness to study med across to them!

What type of people are they looking for?
Think about what type of person you would like to have as your doctor, and the values and qualities they possess. Universities tend to look for motivated learners who are involved in their community.
Take on leadership/ volunteering roles that benefit others
Consider doing some work experience at a medical-related workplace

These not only give you some insight into what the workplace is like, but also give you the communication and leadership skills

**Types of Places Offered**

**What is a Commonwealth Supported Place?**
The places that are subsidised by the Australian government, and students pay a “student contribution” - $10,596 per year for medical students in 2018. There is a set number of places determined by the Australian government and these places are only available to Australian citizens and permanent residents, and New Zealand citizens and permanent residents.

**What is a bonded place?**
In the application for medical schools you may notice that there is an option to indicate interest for a “bonded” place. Each university may have a different application process, but the opportunity is available in all universities.

According to the Student Information booklet published by the Department of Health: The Bonded Medical Placement (BMP) Scheme is an Australian Government initiative to provide more doctors to locations that are considered by the Department to be in need of qualified medical practitioners. In Australian medical schools, 28.5 percent of all first-year Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP) are expected to be bonded through the BMP Scheme each year from the 2016 academic year.

In return, following successful completion of their medical course, participants agree to work in an Eligible Location in Australia for a total of 12 months, prior to or within five (5) years of attaining fellowship. This work can take place from the date you become provisionally registered to five (5) years after you attain fellowship. However, once you have commenced your Return of Service Period (RoSP): you have five (5) years in which to complete it; you may undertake the twelve month RoSP in periods of no less than 12 consecutive weeks; and you must work full-time.

For more information visit the [official government website](http://www.doctorconnect.gov.au/internet/otd/publishing.nsf/Content/ASGSRA_locator).

Full fee paying places are offered to domestic students only in private universities, and some public universities offering postgraduate medical degrees. They are also offered to international students.

**Rural Students**

**How do I check whether I would fall under a rural classification?**

**What should I know about applying to med as a rural student?**
Applying to medical school as a rural student may be a slightly different experience to metro students. Most, if not all, universities have specific information for rural students so it’s worth checking out the universities you’re interested in applying to to see what considerations and/or scholarships they have available to rural background students. There are often financial considerations moving (often long distances) away from home to attend university, but there are many scholarships and financial aid that you can apply to. Here a few things that may be helpful:

- Centrelink’s Relocation Scholarship which rural students can apply for in addition to ABSTUDY, Youth Allowance, or Energy Supplement
- Country Education Foundation of Australia has a number of scholarships listed for medical students
- Each state has a rural workforce agency, students can explore the different scholarships offered depending on their state or territory of study
- Bendigo and Adelaide Bank has a scholarship for students form rural and regional areas

Announced in the 2018/19 Federal Budget. This will affect students entering into the program from January 2020 onwards.

**What is a Full Fee paying place?**
A full fee place means that the Australian Government does not subsidise the studies. The student pays the full course fees, varying according to each university.

For more information visit the [official government website](http://www.doctorconnect.gov.au/internet/otd/publishing.nsf/Content/ASGSRA_locator).
**Indigenous Students**

There are many groups and resources available to offer insight and guidance for your journey into medicine.

- The LIME Network's Indigenous Pathways into Medicine - an online resource is designed to help you determine which university will be the best fit.
- Many universities have Indigenous Education Centres you may want to contact.
- For options for financial support during medical school, see Abstudy and the Aurora Education Foundation Indigenous Scholarships information.
- The Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA) is able to provide information to Indigenous students interested in studying medicine. For more information on assistance you can submit an enquiry to aida@aida.org.au or call (02) 6273 5013.
- AIDA will be there to support you throughout your entire medical journey, from medical school to when you are a doctor.
- For more insight into the life of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander medical students, read the Indigenous Medical Students’ Guide to medicine here.

**International Students**

As an international student looking to study Medicine in Australia, it is often a daunting process with the unfamiliar application process, adjusting to a new environment and uncertain future prospects. The Australian Medical Students’ Association - International Students’ Network was formed to advocate for the rights of international students and to serve as your representative in various advocacy meetings. Below is a compiled list of frequently asked questions to clear some of the doubts that you might have.

**There are so many medical schools in Australia, which one should I choose to apply to?**

All medical schools in Australia require you to fulfil a list of learning objectives provided by the Australian Medical Council and all provide equally high quality medical education to their students. However, if you wish to practise medicine back in your home country, you should check with your country’s medical council (or relevant governing body) for a list of accredited medical schools prior to submitting an application.

**Are there any admissions tests that have to be done?**

For all international students who wish to apply to an Australian Medical school, it is important that you check with the respective medical school’s website for their required admissions tests prior to application. Most medical schools will look at 3 aspects for their selection criteria: your GPA (grade point average), results of your Graduate Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT) or International Student Admissions Test (ISAT) and your performance at the interview if you are shortlisted. Some graduate-entry medical schools also require prerequisite subjects in anatomy, biochemistry and physiology taught at an undergraduate level.

**I have received several offers from various medical schools, which one should I choose?**

Choosing a medical school can be a mind-boggling process and there are several factors to consider.

- Prospect for internship in that state
- Annual tuition fee
- Cost of living
- Structure of curriculum
- Option of a research year

**Are there any administrative documents to be acquired from my home country prior to heading to Medical School?**

Different medical schools require different documentation so it would be advisable to obtain a list of compulsory documentation from the school’s website or senior students at the school. Most medical schools require documentation of immunisations and a national police record check from the country you have resided in for the past few years.

**What are internship prospects like for an international student?**

In 2016, 3648 applicants applied for 3314 state and territory intern positions and 100 commonwealth-funded intern positions. This leaves a shortfall of 234 internship positions. In all the states, domestic students are considered Priority Group 1 during internship application, meaning they will receive guaranteed internship in the state in which they completed their primary medical qualification. International students, however, are not guaranteed internship in any state in Australia. For more information about the ongoing national internship crisis and priority groups in each state, please refer to the AMSA (Australian Medical Students’ Association) website.
WHAT ARE SOME INTERNSHIP ALTERNATIVES FOR AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT?

There are several alternatives if you are unsuccessful in securing an internship spot:

• The Commonwealth Medical Internships (CMI) program. This program is consolidated into a new program called the Junior Doctor training program. The new program (with 100 internships) will follow a similar recruitment timeline as the previous CMI process. Numbers of positions will rise to 115 internships from 2020.
• Apply for an internship outside Australia
• Re-apply for an internship in Australia next year

MED STUDENT PARENTS

With the increasing average age of medical students in Australia, and the advent of postgraduate medical training programs, many medical students are entering medical school with varied commitments including work and children.

You may already have several children, be expecting your first child, or thinking of starting a family. Either way, the thought of balance your role as a parent and being a medical student can be a daunting proposition and challenging at times. However, with good support it is achievable; plenty of us are doing it.

Here are some initial pointers to help you on your journey:

• Studying medicine will mean time away from your family and can be unpredictable. One major concern for medical student parents is that of attendance at lectures, tutorials and other mandatory activities, particularly those that fall out of normal work or school hours. Many universities have flexible access to lectures with online recordings or videoconferencing facilities, but it can be variable, and medicine is traditionally taught by face to face. The balancing act of meeting your timetable with that of your child’s daycare or school can be challenging, but many students make it work. One successful approach is to treat medical study like a fulltime job, by nominating a start and finish time five days per week, ie. 8am – 5pm Mon-Fri, and arrange your life and children around this.
• The chance is there will be other parents in your cohort, if not there will be other students that can understand your commitments and be supportive. It is important to understand early that you need to be realistic with what your study schedule will be like, compared to your pre-child life, and compared to your peers. This is ok. You will work differently, in a way which will suit you and your family.
• Studying medicine will mean making difficult choices regarding mothering, particularly breastfeeding. However, most health services and universities have policies in place that encourage and protect time for breastfeeding mothers.
• Pregnancy exposure to anatomy wet labs, parental leave, breastfeeding and expressing, university childcare and leave for sick children, are all pertinent issues for med student parents. The most pressing advice that our existing cohort can offer is to speak up, ask for advice, and understand reasonable entitlements for students who are studying medicine.
• Your family will always be the most important, and being a parent will add more to your journey of becoming a doctor than any book or lecture could ever possibly achieve.

Overall, raising family while studying medicine can at times be overwhelming both physically and mentally. However, it is a privilege to be a parent and to be a medical student, so how lucky are we?...we get to be both!

Once you start medicine, keep an eye out for the Med Student Parents Facebook Page, a supportive online network to help you through!

Feel free to contact our group facilitators:
Meleseini Tai-Roche (MSP NSW) at meleseini.tai-roche1@my.nd.edu.au
Peter Morris (MSP QLD) at peter.morris2@my.jcu.edu.au

AFTER THE APPLICATION

HOW DO I CHOOSE A UNIVERSITY THAT’S RIGHT FOR ME?

Choosing a university that is right for you is very important. It’s where you are going to spend the next 4-7 years (and probably the best years) of your life at.

Here are some things you may want to consider

• Where are the university campuses? Is it possible to travel there, or would you have to move to study
• What is the uni life like? The best way to get
an idea of this is to actually go to the uni during open days

- What is the medical degree’s focus? How much clinical vs. lecture time is in the course?
- What is the cohort size? Do you prefer to be in a larger or smaller one?

I got accepted! How can I prepare for medical school?

Each university is different, you can reach out to the student medical societies at each university. They usually have wonderful resources available. Attend O-week at your university! It’s a great way to get a good overview of what’s to come.

You can also read our Starting Med Guide for tips and guides from our AMSA volunteers on topics such as how to study, uni life, clinical placement, looking after your wellbeing and much more.

What happens after I graduate?

Right now it might seem like your only goal is to get admitted into a medical course, but it’s important to take a look at what comes after the “happily ever after” - i.e. what happens after med school? What will you be working as? What’s the difference between an intern, resident and registrar? What are the training pathways to becoming a doctor in the specialty that interests you?

See the infographic on the next page for a detailed flow chart.

What if I don’t get into medicine?

See this section for more advice and a student perspective.

Useful Links and Resources

Ruralily map

AMA advice on becoming a doctor

Website providing postgraduate medicine information
http://www.ellipsoid.org/main

GEMSAS official website
http://www.gemsas.edu.au/what-is-graduate-entry-medicine/

GAMSAT Website
https://gamsat.acer.org/

GAMSAT booklet
https://gamsat.acer.org/files/GAMSAT_Information_Booklet.pdf

Forums offering peer-to-peer advice:
- Medstudentsonline for predominantly undergraduate medicine information
- PagingDr for predominantly postgraduate medicine information
Life after Medical School

High School
Other degree(s) +/- Work Experience (optional)

Medical School
(Post-graduate or under-graduate, four to six years: MBBS, BMBS, MBCh, MD, etc.)

Internship
(One year, mostly in a hospital. Must include rotations in medicine, surgery and emergency medicine)

Residency
(before enrolling in a specialty program can be one or many years)
Many commence research or further training, either out of interest or to get into a specialty training program, for example: Diploma of Obstetrics, Diploma of Anatomy, Master of Public Health
Many work as an ‘Unaccredited Registrar’, a more senior position without being on a specialty training program.

Registrar
(after being accepted into a specialty training program)

GP Registrar
Minimum two years of supervised experience as a registrar. Exams.

Medical Registrar
Three years of training in all specialties. Exams (in all specialties). Three years of training in one specialty.

Surgical Registrar
Entry directly into a streamed program (e.g. General Surgery, Neurosurgery). Exams.

Other Registrars
Many other colleges exist, and each has their own pathway, requirements and exams.

Fellowship
(One to two years in a sub-specialty area or research; often taken overseas. Optional in some specialties)

PhD
(optional, although often needed for competitive jobs)

GP
FRACGP or FACRRM (rural)
Can pursue further interests, often commenced whilst a registrar. For example:
- Women’s health
- Mental health
- Occupational medicine
- Environmental medicine

Physician
FRACP (incl. paediatrics)
For example:
- Cardiologist
- Endocrinologist
- Gastroenterologist
- General physician
- Haematologist
- Infectious diseases
- Nephrologist
- Neurologist
- Oncologist
- Respiratory physician
- Rheumatologist

Surgeon
FRACS
For example:
- Cardiothoracic surgeon
- General surgeon
- Neurosurgeon
- Orthopaedic surgeon
- ENT head + Neck surgeon
- Paediatric surgeon
- Plastic/reconstructive surgeon
- Urologist
- Vascular surgeon

Other Specialist
For example:
- FRACMA - Administrator
- FANZCA - Anaesthetist
- FACD - Dermatologist
- FACEM - Emergency
- FICIM - Interventional
- FRANZCOG - Obs + Gyn
- FRANZCO - Ophthalmologist
- FRCPA - Pathologist
- FRANZCP - Psychiatrist
- FRANZCR - Radiologist

Source: Dr Tim Fazio, AMA VIC member, Doctor in training
What if I don’t get into medical school?

There is no denying that medicine is a highly competitive course to get into, and you are competing with thousands of other highly qualified applicants. Being unsuccessful in applying for medicine does not mean that you are unsuitable to study Medicine and become a doctor; it is due to the extremely limited places that each university has that only so many can be accepted each year. Remember that this hurdle to get into medicine isn’t the be all and end all and does not define your life. There are so many who enter medicine after two or more attempts, and there are also many who decide to enter into other careers and found them equally fulfilling.

It is entirely up to your own individual circumstances whether you choose to continue to pursue medicine as a career. Consider the reasons why you want to do medicine, and how much time you can practically devote to preparation.

Student perspective
Tess Corbett (Curtin II)

Let me introduce myself - my name is Tess and I’m a second-year postgraduate student at Curtin. My journey into medicine was definitely a challenging one. Since high school I knew a career in medicine was what I wanted to do; for me it’s the perfect marriage between my love of biological science, passion for helping others, and desire to have a positive impact on our world. But, when graduating from high school in 2013, my ATAR and UMAT didn’t quite hit the mark and it left me scrambling to decide what I was going to do.

I decided to start a Bachelor of Medical Science at UNSW, with the intention of resitting the UMAT each year in the attempt to get into medicine somewhere along the way. Each year I tried, and each year I was unsuccessful. The third and final year of my undergrad rolled around, and I sat the GAMSAT and UMAT, and ended up with an offer to start as a part of the first medicine cohort at Curtin in 2017.

Those few years were extremely challenging but looking back I can definitely see the positive side of not getting admission on my first attempt. First of all, studying Medical Science really reinforced how much passion I had for the theory of medicine, and has been a huge help since I started my studies at Curtin. Despite the mental and emotional toll of trying and failing to get in, the process definitely tested my resilience and tenacity and looking to the years ahead I am confident that when I inevitably fall, I will be able to pick myself up. Finally, and most rewardingly, when that offer finally came in on my fourth attempt, it was so much sweeter. Now with those few years of experience under my belt, I feel like I am able to take on this degree wholeheartedly, and with the absolute confidence that this is where I am meant to be.
Our degree is split into Phase 1 (first 2 years, pre-clinical) and Phase 2 (second 2 years, clinical). During Phase 1, your time is mostly spent in lectures, practical sessions and tutorials. You have about 4-5 hours a day of classes, with an 8-hour clinical day every Thursday where you learn about how to talk with and examine patients, interpret tests and basically learn about clinical medicine in a passive format. Year 2 is relatively similar, with a day off on Monday and clinical day on Tuesday. In terms of content, the degree is split up into 7 blocks: 1. Foundations of Medical Science, 2. Cardio + Respiratory + Renal, 3. Endocrine and Reproduction, 4. Musculoskeletal and Neuro, 5. Gastrointestinal, 6. Haematology, Oncology, Infectious Diseases, 7. Putting the pieces together (summary of everything). From midway through first year to midway through second year you also complete a research project, that requires about 3 hrs a week and a written paper at the end.

For Phase 2 you spend your time almost exclusively in clinical placements rotating between general practice (urban and rural), paediatrics, general medicine and surgery, acute care, women’s health, psychiatry and addiction medicine. You are expected to do about 40 hrs a week worth of placements and study on top of this. Your experience will depend greatly on the clinicians who supervise you and how much you put in.

**Positives**

ANU is amazing for collegiality, if you are keen to be a part of a tight knit community with your peers, ANU is for you. There are only about 100 students per year level and as a result of this you become incredibly close with everyone in your year and also get to know the older years quite well. There are lots of opportunities to get extra teaching from students in the years above and there is a large emphasis on resource sharing. The Medical Society, throw loads of awesome events to help you socialise with your peers and to support you academically along the way!

At ANU you have three levels of grades, a Higher Level Pass (best), Course Requirement Satisfied (Pass) and Fail (Fail). You still receive your percentage scores for each assessment, but you are only recorded as one of those aforementioned grades. This means that there is no real difference between getting a 79 or a 51. It adds to the collegiate nature of the degree and makes life a little less stressful.

Canberra is way more fun than people give it credit for. There are plenty of nice restaurants, cafes and bars. It’s almost like a university town on the north side, there are loads of students about, the social experience is definitely positive. Also, if you like the outdoors, there are loads of beautiful nature walks to go on and you’re a 2 hr drive from both the beach and the snow!

**Negatives**

During the first 2 years, there is probably too much focus on medical science rather than clinical medicine and you can find yourself learning about things that aren’t particularly relevant. Also, Canberra gets very cold in winter, be prepared for some serious chill.

Dane Lyons
ABOUT THE COURSE
The MChD is underpinned by the themes below.

• Medical sciences covers a vast scope of ever changing and expanding knowledge that forms the basis of modern medicine
• Clinical skills ensures the acquisition of knowledge is accompanied by communication skills, the ability to examine patients and critically appraise information
• Population health addresses the relationship between humans, their society and environment
• Professionalism and leadership develops these vital skills of a good doctor

COURSE STRUCTURE
• Year 1 and 2: Full time preclinical classes at Acton Campus in Canberra. Blocks 1-7 are taught in this time (Foundation, Cardiovascular, Respiratory, Renal, Endocrinology, Reproductive medicine, Musculoskeletal, Neurology, Gastroenterology, Hematology, Oncology, Infectious disease)
• Year 3 and 4: Full time Clinical years. The Canberra Hospital in Garran is the main clinical school. Students can also do rotations through Calvary Public Hospital and rural hospitals around regional NSW.

HOW TO APPLY
1. Register for and sit the GAMSAT
2. Apply via GEMSAS online
   • Applications close May 31st at 5pm AEST
3. Attend medicine interview* (by invitation)
   • Interview offers released via email in late August
   • Panel interview and Multiple Mini interview (MMI)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
• GPA
  • The minimum GPA for interview consideration is 5.6.
• GAMSAT
  • Applicants must achieve a minimum overall score of 55 with minimum 50 in each section.
  • Note that achieving minimum entry requirements does not guarantee an interview or entry into the medical program.
• Interview
  • Offers based on composite score from the GPA and GAMSAT (50:50 weighting)

Offers of a place will be based on a total score of 50:50 weighting of the composite score (used for the interview ranking) and the interview score.

ADDITIONAL ENTRY PATHWAYS
Bachelor of Health Science Pathway
Pathway to the postgraduate Doctor of Medicine and Surgery (MChD) at ANU without having to sit the GAMSAT. Up to 30 students will receive an offer of entry to the MChD, contingent upon their grade point average (GPA), an interview process and successful completion of the Bachelor of Health Science program. Up to 10 of the 30 places are reserved for rural and Indigenous students.

Bachelor of Philosophy (PhB) Pathway
Pathway to the postgraduate Doctor of Medicine and Surgery (MChD) at ANU without GAMSAT. Student must indicate their interest to undertake the PhB/MChD pathway to the PhB coordinator. Entry into the MChD is contingent upon meeting the academic criteria and an interview process.

Tuckwell Scholarship
Students are required to have declared upfront an interest in studying medicine in all 3 stages of the Tuckwell application process and completion of an undergraduate degree at the ANU is mandatory prior to commencing the MChD.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
Applicants from Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent may apply directly to the ANU by completing the Online Application Form. Applicants are also required to send the below documentation to admissions.medicalschool@anu.edu.au.
• Official Bachelor Degree transcript
• Official transcript/s for any post graduate degree/s (if applicable)
• Official GAMSAT result
• Medical School Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Declaration Form

Rural students
If you are from a rural background please indicate this in your online application and provide supporting documentation. Please click here for more information on rural background criteria.

International students
International applicants apply directly to the Australian National University (ANU).
• Official Academic Transcript from Bachelor Degree
• Official Academic Transcript for any Post Graduate study (Masters and/or PhD)
• Official MCAT or GAMSAT results
• Proof of English language proficiency
The closing date for applications is 30 June 2018.

USEFUL RESOURCES
Australian National University medicine application website
New South Wales

University of Newcastle and University of New England 22
University of New South Wales 24
Western Sydney University 28
University of Notre Dame (Sydney) 31
University of Sydney 33
University of Wollongong 37
Macquarie University 39
The Joint Medical Program is conjointly run by the University of Newcastle and the University of New England in collaboration with the Hunter New England and Central Coast Local Health Districts.

Both Universities have unique and exciting cultures. Newcastle is a coastal city within arguably some of the most beautiful beaches right on the doorstep, and an array of cafes, restaurants, bars and music scene. Armidale is located in a beautiful tree-lined historical buildings and streets and world-heritage national parks. Both universities of student-run medical student societies to get involved in that provide events, representation and support for all medical students in the program!

The first two years of the program are campus-based at either the University of Newcastle or the University of New England. The focus is on biomedical science and associated basic clinical skills.

- problem based learning
- tutorial learning
- self-directed learning

Following this, the final three years involves applying this acquired knowledge in clinical placement settings. There are 6 clinical schools where placement can be undertaken

- Rural Clinical Schools:
  - Tablelands Clinical School in Armidale
  - Peel Clinical School in Tamworth
  - Manning Clinical School in Taree
- Urban Clinical Schools
  - Maitland Clinical School
  - Hunter Clinical School
  - Central Coast Clinical School.

The application component has three components:
1. Register for and sit the UMAT
2. Apply online for the JMP specifically.
   - Applications will open in mid-August and close 28th September 2018
3. Apply through UAC
   - Applications close 28th September 2018
4. JMP Assessments* (on invitation)
   - Invitations offered between the 26th November- 7th December 2018 (for NSW, QLD, ACT and rural applicants) at both the University of Newcastle and the University of New England.
   - Non-rural interstate applicants occur in mid-late January. The location of the interview does not have any correlation to where an offer will be made if one is offered.

*The JMP Assessment has two components.

**Personal Qualities Assessment (PQA)**
This is an online test designed to assess a range of qualities considered valuable to the practice of medicine. [This website](#) provides more information.

**Multiple Skills Assessment (MSA)**
The MSA is 8, 8-minute stations involving a range of skills such as interpersonal communication, personal drive to be a doctor and more.

**Entry Requirements**
The entry to the JMP is based on academic eligibility and personal qualities assessment. The additional basic entry requirement is proof of English language proficiency. There is no age barrier or subject prerequisites affecting entry.

Selection criteria are as follows:

- Academic eligibility
Minimum ATAR of 94.30 for students completing the HSC or equivalent
Minimum ATAR of 91.40 for students completing HSC at a high school in a rural/remote location

- UMAT
  - Threshold score of 50 in each of the three UMAT constructs. Invitations are then determined by ranking candidates on the score in construct one.
- Personal Qualities Assessment
- Interview (MSA)

The more specific academic requirements breakdowns of ATAR and university degree marks can be found here.

**ADDITIONAL ENTRY PATHWAYS**

**Rural and Remote Admissions Scheme**
If you are an Australian Citizen or permanent resident and you can prove you have resided for at least five years consecutively or ten years cumulatively in a rural and/or remote location (areas 2-5 of the AGSC-RA map), you may be eligible to apply, and you are required to submit a letter from a rural community leader as supporting evidence.

[More information](#)

**Miroma Bunbilla Program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students**
There are up to 17 places reserved for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students each year. This application process does not require the sitting of the UMAT or the online direct JMP application. Still apply through UAC, and will be invited to attend the JMP Assessment. Additional components of entry are attending a confirmation of Aboriginality interview and participating in pre-admission activities over the week of 4-8th of December.

**International Students**
The international student quota is filled through agreements between specific overseas educational institutions, organisations or through UON’s Newcastle International College. Whilst there is an international student application pathways generally to the University of Newcastle, this doesn't apply to Medicine.

**USEFUL RESOURCES**
- [JMP Prospectus](#)
- Official websites
  - University of Newcastle
  - University of New England
The application journey
During the application journey, I found it difficult to know if I truly wanted to study medicine. I had always wanted to be a doctor since I was 7, but I only thought about why I wanted it so badly during Year 12. I realised studying something on the grounds that ‘I’ve always wanted to’ was a weak reason, as up until this point, I had never considered studying anything else. It did scare me that I had such a myopic view, especially when I wasn’t fully sure if I would even enjoy it. Personally, it was helpful to be aware of what is involved in a medicine career. If I could go back in time, I would tell myself to think about this earlier than the week before interviews (always a bad time to have an existential crisis). After one term of medical school so far though, I don’t regret choosing it at all.

When writing the written components of applications, it’s useful to get a friend or family member to read over your answers- there’s often minimal space and you want to be specific in what you say while showing them your personality! When interviews came around I was lucky enough to receive a few interviews, and if there’s one thing I took from this, is to not be disheartened if you don’t get certain interviews, and work hard towards making the ones you get count. Before interviews, I found it extremely helpful to start thinking about my personality, my goals, my life and age-old question, ‘Why do I want to do medicine?’ The best thing for interviews is to be yourself and answer questions honestly and truthfully- what you think, not what the interviewers want to hear. Also, know what kind of interview it was- whether it was just a chat like at UNSW, or MMI like Newcastle.

What are the daily/ weekly routines of studying at your medical school?
Life as a UNSW medical student is really great. Living on campus at one of the colleges means getting to class is easy and quick. As first-year students, we’re based mostly on campus, and every fortnight we get to visit a hospital and gain clinical experience. We have about 20 hours of class a week- with 2 hours of lectures every morning, a 1-3 hour break and then 2-4 hour sessions of a mix of practicals, tutorials, clinical skills and scenario groups in the afternoon where we learn about the health sciences, the healthcare system, how to treat patients and develop our communication skills. The classes are flexible, as all the lectures can be streamed online, and some practical classes can be moved around, meaning obligations such as working and long-distance travel are possibilities. The breaks in the day are great for catching up with friends, getting some study done in the many study spaces around campus, and for those who live on campus, getting to go back to your room and relax. The study is reasonably intensive, but as long as you’re keeping up to date, the degree is really enjoyable and leaves plenty of time for other commitments outside of university.

What are the upsides and downsides of your medical school? (e.g. course structure, clinical exposure)
At UNSW I have met friends from all across the globe with hobbies ranging from competitive skipping to professional gaming, connecting with them through our passion for medicine. It is rare to find such a learning environment where so many people with different cultures and lifestyles combine to create a supportive basis on which top-quality education is built. So as well as the people who attend university
with you, the major upsides of the UNSW medicine course consist of the structure of the academic curriculum and the accessibility to a variety of learning opportunities. The six year course, which is sometimes seen as a negative, is really a beneficial structure for transitioning students into the reality of the profession. With hospital placements beginning as early as 2 months into the first year, we are able to develop clinical skills unrivalled by other medical schools and an understanding of the healthcare system we will eventually be a part of. Furthermore, the significant number and quality of additional experiences offered by the university and its medical society allow individual pursuit into the specialities within medicine, including unique conferences, workshops and information evenings. I truly believe that the pitfalls of the course are few and far between with the possible exception of one axiom: Self-directed learning. The reality of the medical degree is that while one can work with others to develop their skills and look to highly regarded tutors for help, the bulk of the learning is done alone and that is the major hurdle needed to be surmounted in order to truly succeed. Eventually you will see that this is not a downfall but an indicator of future achievement.

**Uni Life at your Medical School**

University life as a medical student is really fun. There are so many events run by the UNSW Medical Society that allow you to pursue your specific interests right from the get go and enjoy the social scene with all UNSW Med students. With events like MedCamp, Med Pubcrawl, Med Trivia and more being held, there is always fun to be had. The subdivisions of MedSoc allow you to pursue your specific interests and specialities as well. UNSW MedSoc also offer countless volunteering opportunities that allow you to give back to society, with focuses on for example, rural, indigenous and refugee health, as well as participate in events like Be Brave and Shave and blood donations to help the community. University life as a UNSW Med student is enjoyable, exciting and rewarding all in one across all six years of the degree.

Uni life is restricted by one thing and one thing only: time. There are always a plethora of sports or interest groups to pursue which accept all people of all skill levels and one is able to join as many as their heart desires. However, what makes UNSW unique is the size and sophistication of their Medical Society (MedSoc) which caters for the entire 6 year student population through a myriad of organisational sub-committees, leadership positions and student-run events which are created by and for medical students. For example, in first year, MedSoc runs a social sporting competition throughout the year which pits students against each other in allocated colleges. Social events such as balls and mentor nights bridge the gap between work and play, allowing students to network with professionals while also enjoying the freedom of university life and the new independent environment.

Ben Muston, Patrick Han, Jade Tran, and Priya Vakil

About the Course

Content includes aspects of proactive and reactive approaches to health issues in both individuals and populations, and is organised into three broad content streams – biomedical sciences, medical practice, social and behavioural aspects of health and illness.

There is also practical experience in the form of clinical placements. Contact with patients and observation of the physical aspects of disease commences in first year and continues to sixth year. For detailed course info: see the Course Handbook

Course Structure

The course is divided into three phases, each two years in duration. Phase 1 is mainly university-based, and consists of lectures, tutorials and scenario groups covering basic and clinical sciences. Phase 2 consists of a clinical year and a research year during which an Independent Learning Project (ILP) or Honours project is completed. Phase 3 consists of 8 terms and students spend the majority of time attached to clinical teams at hospitals and clinics.

Affiliated hospitals

- Sydney metropolitan campuses
  - Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick
  - St George Hospital, Kogarah
  - St Vincent’s Hospital, Darlinghurst
  - Liverpool Hospital, Liverpool
  - Sydney Children’s Hospital, Randwick
  - Royal Hospital for Women, Randwick
  - Sutherland Hospital, Caringbah
  - Bankstown Hospital, Bankstown

Affiliated hospitals

- Sydney metropolitan campuses
  - Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick
  - St George Hospital, Kogarah
  - St Vincent’s Hospital, Darlinghurst
  - Liverpool Hospital, Liverpool
  - Sydney Children’s Hospital, Randwick
  - Royal Hospital for Women, Randwick
  - Sutherland Hospital, Caringbah
  - Bankstown Hospital, Bankstown
• Fairfield Hospital, Fairfield
  • Rural campuses
  • Wagga Wagga Rural Referral Hospital, Wagga Wagga
  • Albury Wodonga Health, Albury-Wodonga
  • Port Macquarie Base Hospital, Port Macquarie
  • Coffs Harbour Hospital, Coffs Harbour
  • Griffith Base Hospital, Griffith

Note that students now have the option of completing the entire Phase 1 studies (years 1 and 2) at the Port Macquarie campus.

**How to apply**

1. Register for and sit the UMAT
2. Start your application through the Medicine Application Portal (MAP) directly to UNSW-
   • Applications open 15 May 2018 and close 30 September 2018
   • Once you have started the application you will receive an email of your logins to complete the application before the due date (this will not be used as part of the assessment but details you filled in will be passed onto the interviewers)
3. Apply for UNSW Medicine through UAC
   • Applications open 1 August 2018 and close 29 September 2018
4. Attend medicine interviews* (by invitation)
   • In previous years the dates have been around 21st Nov-1st Dec and 3rd-4th January for NSW/ACT applicants and 23rd January for interstate applicants**

*Interviews are semi-structured and cover a wide range of relevant issues. There will be two interviewers drawn from academic staff, medical practitioners and community representatives.

**Applicants who live outside of New South Wales or Australian Capital Territory are usually not interviewed until late January after the results from their home state have been communicated. There are places put aside for these late round interviews so applicants will not be disadvantaged.

**Entry Requirements**

Required knowledge: English (Standard), English as a Second Language (ESL) and Fundamentals of English are not considered suitable preparation. Recommended studies: Chemistry

Offers for Interviews based on:

• Combination of predicted or actual ATAR (or ATAR equivalent) and actual UMAT score (total raw score) weighted 50:50.

Offers for a place in Medicine based on:

• Academic rank
  • Minimum scores for year 12 school leavers are: ATAR of 96.00/ OP3/ 37 International Baccalaureate***
• UMAT score
  • Raw scores rather than percentile scores are used, minimum overall UMAT raw score required for selection is 150. There is no minimum score for each section, and the sections are equally weighted
• Interview mark.

***Applicants who will have completed one year or more of tertiary studies at undergraduate level by the end of the year preceding their start in the Medicine program will be assessed on the basis of both high school results and tertiary study results, combined at a 50:50 ratio.

Applicants who will have completed less than 0.75 full-time equivalent study at tertiary level by the end of the year preceding their start in the Medicine program will be assessed only on the basis of their high school qualification

Note that applicants with minimum scores are unlikely to be selected. To illustrate, while the minimum ATAR for eligibility is 96.00, the median required for entry is generally greater than 99.60. Similarly, the UMAT and interview median rankings required for entry are close to the top of their respective ranges.

**Additional Entry Pathways**

**Rural entry**

Applicants with a significant rural background who apply through the RSES compete for a separate entry quota of at least 27% of UNSW’s yearly domestic Medicine intake.

To apply via the RSES applicants must have lived in a defined Australian rural area, RRMA 3-7 (Rural, Remote, Metropolitan classification system) for at least five consecutive or ten cumulative years since the age of 5.

Applicants are offered a place in the Medicine program based on:

• academic rank
• Minimum ATAR of 91.00
• UMAT score
• Minimum 150 raw score
• interview mark
• rural rating
The application process is the same as for local domestic students, indicate on MAP your rural background.

**Indigenous entry**

Eligibility criteria

- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
- Evidence of Academic Capability - A number of measures may be used to assess this criterion, for example Secondary education records, Tertiary education records, examples of educational attainment, or other evidence of the applicant’s ability to succeed in studying Medicine at UNSW.
- Sound communication and interpersonal skills.
- Commitment to and knowledge of community concerns relating to Indigenous Health issues.

Some applicants may be invited to an interview if the selection panel require more information about you in addition to your application.

Successful applicants must complete the three-week residential Pre-Medicine Program (PMP) to be considered for acceptance into Medicine at UNSW. The PMP is held in Sydney at UNSW for 3 weeks from mid November. Participants must perform at a level deemed satisfactory by the Faculty of Medicine. Final selection for Indigenous Entry is made after the completion of the PMP.

For application process and key dates stay up to date at the website

BMedSc entry pathway

The graduate entry stream is only available to students enrolled in the UNSW Bachelor of Medical Science (BMedSc) program. Up to 10 places will be available for students to enter year 4 of the Medicine program with advanced standing.

Further information via the UNSW Medicine Graduate entry booklet

**International students**

How to apply

1. Application via UAC or UNSW Admissions
2. Apply for and sit ISAT
3. Complete and submit the UNSW Medicine Application Portal
4. Attend the UNSW Medicine interview (by invitation)
   - You can select to be interviewed either by telephone, Skype or face-to-face.

For key dates visit the website
For FAQs click here

Special consideration

ACCESS Scheme - for students who have experienced long term educational disadvantage

Special Consideration for Applicants with Tertiary Study (SCATS)

**USEFUL RESOURCES**

UNSW Medicine website
Scholarships Website
The application journey
To be perfectly honest, the application for Western Sydney Medicine was not difficult. From memory it only took a few clicks to submit, and didn’t require much writing at all. If you don’t mind writing, the university offers some scholarships as well – while some require a bit of a word count, the simplest one requires preferencing Western Sydney first, and if you get in you are eligible!

The most helpful part of my application journey was speaking to a friend in the year above me who had just started at Western Sydney med, and they gave me much of the advice which I am passing on in this document!

If I could go back in time, I would tell myself not to stress! The interview really made me feel like they wanted to know about me as a person overall, as opposed to what I had achieved. Also – take the tolls, or the train. A smooth and stress free journey before the interview is worth it.

What are the routines of studying at your medical school?
Refer to page 9, 11-13 of Neoplasm!

What are the upsides and downsides of your medical school?
Best Parts:
  • Really early clinical exposure – get into hospital from week one!
  • Five year course, with opportunities for research (no need to take time off for honours, or you can take a year off and graduate with a Bachelor of Medical Research as well)
  • Small cohort size (maximum ~130), you end up knowing everyone in your year, and usually most people from the grade above and below as well!
  • Beautiful new buildings – both School of Medicine and Clinical Schools
  • Access to great rural clinical schools as well, Lismore and Bathurst
  • Transitioning to MD (first cohort in 2019)

Parts that could be Improved:
  • Considerable travel time if you do not live in the region
  • Difficulty with getting leave for non-academic conferences; strict attendance policy – this is an issue we are continuously advocating on!
  • Emphasis on self-guided learning may not suit everyone

Uni life at your medical school
Given that Western Sydney has many campuses, it means that the university student groups are not as active as they are at other universities, and opportunities to mix around with other degrees are unfortunately limited. As such, Western Sydney Medical Society puts in a lot of effort to support our students in all aspects of their university life. What does WSMS do?
• Represent and advocate on two levels: Firstly, to the School of Medicine, raising any issues and bringing our feedback to improve our school, academics, and student experience as a whole. Secondly, on a state (New South Wales Medical Students’ Council) and national level (Australian Medical Students’ Association), making sure that our views are heard.
• Support your learning with a range of academic events and programs. Specific to your first year, these include hospital group mentoring, anatomy peer teaching, mock practical exams, student-created resources and more!
• Connect you to your peers with a jam-packed social calendar – from MedBall to Sports Night, MedRevue to MedCamp, these inclusive events are planned to cater to all our students. Regardless of whether you like unforgettable parties or cozy blankets, come along and make some wonderful memories and friends!
• Showcase the different facets of Medicine, through our Special Interest Groups (SIGs). Medicine is broad and varied, and WSMS acts as an umbrella covering some of these unique parts: Global Health Awareness Western Sydney (GHAWS), Western Sydney Physicians Society (WSPS), Western Sydney Surgical Society (WSSS) and the Alumni Foundation. We also liaise with our Associated Groups (AGs): Rural Health Union Western Sydney (RHUWS), General Practice Students’ Network (GPSN), Psychiatry Association Western Sydney (PAWS) and Specialised Community Ongoing Physician’s Education (SCOPE). WSMS works with all these groups to bring you speciality events, to foster and widen your interests.
• Take care of you with our Wellbeing Committee. It is no secret that medicine is difficult, and WSMS is dedicated to looking after our students to the best of our ability. Working with the School of Medicine, we are continuously building on ways to foster an environment where every student feels supported.

Megan Foo

ABOUT THE COURSE
Medicine is a vertically and horizontally integrated curriculum, centred on problem-based learning. Four themes run throughout the course: patient care, health in the community, personal and professional development, scientific basis of medicine. Patient contact and clinical learning begins in the first weeks and continues throughout the program.

COURSE STRUCTURE
Students spend the first 2 years learning the foundations and the scientific basis of medicine. During these years, students spend their time in university lectures, problem-based learning classes and practical/clinical skill classes. In the last 3 years students spend most of their time in hospitals, clinics and community placements. Optionally, students can elect to take on an extra research year and be awarded a Bachelor of Medical Research in addition to their MD.

Affiliated Hospitals:
• Campbelltown and Camden Hospitals
• Blacktown and Mount Druitt Hospitals
• Fairfield Hospital
• Liverpool Hospital
• Bankstown/Lidcombe Hospital
• Lismore Hospital
• Bathurst Hospital

Students generally spend the most time at Campbelltown and Blacktown Hospitals. Some students be allocated to Rural placements based at Lismore or Bathurst for 12 months during their last two years.

HOW TO APPLY
1. Register for and sit the UMAT
2. Apply for Western Sydney University medicine through UAC
   • Applications open 1 August 2018 and close 29 September 2018
3. Submit a registration form directly to the Western Sydney University School of Medicine
   • Online form available from August to 30 September 2018
4. Attend medicine interviews* (by invitation)
   • Interviews for domestic applicants from NSW, ACT and NT 21 to 24 November 2017
   • Interviews for applicants from other states 25 January 2018

* The interview is a Multi-station Mini Interview (MMI). This involves the applicant being asked a series of questions in different stations. Each station will be 8 minutes.
**Entry Requirements**

Minimum threshold for Medicine applications (note that the actual scores for acceptance are likely to be much higher):

1. **Academic Threshold**
   - Non Greater Western Sydney: 95.5 ATAR or equivalent
   - Greater Western Sydney: 93.5 ATAR or equivalent**

   **Go to the** [website](#) **and scroll down to the bottom to check if your postcode lies in Greater Western Sydney, and to check the GPA requirements for students already studying at university**

2. **UMAT Threshold**

   The School of Medicine has a policy not to disclose the threshold. The GWS threshold may be slightly lower than the non-GWS threshold.

3. **Multi-Station Mini Interview (MMI)**

   Applicants who meet the above two requirements are subsequently invited to an interview.

   The final rankings for offers is based on interview performance, plus UMAT scores, with a greater emphasis placed on the interviews.

**Additional Entry Pathways**

**International Applications**

The WSU School of Medicine has a minimum of 20 International places per year in MD Year 1.

- International students currently studying HSC, IB or NCEA level 3 at an Australian School should lodge their application via UAC
- All other international students should lodge their application via the International Office at Western Sydney University

**Selection Criteria**

- Academic Performance
- English language requirements
- International Students Admissions Test

See [here](#) for detailed criteria

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Applications**

How to apply:

1. Submit application to UAC by the 30th of September 2018
2. Complete the MD online registration by 30th of September 2018
3. Meet the inherent requirements
4. Provide an Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander Declaration.
   - The Confirmation of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent must be a signed written statement (including common seal) of an Aboriginal Heritage Association, Aboriginal Corporation or Land Council in the community where you live or have lived.

**Rural Entry Admission Scheme Applications**

Open for applications this year, the REAS offers a minimum of 15 places specifically for rural students to study medicine.

How to Apply

1. Apply via UAC, including Western Sydney University MD as a preference
2. Sit UMAT in the year of application
   - Complete an online MD registration form Available from August. Forms must be submitted by 5pm AEST on the 30th of September
3. Submit a [self-declaration form](#)
4. Have a recognised community member submit a [Community member confirmation form](#)

**Application requirements**

- An ATAR (or equivalent) of 93.5 OR a GPA of 5.7 (at the end of one year full time of study) OR a GPA of 5.1 out of 7 (for those who have completed a degree).
- UMAT threshold as set for year of entry (this is not known until October of each year)
- Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident (NZ citizens are not eligible to apply via this scheme)
- Have lived in an RSGA-RA of 2 to 5 for a minimum of 5 years consecutively or 10 cumulative years, commencing from the age of 5.

**Useful Resources**

See the official university [website](#) for the most up to date information.
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME (SYDNEY)

STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

THE APPLICATION JOURNEY
Try to get into healthy habits now and take charge of your health and wellbeing – exercise, sleep well, meditate, balance social life, work and study, have fun and maintain your hobbies. Your life doesn’t have to stop once you get into medicine, and it shouldn’t stop while you are applying to medical school either.

The uncertainty of medical school applications is incredibly tough, but if you don’t get an interview or a place it doesn’t mean you’re wasting your years away re-applying – although it may feel like it. You can still do things to move you towards your goals, whether they be career or personal. Use setbacks as an opportunity to try something new – volunteer, get a full-time job, work in an industry that interests you, save money, learn a new skill, travel, do a master’s degree or honours. Whether applying or reapplying, do think about what you could do to make use of the time while going through the process, it doesn’t have to just be studying for a better GAMSAT score!

LIFE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME, SYDNEY AS A FIRST YEAR MED STUDENT
In first year we’re at university five days a week, so it quickly becomes much like a full-time job. Each week we have a mix of lectures, clinical skills sessions and problem-based learning tutorials. In addition to this we have GP and aged care placements and workshops on surgical, ultrasound and communication skills throughout the year.

Having our problem-based learning tutorials led by doctors helps bring each case to life and makes the learning a lot more interesting. Another great aspect of the course is that the curriculum is integrated and spiral – integrated meaning the majority of the stuff we learn each week is centred around the weekly case, and spiral meaning that similar content will come back again so we can build on past knowledge. Seeing how things fit together and why the science is relevant to the clinical setting makes things easier to learn and understand, especially for non-science students like myself.

The course is pretty full-on, but the University of Notre Dame, Sydney has an active student body life to break up the study, with numerous opportunities to get involved each week. In the first 12 weeks we’ve had everything from social activities like Med Camp, Med Fest and Scrub Crawl to Global Health speaker nights promoting HIV awareness. If you’re into sports, there’s the swimming carnival, social teams for most sports and weekly run club. Our wellbeing rep’s run a weekly Wellbeing Wednesday Instagram photo competition, yoga sessions and organised small group mentoring sessions for us with the year above.

There’s also lots of stuff going on with specific interest societies. Our paediatrics society holds regular Teddy Bear Hospitals at local primary schools and did a 26km walk from the Opera House to Manly to raise money for kid’s cancer. Our surgical society recently ran a Surgical Challenge – the prize, shadowing a surgeon in a specialty of your choice! Our rural society ran an Amazing Race around Sydney during orientation and a group are off down to Wagga Wagga one weekend for a rural ball, school visit and hospital tour. Activities like these create a supportive and fun learning environment, and really help to break up the busy week(s)!

Jennifer (Jen) Alder
About the Course

The Doctor of Medicine (MD) is a 4-year graduate-entry program which combines basic and clinical sciences, communication and clinical skills, population and public health, and personal and professional development.

Course Structure

- 1st year - Foundations of a Medical Vocation in the form of tutorials, clinical and communication skills sessions, workshops, site visits
- 2nd year - Foundations of Clinical Practice begin research-based project
- 3rd year - Foundations of Clinical Practice. Clinical placements (Syd/ Melb/Rural) in hospitals and community settings with weekly “Back-to-Base Days” with case tutorials, grand rounds, journal club, and guest lectures
- 4th year - Preparation for Internship. Clinical placements (Syd/ Melb/Rural), presentation of Applied Research Project, electives at the end of examinations

More information on course structure

Affiliated hospitals

- Sydney Clinical Schools
  - St Vincent’s & Mater Clinical School at St Vincent’s Hospital
  - Auburn Clinical School located at Auburn Hospital
  - Hawkesbury Clinical School located at Hawkesbury Health Service
- Melbourne Clinical School
  - Werribee Mercy Hospital.
- Rural Clinical Schools
  - Lithgow Clinical School at Lithgow Hospital
  - Ballarat Clinical School at St John of God Hospital Ballarat
  - Wagga Wagga Clinical School at Calvary Health Care Riverina
  - Riverina Regional Training Hub (RRTH)

How to Apply

1. Register for and sit the GAMSAT
2. GEMSAS Online Application
   - Applications open early May and close on 31st May at 5pm (AEST)
3. Complete the Notre Dame Portfolio (embedded within GEMSAS application)*
4. Attend interview (Multi-mini interview)
   - Offers for interviews are made in early September
   - Interviews conducted late September
   - About 300 applicants will be interviewed for Sydney

Entry Requirements

Selection for entry is based on:

- Overall GAMSAT
- Grade Point Average (GPA)
- Notre Dame Portfolio
- Interview (Multi Mini/Structured interview)
- Note: Rurality, Higher Degrees by Research additional
- weighting
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander alternative pathway

Applicants are ranked for offer by combining the standardised scores calculated from a combination of GPA, GAMSAT and Portfolio with the applicant’s interview score.

Historical GAMSAT and GPAs required here:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SYDNEY</th>
<th>GAMSAT</th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To Interview 2017 entry</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>6.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Offer 2017 entry</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>6.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Interview 2018 entry</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>6.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Offer 2018 entry</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>6.54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Entry Pathways

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

Can apply through the standard pathway OR The School of Medicine, Sydney provides an alternative entry pathway for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Interested students can contact the School of Medicine, Sydney on (02) 8204 4450 for more information.

Useful Resources

UNDS website
Like most students in my course, I applied to Sydney Medical School through the graduate pathway. USyd’s admission process differs slightly from most graduate medical schools, in that students are only ranked by GAMSAT and interview score (with a minimum GPA of 5 for standard entry). The extra emphasis on GAMSAT score added some stress to the exam, so I chose to invest in a GAMSAT preparatory course. I found the access to GAMSAT style MCQs and tutors to provide feedback on some of my essays to be very helpful. While some students used a prep course, many others didn’t, so don’t stress out if it’s a bit too dear. The most important advice I can give for the admission process is be patient! Many students in our course took years of applying to get in, so if you’re looking at a subpar GAMSAT score, or you bomb your interview, don’t take away that you’re “not good enough”. You just need to keep at it.

When I started the degree, it was interesting to see the diverse backgrounds of students in our cohort. Within the first few weeks, I had met people who had studied Psychology, Arts, Law, and Music Studies, alongside those with a background in Medical Science. As a student with a science background, I was initially sceptical of how the program would accommodate students with such a wide range of previous experiences. Their answer to this is a 10 week “foundations” block at the beginning of first year, covering all the basic science you’re expected to know to engage with the degree. After foundations block, our students are more-or-less on a level playing field, so if you don’t have a strong science background, you’ll still fit in just fine!

Years 1 and 2 will see you rotate through sets of 8-10 week blocks, each covering a different body system. You’ll spend one day each week at one of our six main clinical schools. Your clinical day will see you learning various procedural skills and taking histories from patients with conditions relevant to your block. Most weeks you’ll also complete a Team-Based Learning exercise (TBL), where teams of students discuss a case relevant to what’s been covered in the past few weeks, run by experts in the
The Graduate Medicine MD program is designed to provide an excellent education and training platform on which to build a career in medicine, training excellent clinicians who will provide competent, diligent and ethical care to the community.

Students receive extensive clinical training, with exposure in a clinical environment from the second week of their studies. This takes place in our clinical teaching hospitals, which are located all around Sydney and NSW. The basic sciences are extensively covered especially in years 1 and 2.

Course Structure

Pre-clinical
- 2 years preclinical centred around Basic and Clinical Sciences, Population Medicine, Patient and Doctor, and Personal and Professional Development
- Problem based learning (PBL) approach
- Clinical experience from 1st year - 1 day per week

Clinical
- Year 3-4: full time clinical rotations

Research
- MD Research component: research or capstone project culminating in a 2,500 MD word report.

Postgraduate Entry

How to Apply
1. Apply online for a QAS (Qualifications Assessment Service) through UAC

2. Submit an online MD application directly to the University
   - Applications open Monday 23 April 2018 and close 10am on Tuesday 29 May 2018
3. Applicants who meet the GPA hurdle and the projected minimum average GAMSAT cut-off score will be invited to complete an online confirmation page.
   - Online confirmation page invitations will be sent via email mid-late June
4. Applicants who meet the actual average GAMSAT cut-off score for interview will be invited to attend an interview.
   - Interview invitations will be sent via email early-mid July
   - Face-to-face MMI* for domestic interviewee will be held mid-late July

The actual MMI is expected to last approximately 45 minutes. However, the entire process including registration may take up to 2 hours.

The MMI process is designed to assess the suitability of applicants based on qualities important for success in the MD and DMD, including:
- good communication skills;
- a sense of caring, empathy and sensitivity;
- an ability to make effective decisions;
- an ability to contribute as a member of a team;
- an appreciation of the place of medicine in the wider context of healing; and
- a sense of vocation, motivation and commitment within the context of medicine.

Zachary Blood
Entry Requirements
Three main requirements to be eligible for admission

- Satisfactory performance in an eligible bachelor’s degree (indicated by GPA)
  - Applicants must have completed, or be in the final year of, a bachelor’s degree and have at least a credit average at the time of application, as indicated by Grade Point Average (GPA).
- Satisfactory performance in an admissions test (GAMSAT)
  - Minimum of 50 in each section of the GAMSAT
- Satisfactory performance in an interview
  - Applicants will be selected for interview based on their average GAMSAT score. The average GAMSAT cut-off score will be determined once all applications have been received.

Applicants are required to meet the minimum MMI requirements, which will be determined by the Admissions Committee. Applicants will then be ranked on the basis of a combination of admissions test results and interview performance. This will generate different ranked lists of applicants for each pathway into the MD, for example, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants, or Commonwealth Supported Places, or Bonded Medical Places or Rural applicants.

Additional Entry Pathways
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
Entry can be via

- Indigenous Facilitated Entry Scheme (for applicants with a bachelor’s degree and GAMSAT results)
- Indigenous Entry Pathway (for applicants with a postgraduate degree)

For detailed information, visit the website.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants for the MD are encouraged to contact Associate Professor Lilon Bandler for more information and support. Please call +61 2 9036 7577 or email: med.iheu@sydney.edu.au.

Rural students
A facilitated entry scheme is available for applicants who can certify that they are of rural origin. The Australian Government currently defines ‘Rural origin’ as residency for at least 10 years cumulatively or any 5 years consecutively, from birth, in an Australian Statistical Geography Standard – Remoteness Areas (ASGS-RA) 2 to 5.

Rural applicants are required to achieve a GPA of 4.5, as calculated by UAC, by Friday 8 June 2018 (Sydney, Australia time). The average GAMSAT cut-off for rural applicants will be determined once all applications have been received by the University.

International students
You must fulfil three main requirements to be eligible for admission:

1. Satisfactory performance in an eligible bachelor’s degree (indicated by GPA)
   - International applicants will have their bachelor’s degree assessed and GPA calculated by the University.
2. Satisfactory performance in an admissions test (GAMSAT/MCAT or for DMD, DAT/CDAT)
3. Satisfactory performance in an interview
   - International applicants who meet both the required GPA and admissions test results will be invited to attend an interview.

You must also fulfil additional requirements, if applicable, to be eligible for admission:

1. English language requirements - All applicants must meet this requirement.

For your reference, in order to be considered for interview, domestic applicants in 2017 for 2018 entry were required to meet the average GAMSAT admission requirements as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Average GAMSAT admission requirement score for standard MD applicants</th>
<th>Average GAMSAT admission requirement score for rural MD applicants</th>
<th>Average GAMSAT admission requirement score for standard DMD applicants</th>
<th>Average GAMSAT admission requirement score for rural DMD applicants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applications in 2017 for 2018 entry</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average GAMSAT score = (1 x Section I + 1 x Section II + 1 x Section III) ÷ 3
2. MCAT results
   • MD applicants who are US citizens/nationals/permanent residents (regardless of whether they are also a citizen or permanent resident of a country other than the US) must submit valid MCAT results.

**Double Degree Undergraduate Entry**

**How to Apply**
Applicants should apply directly via UAC.
- Applications close September 29th
Note that UMAT is not required.

**Entry Requirements**
Admission to the DDMP is on the basis of a secondary school leaving qualification, such as the NSW Higher School Certificate (including national and international equivalents) leading to the award of an Australian Tertiary Admission Ranking (ATAR) or equivalent.

In addition, from 2019 entry, applicants need to achieve Band 4 in the NSW Higher School Certificate (HSC) Mathematics (not General Mathematics) or similar result in equivalent interstate or IB subjects

The selection process is highly competitive and the selection criteria include:
1. academic merit — ATAR (or equivalent) expected to be 99.95 for domestic applicants and a similarly high threshold for international applicants; and
2. an assessment process including a written assessment and a panel discussion.
   • The assessments will be held in December 2017 and January 2018 and you will be contacted by email or telephone if you are eligible

**Additional Entry Pathways**

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students**
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants who wish to be considered under the Cadigal Program should apply directly to the University’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Support Team in addition to applying through UAC. For more information on the Cadigal Program, visit sydney.edu.au/ug-special, or call (02) 8627 8619 or email support.cadigal@sydney.edu.au or contact Sydney Medical School at med-dent.admissions@sydney.edu.au.

**International students**
Apply via UAC if you are
   • a current Australian Year 12 secondary school examination (eg, NSW Higher School Certificate, Victorian Certificate of Education, Queensland Certificate of Education) in or outside Australia, or
   • a current International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma in Australia.

If not, apply directly to the university through
   • Bachelor of Arts/ Doctor of Medicine, or
   • Bachelor of Science / Doctor of Medicine

**Useful Resources**
Graduate entry Domestic Students Admissions Guide
Graduate entry International Students Admissions Guide
University of Sydney website
ABOUT THE COURSE
Each academic year is approximately 42 weeks in length. Students should expect to participate in 15-20 hours of structured and 15-30 hours of self-directed teaching and learning activities each week. Part time study is not available for the MD degree program.

There is a strong emphasis on regional, rural and remote health.

Of each student cohort, approximately 56 students will be placed at Wollongong campus and 28 at Shoalhaven campus. International students may be located at Wollongong, or may be offered a place at Shoalhaven campus if it is deemed appropriate by the Academic Leader: Admissions & Selection.

COURSE STRUCTURE
The course is divided into 4 phases. Core study areas/skills: Clinical Competencies, underpinning Medical Sciences, Personal & Professional Development, and Research & Critical Analysis skills. Offers Case-Based Learning as a highlight.

HOW TO APPLY
1. Sit GAMSAT
2. Do CASper - an online video based scenario, situational judgement test that is designed to measure the personal and professional traits, such as ethics, empathy and communication
   • Casper test dates are May 22 and June 7
3. Apply via GEMSAS and complete portfolio
4. Submit supporting documents (including transcripts from non-ARTS universities)
5. Interview* (by invitation)
   • Interview offers sent out in early September
   • Interviews held on September 15-16 and 22-23

• Interview is in the form of MMI
The interviews are designed to assess the following personal qualities deemed desirable in medical students and medical practitioners.
• Communication skills
• Empathy and compassion
• Resilience and coping skills
• Decision making and Problem solving ability
• Teamwork
• Honesty
• Reflection / self appraisal
• Leadership
• Ethical standards and values
• Insight and understanding

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Applicants must have completed recognised undergraduate (Bachelor) degree (within the past 10 years)

Applicants are selected for interview based on the following criteria:
• performance in GAMSAT
• performance in a Bachelor degree (as indicated by GPA)
• and UOW GM portfolio

The interviewed candidates are ranked after interview by a combination of interview score, portfolio and rurality score. CASPer scores may be utilised as additional evidence at this stage of selection.

ADDITIONAL ENTRY PATHWAYS
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
Students can apply through GEMSAS and indicate their Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Identity OR
through the dedicated application process
  • This application process should only be considered if an applicant:
    ◦ Applies after the GEMSAS application closing date or;
    ◦ Only wishes to be considered for an offer at UOW.

Applicants applying via the dedicated application process must submit the following documentation to the Admissions Office of the GM by 17 August 2018:
  • A completed 2018-2019 Indigenous Application and Portfolio Form
  • Certified copy of university transcripts
  • GAMSAT results

For more information, visit the website. Also see the Graduate School of Medicine Scholarship for Indigenous Students.

International students
The application process is the same as domestic application, except
  • Students whose undergraduate degree was not completed in English may be required to demonstrate English proficiency.
  • The UOW GM’s English Language Requirements are:
    ◦ A minimum IELTS score of 7.0, plus the following band scores:
    ◦ 7.0 in reading and listening; and
    ◦ 7.0 in speaking and writing

For more information, visit the website.

Useful Resources
University of Wollongong website
Applying to the Macquarie MD is very similar to other postgraduate medical schools, requiring the GAMSAT and Multiple Mini Interviews. It does however have prerequisites for anatomy and physiology. As a result the focus of year one is to revise and strengthen these areas while allowing a greater emphasis on learning clinical skills. It is important to note however, that not all undergraduate anatomy and physiology units are the same. Some individuals may have gaps in the required knowledge and will be expected to fill in these gaps in their own time.

The average GAMSAT mark for the 2018 cohort was 67 with a mean GPA of 6.4, a fair set of scores for a medical school and is likely to increase for the 2019 cohort. When trying to become a more competitive applicant, improving your GAMSAT score is a more viable option to gain an interview. The Macquarie MMIs provide a great opportunity to show off other skills that aren’t assessed by the GAMSAT or GPA, including professional skills such as communication, reasoning and decision making, as well as intrinsic abilities to show empathy and compassion. In any circumstance, but especially if your GPA and GAMSAT are not particularly competitive, the MMI is a great opportunity to showcase who you are as a person.

The weekly routine of the program is regimented and consistent. There are three days of classes, currently Tuesday, Wednesday and a Friday, with Monday and Thursday reserved for self-directed study and placement. On campus days are usually eight or nine hour days with an hour break. The days are varied; Tuesday is exclusively lectures, while Wednesday and Friday consist of lectures, tutorials, practicals and masterclasses. The first year has three units a semester, including an evidence-based healthcare unit, taught with the Doctor of Physiotherapy, that equips graduates to integrate current evidence in practise. The reaming units run in parallel, delivering theory which informs clinical skills and practice.

As a novel course, many advantages and disadvantages exist. The Faculty are transparent and highly receptive to feedback and are always looking for innovative ways to improve the program. Consequently, there is a unique opportunity for the first few cohorts to actually shape the program, allowing one to have a say in your own education. They are always looking for the best way to teach. We are also a small cohort of 50 student, which is expected to be capped at 60, which facilitates a sense of community among students and staff alike. However, as with any new program, there are elements of disorganisation and gaps as the program has never been run before. These are promptly being addressed, but may take some time to smooth over.

A small cohort means that you can get to know everyone and really build a community. There are enough personalities that you can find people who you click with and not enough students to get lost in the system. Already we have formed a medical society to cater to our academic, social and professional...
development needs. In just 3 months, we have organised beach days, dinners, a volunteer program and even a Scrub Crawl with many more exciting and grand events to come. The society is another opportunity for innovation and to fulfil personal ambitions. While currently the society is planting its root, over the coming years students will allow the society to flourish and blossom in whichever direction they like. As for Macquarie itself, it has a beautiful campus located in Northern Sydney with its own lake and greenery, and is secluded enough that you don’t feel the fast pace of a CBD campus. Macquarie has a busy student life with a very popular Ubar, and regular social events throughout the year.

The Macquarie MD is not a program to shy away from. It’s novel nature creates once in a lifetime opportunities to shape the program, with best practises for medical education implemented throughout.

Leanne Freame

**About the Course**
The Macquarie MD is a new four-year graduate entry program that:
- integrates applied medical sciences with clinical sciences, professionalism, research and cultural responsiveness.
- teaches students in an environment where learning is fully integrated with outstanding patient-centred clinical care and active health and medical research. This environment is MQ Health.
- provides students with a quality-assured international education.

**Course Structure**
First two years are preclinical
- Year 1 -two 18 weeks terms of “Foundations of Medical Practice"
- Year 2 -three 12 week blocks: Primary Care, Wellbeing and Cancer, Cardiovascular, Respiratory, Gastroenterology, Surgery and Metabolism, Musculoskeletal, Neuroscience and aging, and a six week block of Research
Year 3 and 4 are clinical placements
- Medicine, Surgery, Primary care, Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Mental Health

**Affiliated Hospitals**
- Macquarie University Hospital and Hyderabad Hospital, India

**How to Apply**
1. Sit GAMSAT
2. Use the pre-requisite checker to check that you have met the entry requirements for Human anatomy and physioloty
3. Apply through GEMSAS and complete personal statement
4. Attend interview - MMI (by invitation only)
   - All domestic applicants residing in Australia must be available to attend an interview on 22 September 2018.

**Entry Requirements**
Minimum requirements for application are as follows:
- GPA
  - A minimum weighted GPA of 5.0 out of 7.0 to be considered for interview. Note that entry is competitive and a GPA required for interview selection is likely to be significantly higher than 5.0 out of 7.0.
- GAMSAT
  - A minimum overall score of 50
  - A minimum of 50 in each of the three sections

Applicants will be ranked and selected for offer based on the following:
- 50% GAMSAT (50% MCAT for international applicants residing outside of Australia only)
- 50% MMI
- GPA will be used as a tie-breaker should applicants be equally ranked after GAMSAT / MCAT and MMI results.

**Additional Entry Pathways**
**Bonus Scheme**
The following applicants will automatically receive a three per cent bonus to their weighted GPA:
- Indigenous Australians (domestic applicants)
- Rural (domestic applicants)
- Macquarie University Bachelor of Clinical Science graduates (domestic and international applicants).

If applicants belong to two or more of the above categories, a maximum five per cent bonus will be applied to the weighted GPA.

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students**
As an Indigenous Australian applicant, you can apply through the standard pathway or the Indigenous Australian Pathway.

Through the Indigenous Australian Pathway your application will be individually assessed by staff at Walanga Muru, the University’s Indigenous office,
and the faculty. You will automatically receive a three per cent bonus to your weighted GPA, submission of GAMSAT results is optional, and you will receive guidance during the application and interview process. You will need to achieve a minimum weighted GPA of 5.0 out of 7.0.

**International students**
Submit your application directly to [International Admissions at Macquarie University](#), ensuring you complete and upload the compulsory [Supplementary Form](#) as part of your online application. Carefully read the Macquarie MD [International Admissions Guide 2019](#) before commencing your application.

**Undergraduate pathways into Medicine**
You can apply for a Bachelor of Clinical Science at Macquarie University as your undergraduate degree. For Bachelor of Clinical Science graduates who apply for the Macquarie MD, there are some advantages:

- The program includes preparation for medical admission tests.
- A three-per-cent bonus is automatically applied to applicants’ weighted GPA.
- 20 MMI places are reserved for Bachelor of Clinical Science graduates.
- Macquarie University Bachelor of Clinical Science graduate scholarships are available – up to five scholarships worth AU$30,000 for each year of the program.

**International applicants** can apply directly for the Bachelor of Clinical Science/Doctor of Medicine (Macquarie MD) program package. Online applications should be sent to [International Admissions at Macquarie University](#)

**Entry requirements:**

- Secondary school results. Minimum final examination mark needs to be equivalent to a 95.00 Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).
- Satisfactory performance in the CASPer test
- IELTS – 7.0 overall; minimum 7.0 in each band, or equivalent.
- Assumed knowledge – prior secondary school learning in mathematics and chemistry.

**Useful Resources**
Macquarie University [website](#) for admissions.
Students wishing to study medicine in Northern Territory may apply through the Flinders University Northern Territory Medical Program.

Twelve graduate-entry places for domestic students are available each year and graduates from any undergraduate degree are encouraged to apply, however places are sponsored by the NT Government and preference is given to NT residents.

Students taking up these places will be required to work in the NT through a Return of Service Obligation (RoSO) for four years following graduation, this includes their intern year.

More information on Flinders University Indigenous entry stream

The NTMP offers Indigenous graduates who live in the NT the opportunity to undertake the study of medicine closer to home, through the Indigenous Entry Stream (IES).

Through the IES Indigenous graduates may apply directly to Flinders University rather than through GEMSAS (Graduate Entry Medical School Admissions System) and applications to the IES do not require GAMSAT results.

Undergraduate entry
The NTMP offers a double degree in Bachelor of Clinical Sciences/Doctor of Medicine (MD). Students can complete this double degree in six years straight from high school.

Applicants must complete the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT) and apply directly through the South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre (SATAC).

James Cook University medical students
James Cook University (JCU) medical students in the fifth and sixth years of their six-year undergraduate course can apply for the NTMP.

The first four years of this degree are based in Townsville and the focus of study is mainly on basic sciences.

In years five and six approximately 10 JCU students join the NTMP for their clinical training, rotating through placements at Royal Darwin Hospital and general practices in the community.

More information on James Cook University NT Remote Clinical School
The Northern Territory Remote Clinical School (NTRCS) is an exciting component of the NTMP that allows students to spend six months or more in a rural location.

NTRCS campuses are in Katherine, Alice Springs and Nhulunbuy, where students are exposed to a unique learning environment that adds to their broader clinical experience.

The curriculum at each campus has been designed to provide high quality learning opportunities for students to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully complete their training.
Queensland

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James Cook University 47
Bond University 49
Griffith University 50
Student Perspective

Note on the UQ MD Program Admissions Process
The admissions process is currently undergoing a restructure at UQ. Previously, greater emphasis was placed on GPA and standardised tests, but there is currently a pilot underway trialing a Multiple Mini Interview (MMI) system. At the time of writing, no current UQ student has had to interview in this way, but our general advice would be to closely track the UQ MMI information given and to trial sample stations using online resources (https://multipleminiinterview.com/ is a good place to start). Some other medical schools in Australia (Monash, UWS, JMP) also use MMI system in their selection process, please refer to their section for more information.

Studying at UQ
Like most medical programs, the UQ MD Program is full on. Years 1 and 2 are filled with learning clinical knowledge and skills so that you will be ready for the wards in years 3 and 4. Despite the challenges of studying med, there is a deep sense of collegiality at UQ, with many students sharing notes and resources that they found helpful towards learning complex topics. Additionally, being placed in a Case-Based Learning (CBL) group in first and second years helps you to quickly develop a core set of friends who travel along the med journey with you. Years 3 and 4 are split equally between spending time directly seeing patients at clinical sites and studying.

While UQ is one of the largest cohorts and it can at times feel overwhelming, you often find a particular support network within the larger student ecosystem that allows you to thrive in the face of adversity. Across every step of the way, the University of Queensland Medical Society (UQMS) is there to provide students with support and some fun.

Garrett Robson
**About the Course**

The Doctor of Medicine is designed to develop the knowledge, skills and personal qualities expected of leading junior doctors. There are two entry pathways: Provisional Entry (for school leavers) or Direct Entry (for university graduates).

Note that in March 2018, changes to the selection process for the Doctor of Medicine (MD) program were approved. The changes will be progressively introduced between 2019 and 2022. Visit this page to stay up to date with the changes.

**Course Structure**

Phase 1 (Years 1 & 2): preclinical years, with case-based learning and group work to provide a strong foundation of knowledge and research training, primarily at the university’s main campus in St Lucia.

Phase 2 (Years 3 & 4): clinical years, with ten core clinical rotations at the affiliated hospitals.

**Affiliated hospitals**

- School of Clinical Medicine – Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital, Greenslopes Private Hospital, Mater Hospital, Ipswich Hospital, Prince Charles Hospital, Redcliffe Hospital, Caboolture Hospital, Holy Spirit Northside Hospital, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Redland Hospital, Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital, Sunshine Coast University Hospital, Wesley Hospital, St Andrew’s War Memorial Hospital and 200 GPs throughout central and south-east Queensland.
- Rural Clinical School – Bundaberg, Hervey Bay, Rockhampton, Toowoomba.
- Ochsner Clinical School – located in Louisiana, USA, students can undertake their Phase 2 clinical teaching overseas through a Year 4 rotation placement or as part of the UQ-Ochsner MD program for both years.

**Undergraduate Provisional Entry**

**How to Apply**

1. Register for and sit the UMAT.
2. Apply through the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC)

   - QTAC Code 721302 (MD Provisional Entry for School Leavers)
   - QTAC Code 721402 (MD Provisional Entry for School Leavers – Bonded Medical Place)

Note no interview is required for 2019 entry.

Provisional entry medicine students must complete their first degree at UQ within the minimum time specified with a program GPA of 5.00 in order to progress to the MD.

**Entry Requirements**

**Minimum requirements**

- Queensland Year 12 English with a score of Sound Achievement (or equivalent)
- OP 1 or Entry Rank 99 (or equivalent)
- Competitive UMAT scaled score aggregate, completed in the year of application

Note: there is no interview for 2019 applicants.

**Selection process**

- Ranked by overall UMAT scores, then by Section 1 scores to tie-break

Year 12 students may be eligible for bonus points through the UQ Bonus Rank Scheme.

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**UMAT Cut-Offs (Overall Score: Section 1)**

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**GAMSAT Cut-Offs (Overall Score)**

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<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Rural Background Scheme Non-Bonded</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural Background Scheme Bonded</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Direct Entry**

**How to Apply**
1. Register for and sit the GAMSAT
2. Apply through GEMSAS
   - Applications open Early May and close May 31st – Medicine Applications close at 5pm AEST
Note: no interview is required for 2019 entry.

**Entry Requirements**
Minimum requirements
- Completed a minimum three-year bachelor’s degree (at least six full-time semesters
  - Awarded by an accredited Australian university or overseas equivalent
  - Minimum GPA of 5.0 on a 7-point scale in your most recent degree,
- GAMSAT
  - Minimum score of 50 in each section of GAMSAT, completed in the past two years, ranked by overall score
Note: there is no interview for 2019 applicants

Selection process
- Ranked by overall GAMSAT scores, then by GPA to tie-break

**Additional Entry Pathways for Provisional and Direct Entry**
Rural students (Rural Background Scheme for Provisional entry and Rural Background Subquota for MD entry)
At least 28% of all places (whether bonded or non-bonded) must be filled by students whose principal home address was in an ASGC Remoteness Area 2-5 (RA2-5) for at least five consecutive years at any point in your life or 10 years cumulatively.

The Rural Access Scheme supports applicants from Australian rural and regional areas by boosting their entry score for a number of undergraduate programs.

If you successfully apply for the sub-quota as a direct entry applicant, you will also have two adjustments added onto your overall GAMSAT score.

Application process
- Provisional entry school leaves: There is no need to actively apply, as QTAC will contact you once listing the Doctor of Medicine as a preference on your QTAC application
- Direct entry graduates: indicate your rural background on the relevant section of your GEMSAS application and send supporting evidence to GEMSAS Processing PO Box 522, Ferny Hills DC, Queensland 4055

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students**
Alternative Entry Pathway for both Provisional and Direct Entry. Successful applicants are eligible for up to an additional 5 bonus points – or OP equivalent – to assist with their entry into UQ.

Application
1. Apply through QTAC
   - On your QTAC application, you must identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and list UQ as a preference.
2. Complete and sign the alternative entry form
3. Provide copies of supporting documents
4. Write a personal statement, no more than A4 page

For more details and the forms visit the website.

**International students**
Approximately 90 places are available, with positions in both Provisional Entry and Direct Entry
Minimum requirements
- Provisional Entry
  - Queensland Year 12 English OP 1, or Entry Rank 99, or equivalent
  - Minimum score of 50 in each section of the UMAT or minimum of 60 in each section of the ISAT
  - At least a score of 7 overall and a minimum of 7 in each sub-band of the IELTS or equivalent
- Direct Entry
  - minimum GPA of 5.0 on a 7-point scale in a key degree completed in the past 10 years
  - minimum score of 50 in each section of the GAMSAT completed in the past two years (or a minimum total of 504 for new MCAT scores)
  - at least a score of 7 overall and a minimum of 7 in each sub-band of the IELTS or equivalent

How to apply
- Provisional entry applicants studying Year 12 in Australia: QTAC
- Provisional entry applicants studying Year 12 abroad or Direct Entry: directly to UQ or a UQ representative in your country

For more information visit here.

**Useful Resources**
University of Queensland medicine website
More information on Campus Life
More information on Student Support
The application journey
Its FNQ, don’t come in a suit/ blazer – way too hot! The best thing you can do for the application is be yourself & as easy going as possible whilst staying firm in your interview. The interviewers have the best poker faces but this doesn’t mean you should doubt yourself.

What are the routines
As a pre-clinical student, I used to try study the lecture material that was delivered and try make sure I had all my notes together at the end of each week. We would usually only have one major lecture day and a day off with a few casual group learning sessions in between which were great.

I always take Friday nights off, regardless of how stressed I am – you can’t constantly keep going you’ll burn out.

As a clinical student, the change in workload and day to day expectations are a massive jump. You have early starts and late finishes & you’re often too exhausted to study at night, but that’s okay you can’t expect the same standard of constant study as your pre-clinical years!

What are the upsides and downsides
Upsides: Non-competitive culture, unlike other universities the overwhelming majority of the cohort want to help each other out. We have a really social atmosphere & our tropical Fridays (Tropical shirts + thongs) are always a great end to the week. You also get a lot of exposure to the clinical field – with placements starting in first year. There’s heaps of opportunities to try your hand at a number of clinical skills and our students have a great history of graduating as being capable.

Downsides: First year doesn’t really feel like you’re doing medicine – its way more science based but it’s just a year you get through. The grouping of a few of the subjects in a couple of the years is quite intense too. We have a couple of clinical sites – which actually are a great opportunity to move around as they all are fantastic locations, however be prepared to potentially move to Cairns, Mackay, or Darwin.

Uni life at your medical school
Our local uni club is a great time & a great way to end the week. Our uni has awesome surrounding waterfalls, and rivers – they’re honestly the best locations to go and chill with a group of friends when you get sick of hitting town. Speaking of town – we may only have one street of clubs but I can guarantee every single student that’s been to JCU has at least one hilarious memory from this place. JCUMSA constantly hosts events throughout the year so you’re always meeting new students from the years above!

Maisha Jamali
About the Course
James Cook University (JCU) offers a 6 year undergraduate medicine program that will see graduates complete a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery degree. The degree focuses on Rural/Remote, Indigenous health and Tropical medicine.

Course Structure
The degree is split into preclinical (years 1-3) and clinical (years 4-6). The preclinical years cover the basics sciences, social sciences and have a variety of clinical placements integrated into the curriculum. The preclinical years are all completed at the Townsville campus. The clinical years enable students to complete further studies within a hospital setting with exposure to all the major disciplines in medicine and community health services. Year 4 of the course can be undertaken in either Cairns or Townsville and years 5 and 6 in either Cairns, Townsville, Mackay or Darwin.

How to Apply
1. Apply online via QTAC
   • Applications open 1 August an close 30 September
2. Submit a written application* directly to JCU
   • Submit by 30th September.
   • Application forms can be found here
   • The Prediction of Academic Achievement sheet is to be completed by your School Principal/Vice-Principal/Guidance Officer or Director of Studies (or equivalent) and returned to the Division of Tropical Health and Medicine medicine.forms@jcu.edu.au
3. Attend medicine interview** (by invitation)
   • first-round in early-mid December 2018 and second round in early January 2019

JCU does not consider the UMAT as a prerequisite.

• There are four main questions;
  • Why do you want to become a Medical Practitioner/ Health Professional?
  • Provide details of any paid employment, work experience or voluntary, you have undertaken, in addition to your studies, which indicate your motivation to study Medicine or another Health Professional degree at James Cook University?
  • Tell us why you are interested in a course where important themes are Indigenous and tropical health and rural/remote medicine?
  • Provide any other information you believe will support your application.
You are allowed to provide a maximum of 3 letters of support with your application

** The interviews are held in the Townsville campus

• The interview is conducted by three people; a JCU academic, a doctor and a member of the community
• Takes approximately 30-45 minutes
• There are three sections to the interview:
  ◦ Questions about you, your experiences and background
  ◦ Scenario based questions
  ◦ A discussion about a current issue in the world/community

Entry Requirements
Successfully completed four semesters at Year 12 level and achieved an exit level of at least Sound Achievement in English, Mathematics B and Chemistry or interstate or overseas equivalent.

The study of Physics and Biology is highly desirable

Selection of applicants to be interviewed will be based on evaluation of the application together with all available information regarding academic performance.

Additional Entry Pathways
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants interested in pursuing a career in Medicine should contact the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Centre for more information.
Phone: 07 4781 4676
Email: atsicentre@jcu.edu.au

International students
How to apply
1. Apply through the university via their website
2. Complete application forms
   • Submit by 31st August

See here for entry requirements.
See here for admissions guide for 2019.

Advanced standing
Advanced Standing (credit for previous study) which may allow you to commence the course from second year or onwards. An application for advanced standing can only be made if you have been offered AND accepted a place in the MBBS program (by following the steps outlined above). Applications must be submitted at least 4 weeks prior to the commencement of study. More information can be found here.

Useful Resources
James Cook University medicine application website
Application Guide (for 2018 entry- a year outdated)
About the Course
The Medical Program focuses heavily on student placement within clinical sites domestically located close to the Bond Main Campus. Students gain extended exposure to areas such as child health, medicine, mental health, surgery and women’s health during their time on placement throughout the program.

Course Structure
First 3 years are preclinical, where teaching is centered around three themes
• “Scientist and Scholar”
• “Practitioner”, and
• “Health Advocate and Professional”

Problem based learning (PBL) approach

Year 3 primarily located at Bond University Clinical Education and Research Centre at Robina Hospital

Year 4 and 5 - clinical rotations and professional project, research project or capstone experience

How to Apply
1. Submit Application via QTAC
   • Undergraduate students: Course Code 020712: The Bachelor of Medical Studies (BMedSt)
   • Postgraduate students Course Code 020741: The Bachelor of Medical Studies (Graduate Entry)

2. Psychometric Test* • Approximately 50% of applicants will be invited to complete Step 2 of the admissions process.

3. Interview (by invitation based on results of psychometric test)
   • Interviews will be held in person at Bond University on the Gold Coast, in a structured multi mini interview (MMI).

Note: UMAT not required

Entry Requirements
Minimum academic rank to be competitive for an interview:
• Undergraduate Applicants
  ◦ OP 1-2 or ATAR 97+ IB Total 39+
• Postgraduate Applicants
  ◦ Cumulative GPA of greater than 6.00 on a 7.00 point scale from a recognised tertiary program

Additional Entry Pathways
Graduate entry
Domestic and international students eligible to graduate from the Bond University programs: the Bachelor of Biomedical Science (in the Pre-Health Professional major), the Master of Occupational Therapy, the Doctor of Physiotherapy or the Master of Nutrition and Dietetic Practice, meeting the minimum required GPA will be eligible to be considered for selection to enter Year 2 of the Bachelor of Medical Studies (BMedSt). Refer to this entry assessment table for calculation of academic merit

International students
Direct entry into the combined degree is not available for international students. However, international students graduating from Bond University having completed the Bachelor of Biomedical Science (in the Pre-Health Professional major), the Doctor of Physiotherapy or the Master of Nutrition and Dietetic Practice are eligible to apply for graduate entry.

Fees
Bachelor of Medical Studies (BMedSt)- $223,680
Doctor of Medicine (MD)- $167,760
Medical Program + TOTAL fee- $391,440

Useful Resources
Bond University website
See “related links” section on the right for detailed information on each topic.
What are the upsides and downsides?

Upsides include having a relatively small cohort, meaning that you get to know all your peers. Year 1 and 2 is all pass/fail, therefore it is less competitive between peers to get the top marks. This helps everyone to share resources and help each other. Facilities are brand new and the anatomy lab is the best in Australia. New Gold Coast University Hospital is just across the road from uni. Griffith also offering places at the new Sunshine Coast University Hospital (SCUH) from 2019 for first years and clinical years. Communication Skills workshops are great. Griffith has a great focus on developing communication skills with different patients!

Downsides include the breaks during the year being not as long compared to other medical schools. Particularly in year 3 and 4, we only get one week off during the year. Lots of self directed learning expected. The rationale behind this is that we will be required to do self directing learning for our whole medical career so might as well start now. Clinical skills not taught as well as they could be.

Uni life

Overall Griffith uni life is probably not as established as some of the older universities but nonetheless we do have great clubs and initiatives on offer.

- University Nationals (formerly known as Unigames)- held on the Gold Coast for the next few years.
- GUMS (Griffith University Medicine Society) is very active and definitely a society that punches above its weight. We offer a variety of wellbeing, academic, and social initiatives. We support a number of medical student sport social teams- Rugby, Touch, AFL, Netball, and soccer.
- We have a number of other interest societies- Hope4Health (charity focused), Surgia (surgical interest group at Griffith).
- We are fortunate enough to have the opportunity to attend the AMSA Convention every year- in year 1 and 2, Griffith Medical School intentionally makes sure we get our break week during convention so students can attend. In year 3 and 4, students are able to apply for conference leave to attend this event or another conference of our choosing.
About the Course
Griffith’s Doctor of Medicine has a strong emphasis on developing communication skills and aims to equip you with an understanding of the science of medicine.

Most of your learning on-campus will occur in small group settings such as problem-based learning tutorials and clinical skills laboratories. These are combined with clinical placements starting from the second month of your degree, in hospitals and community groups one day per week.

Course Structure
Pre Clinical (Year 1 and 2)
- 2 PBL sessions a week
- 1-2 three hour anatomy labs per week
- 1 communication workshop per week
- 1 clinical skills workshop per week
- Variety of lectures throughout the week
- Assessment- mid year exams and end of year exams

Clinical Year (Year 3 and 4)
- 7 week rotations throughout the year
  ◦ Year 3 rotations (X6): Gen Med, Gen Surg, Mental Health, Aged Care/ Cancer Care, O&G, Paeds
  ◦ Year 4 rotations (X5): ED, GP, Selective (choose from range of subspecialties), Crit Care (ICU, Anaesthetics) and Ortho, Elective (choose wherever you want in the world- as long as you speak the language)
- One week of simulations in year 3 and year 4 with interprofessional learning (allied health) and assessments at the end
- One main exam in the middle of the year
- OSCE at the end of the year

Clinical sites available:
- Urban Hospitals - Gold Coast University Hospital, Logan Hospital, Tweed Hospital, QEII Hospital, Sunshine Coast University Hospital
- Rural Hospitals - Warwick, Gympie, Kingaroy, Stanthorpe, Dalby, Beaudesert

How to Apply
1. Register for and sit the Graduate Australian Medical Schools Admissions Test (GAMSAT).
2. Apply for entry to the Griffith School of Medicine via GEMSAS+ and nominate in your GEMSAS application if you wish to be considered under the Griffith University Rural Priority Access Scheme.
3. Attend a multiple station assessment procedure at the Griffith School of Medicine (by invitation)

Entry Requirements
The medical selection criteria comprise three essential components:
- completion of a Bachelor degree or other ‘key degree’ (see here)
  ◦ achieving an overall GPA of 5.0 or above on a 7-point scale calculated using the GEMSAS schema.
- performance in the Graduate Medical School Admission Test (GAMSAT)
  ◦ applicants must achieve a minimum score of 50 in each GAMSAT section.
- performance in the Griffith University Multi Station Admissions Assessment (GUMSAA).
  ◦ The GPA will be added to the GAMSAT score (50:50) by converting GPA and GAMSAT to a percentage score in order to rank applicants for selection for GUMSAA.

Offers are made in November based on the ranking calculated as 50:50 combination of the interview selections rank (50:50 GPA/GAMSAT) and the overall Interview score (converted to a percentage).

Additional Entry Pathways
Rural Students
A proportion of the Griffith University medical intake will include students from a rural background RA2-5. Competitive applicants who meet the rural criteria will be given priority access to Griffith University Doctor of Medicine program.

International Students
Only international students who are resident outside Australia may apply using an MCAT score. The minimum MCAT cut-off score is: 123/123/123/123 (492). MCAT scores are required to be no more than two years old at the time of application.

English language requirements apply to international applicants and other applicants whose previous study was undertaken in a language other than English. The minimum English language requirements is a minimum overall band score of 7.0 on IELTS (Academic) with no sub-score of less than 7.0

For more information visit their website

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students
Please email medicine@griffith.edu.au for further details about the Griffith University Pathway for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants.

Useful Resources
Griffith University website
About the Course
The Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) consists of three major streams reflecting the core elements of medical practice:
1. Scientific Basis of Medicine
2. Clinical Practice
3. Medical Professional and Personal Development

A major emphasis is placed on professionalism, communication and clinical reasoning, as well as the practise of evidence-based and preventative medicine. Small-group Case-Based Learning (CBL) is the dominant learning mode during the early years of the curriculum. Lectures in the medical disciplines such as pathology, anatomy, physiology and pharmacology are carefully staged throughout the clinical cases of the most commonly encountered and socially significant diseases.

Course Structure
In Year 1, students will also undertake two semesters of Fundamentals of Biomedical Science. The clinical practice tutorials in Years 1 and 2 are led by senior clinicians in a state-of-the-art clinical skills facility. In Year 3, clinical skills training is conducted primarily in the public teaching hospitals. Students will then bring this core learning to their clinical placements in Years 4–6.

How to Apply
1. Register for and sit the UMAT
2. Apply through SATAC
   • SATAC applications open 6 August 2018 and close 28 September 2018
   • 314552: non-bonded CSP place
   • 314553: bonded medical place
3. Attend interviews* (by invitation)
   • Invitations to interviews will be sent out on the 29th of October 2018
   • Interviews will be conducted from late November and into December 2018.

* Interviews for the MBBS degree comprise of two 15 minute sessions, with five minutes between each session. In each session you will be interviewed by a panel of up to two interviewers.

The interview comprises of a series of scenarios and questions and provides an opportunity for you to demonstrate your personal qualities, including:
• Motivation and self-awareness
• Critical thinking and problem solving
• Attention to detail and professional behaviour
• Interpersonal and communication skills
• Prioritising and conscientiousness
• Aptitude for group learning and teamwork
• Compatibility and understanding of the degree and applicable health profession

Entry Requirements
Prerequisites
Biology or Chemistry or Mathematical Methods; OR IB: Biology (SL grade 4/HL grade 3) or Chemistry (SL grade 4/HL grade 3) or Mathematics (SL grade 4/HL grade 3); OR equivalent

Applicants will be ranked for an offer based on a combination of scores from these three components weighted as follows:
• UMAT results: 20%
• Interview results: 40%
• Academic results: 40%
  ◦ Minimum 90 Selection rank (ATAR + Bonus points)
  ◦ Minimum 22 IB
  ◦ Minimum GPA 5.0 – only applicable for University of Adelaide Higher Education applicants

Additional Entry Pathways
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants interested in pursuing a career in Medicine should contact the Faculty Indigenous Student Support
Officer for tailored application support.
P: +61 831 37512  
E: askhealthsc@ask.adelaide.edu.au

Yaitya Purruna Scholarship Health and Medical Scholarship- Recipients will receive up to $10,000 annually for the duration of their degree to support their study here in Adelaide. For more information visit the scholarship website.

Rural students
A minimum of 34 places in the MBBS are reserved for students who come from a rural background. Applicants who, as of 31 December in the year prior to degree commencement, have spent at least five consecutive years, or 10 years cumulatively, in an Australian Standard Geographic Classification - Remoteness Areas (ASGCRA) RA 2-5 area, from birth are eligible to apply under the Rural Background entry pathway.

Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT)
If you have no formal qualifications on which to base your application to a tertiary institution, you may be eligible to be considered for entry to a course by sitting the STAT. To be eligible to sit the test, you need to be over 18 as of 1 February in the year of entry to the course, and have never been enrolled in a course leading to a higher education level award.

Higher education pathway
At least 20 places in the MBBS are reserved for students who come through the Higher Education Pathway. A minimum of 10 places from the Higher Education quota will be allocated to applicants from the Bachelor of Health and Medical Sciences and Bachelor of Health and Medical Sciences (Advanced).

Higher Education applicants are required to sit the UMAT test and gain a competitive score to be invited to an interview. The University will use your Grade Point Average in lieu of an ATAR or IB score. See the guide for GPA requirements.

International students
1. Online application
2. Register for and sit the Personal Qualities Assessment (PQA)
   • The Personal Qualities Assessment (PQA) is an instrument designed to assess a range of personal qualities considered to be important for the study and practise of medicine, dentistry and other health professions.
3. Interviews (by invitation)
   • Interviews are offered based on your performance on the PQA
   • Invitations will be sent out on 30th August 2018

• Interviews will only be conducted in the following locations:
  ◦ Adelaide—interviews conducted face-to-face only
  ◦ Toronto, Canada—interviews conducted via video conferencing
  ◦ Singapore—interviews conducted via video conferencing

For English level requirements, academic scores and key dates see website

USEFUL RESOURCES
University of Adelaide medicine website
2019 Medicine Surgery Admission Guide
About the Course
The Flinders medical program aims to develop the elements of knowledge, understanding and skill central to varied areas of medical practice, producing graduates well prepared to act as hospital interns and with the potential to follow a full range of medical specialties in subsequent training.

Course Structure
Team-based format of first and second years, with options for gaining clinical experience in varied settings, including hands-on involvement in patient care.

Students in third and fourth year can select from a large range of clinical experiences - from traditional rotations in big city hospitals; single rotations or year-long involvement in health care delivery in outer urban, rural or remote communities; to electives almost anywhere in the world.

Undergraduate Entry
If you’re a school leaver or do not have an academic record of study at university, you can apply for the undergraduate pathway into medicine - the Bachelor of Clinical Sciences/Doctor of Medicine.

How to Apply
1. Register for and sit the UMAT
2. Apply to SATAC
   • Key dates TBA- Final closing date for Medicine at Flinders was 4 December in 2017

Entry Requirements
Your entry score is created by combining your ATAR (90%) and your UMAT derived score (10%), which is based mainly on sections 1 and 2 of the test.

It is expected that you will need to achieve an ATAR of 95 or above (after the addition of any relevant bonus points for special access schemes) to be competitive for a double degree place.

Postgraduate Entry
How to Apply
1. Hold an approved undergraduate degree or equivalent
2. Register for and sit the GAMSAT
3. Apply directly to Flinders University
   • Applications open Monday 28 May 2018 and close Friday 29 June 2018
4. Attend an interview* (by invitation)
   • Applicants shortlisted for interviews notified from late August 2018
   • Interviews take place in late September 2018

The Interview is a semi-structured with a common set of scenarios and questions for all applicants. It is designed to assess qualities considered important both for success in medical school and in subsequent medical practice. These include:
   • Quality of motivation
   • Learning style and team skills
   • Communication skills
   • Pro-social attitude
   • Personal management and self-evaluation skills
   • Approach to decision-making

Entry Requirements
Applicants must:
   • hold an approved undergraduate degree or equivalent qualification from an approved
tertiary institution
• hold a valid Graduate Medical Schools Admission Test (GAMSAT). To be eligible to apply, you must obtain a score of 50 or above in each Section of the GAMSAT. Test results from the September 2018 test cannot be considered for 2019 entry.
• attend an interview.

Invitations to interview at Flinders are issued based on your overall GAMSAT score. The GAMSAT overall score cut-offs for 2018 were as follows:
• Rural (Including PRCC) = 60
• Flinders 75% = 61
• Humanitarian Visa = 63
• Non-Flinders Qualification Holders (Non-Rural / Non-Humanitarian Visa) = 76
A small number of special invitations to interview for applicants with slightly lower GAMSAT scores but exceptional GPAs (6.4 or higher) were offered for some Adelaide places.

Your overall selection score is an equally weighted combination of your:
• GAMSAT overall score
• Weighted GPA
• Interview score

**Additional Entry Pathways**

**Rural applicants**
Up to 24 places are available each year in the Doctor of Medicine for students from a rural background who are able to demonstrate commitment to a career in rural practice.

Applicants must come from a rural background. This is defined as ‘residency for at least 10 years cumulatively or any five years consecutively in an Australian Statistical Geography Standard - Remoteness Area (ASGS-RA) 2-5’.

When applying, you must also submit
• A rural sub-quota statutory declaration form and documentary evidence which confirms that you meet the Commonwealth rural eligibility criteria.
• An autobiographical statement up to 600 words describing:
  ◦ your personal background relevant to the course;
  ◦ why you have applied to the PRCC sub quota; and
  ◦ why you are suited to learning medicine in a rural environment.

**Northern Territory Medical Program (NTMP)**
The Flinders medical course is offered in the Northern Territory through the NT Medical Program (NTMP). The NTMP allows you to undergo your entire medical training in the NT. Preference is given to students who are NT residents and Indigenous Territorians.

To apply for entry into the NTMP, as part of your application, you must:
• indicate a preference for the NTMP; and,
• where appropriate, provide a Statutory Declaration stating how you meet NT residency requirements.
• In your application you may state your wish to be considered for the medical course in SA and/or NT, with an indication of which location is your first preference.

Northern Territory Government bonded medical places may be available and are associated with a four year Return of Service Obligation (ROSO) in the NT after graduation. Currently up to 12 Northern Territory Government Bonded Medical places are available in Darwin every admissions year.

More information

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students**
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students can apply to study medicine in both Adelaide and the Northern Territory through the Indigenous Entry Stream (IES).

If you apply through the IES:
• You are required to submit a written application
• You may then be invited to an interview.
• Your written application and interview performance may result in you being offered a place in the Preparation for Medicine Program (PMP).

**International Students**
Undergraduate application
1. Meet minimum academic requirements
2. Have a valid ISAT score
3. Attend an interview (by invitation)

Similar application process for postgraduate entry, see here for more details.

For more information on international student entry visit the website.

**Useful Resources**
Postgraduate entry Admissions Guide - must read before application.
About the Course
The five year MBBS will provide students with the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to undertake supervised practice as interns in Australia or New Zealand and an appropriate foundation for lifelong learning and further training in any branch of medicine. The scientific basis of medicine and its clinical application will be taught in an integrated manner which will provide not only clinical relevance, across the five years, but also highlight the ethical and professional aspects of medical practice.

Course Structure
- Years 1-2: predominately campus-based learning
- Year 3: clinical transition year
- Years 4-5: clinical school learning:
  - Hobart clinical school
  - Launceston clinical school
  - Rural clinical school

How to Apply
1. Register for and sit the UMAT
2. Apply directly to UTAS through their website
   - Applications open in early August 2018.

Entry Requirements
Prerequisites
- Year 12 English (including communications, literature and writing), and
- Year 12 Chemistry.

Selection is based on
- ATAR: minimum of 95 with satisfactory achievement in the following prerequisite areas of study:
  - Year 12 English (including communications, literature and writing)
  - Year 12 Chemistry.
- UMAT:
  - Applicants who meet the ATAR selection criteria will be ranked for offers based on their UMAT performance.

Additional Entry Pathways
Rural Application Process (RAP)
The RAP aims to support Australian rural background students to study medicine. The RAP may include:
- Consideration of a students rural background in their application, and
- Access to the Tasmanian medical student RAP funding scheme grant. Available to eligible Tasmanian applicants only
The RAP is available to applicants who have lived in a regional or remote area of Australia (RA2-RA5) prior to commencing medical school for:
- Five or more consecutive years, or
- Ten cumulative years

Aboriginal Entry Application Process (AEAP)
The AEAP aims to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants to achieve their educational aspirations. It is open to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants with the following prerequisites:
- Completion of the AEAP application form - including confirmation of eligibility and a personal statement,
- English and Chemistry prerequisites,
- Competitive ATAR score, and
- Interview.
NOTE: UMAT is not required for AEAP applicants.

Useful Resources
See the website for
- Students who have commenced tertiary studies
- Competitive entry scheme from Bachelor of Medical Research
- International pathways (no direct entry into MBBS)
Victoria

Monash University 60
University of Melbourne 62
Deakin University 64
Monash University

Student Perspective

Note: one of the best parts about clinical years is that the days are so widely variable. There’s no such thing as a ‘typical day’, but here’s how one of my days panned out.

Year 4, Obstetrics and Gynaecology Rotation

6AM - Alarm goes off. I fight the urge to hit snooze. Manage to catch 15 minutes of Sunrise and thank whoever it was that invented coffee.

7AM - Arrive at birth suite to the familiar sounds of screaming, grunting, and crying (from mothers and babies alike). I spot the sleepy student coming off night shift. They look relieved to see me- ahh, they can finally go home.

10AM - I’ve been asked to sit with a mum-to-be and observe foetal movements. Hurruh! Maybe I’ll see a birth! She then announces she’d like to have a water Labour...

2PM - I’ve now sat with my hand submerged in warm water, resting on a pregnant woman’s abdomen for 4 hours and counting. I am certain my fingers are prunes. But hey, I’m getting really good at feeling contractions under water.

4PM - Alas, no baby this shift. But at least my hand can finally breathe!

6PM - Only on OBGN would they schedule a tutorial this late. We’ve learnt about neonatal resuscitation, endometrial cancer and communication skills. Halfway through my friend raises his hand and informs the class he needs to leave early because he has a netball game. Man, I really wish I played netball.

8:30PM - Home sweet home. I check up on emails, think about revising, but see that Love Island is on and decide that some trashy TV is definitely what the doctor would have prescribed.

Jennifer Wang

About the Course

The course presents a continually expanding level of medical experience, starting in the first semester of the course. In the early years, the basic medical sciences are taught in the context of their relevance to patient care. Later in the course, clinical teaching builds upon and reinforces this strong scientific foundation. An emphasis on clinical communication skills and early clinical contact visits to medical practices, community care facilities and hospitals, is a feature of the Monash course.

Course Structure

Year 1 and 2

• based at the Clayton University Campus (Post Graduate Stream based in Gippsland Campus for their one pre-clinical year).
• variety of teaching methods including lectures, tutorials, active learning sessions and clinical skills lessons.
• medical visits twice a semester and cover the following basic clinical and communication skills: interviewing patients and taking a medical history.
A two week rural placement in second year

Years 3-5

• Students undertake clinical placements in Year 3B, 4C and 5D of the Monash medical course.

Note that it is possible to add a year after third or fourth year and do Honours research stream (Bachelor of Medical Science (Honours)). Selected students can continue down a research pathway and undertake a PhD.

Clinical Schools:
Metropolitan clinical schools include:

• Central Clinical School (The Alfred Cabrini Hospital, The Epworth, Peninsula Hospital, Caulfield General Medical Centre, Sandringham Hospital, Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine)

• School of Clinical Sciences at Monash health (Monash Medical Centre, Dandenong Hospital, Casey Hospital, Moorabbin Hospital, Kingston)

• Eastern Health Clinical School (Box Hill Hospital, Maroondah Hospital, Angliss Hospital, Peter James Centre, Wantirna Health)

School of Rural Health

• North West (Bendigo Base Hospital, Mildura Base Hospital)

• South East (Latrobe Regional Hospital (Traralgon), West Gippsland Health Service (Warragul), Central Gippsland Health Service (Sale), Bairnsdale Hospital, South Gippsland Health Service (Leongatha) and their associated clinical sites which span rural areas in the north west and south east.)

How to Apply
Undergraduate direct entry pathway:
1. Register for and sit the UMAT
2. Apply for Monash through VTAC
   • Applications open 6 August 2018
   • 2800311231 (CSP) Commonwealth Supported Places
   • 2800311261 (ERC) Extended Rural Cohort
3. Attend medicine interview* (by invitation)

* Interview is in the form of an MMI

4 year graduate entry pathway for those who have graduated from Monash with:

• Biomedical Science Degree (50 places)

• Pharmacy OR Physiotherapy OR Bachelor of Science (25 places in total)

Entry Requirements
Undergraduate pathway- only available to applicants who have completed Year 12 studies no more than two years prior, and have not commenced other studies at a tertiary level during that time.

Required subjects (and marks)

English (As an Alternate Language - at least 35 out of 50; English - at least 30 out of 50)

Chemistry (at least 30 out of 50)

Biology recommended - students who have not done VCE Biology or equivalent, have the opportunity to participate in a 5 week online Biology Bridging Course

Selection criteria (equally weighted)

• UMAT
  ◦ minimum of 50 in each section

• ATAR
  ◦ 87.95 was 2018 lowest ATAR to which an offer was made

• Interview (MMI)

Selection for MMI is based on ATAR and UMAT combined

Additional Entry Pathways

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
Dean’s Indigenous List (DIL)
Apply for the relevant course via VTAC. VTAC will then advise the university of your application and staff from Gukwonderuk Indigenous Engagement Unit will contact you about your application for the course and for the Dean’s Indigenous List (DIL).

Rural students

To be eligible, the applicant must have resided for at least 5 years consecutively or 10 years cumulatively in areas classified as RA 2-5 since birth. You will be required to submit a Statutory Declaration confirming the details you have submitted. Indicate your ruality on the VTAC application and the university will be in contact.

Special Entry Access Scheme

Provides special consideration in admission to an undergraduate course at Monash University for people who have experienced educational disadvantage. SEAS is available for Australian citizens and permanent residents of Australia. Apply via VTAC.

International students

Visit the website for more information.

Note that Monash also has a Malaysian medical campus

Useful Resources

Visit the Monash University Medicine website for more information
University of Melbourne

About the Course
The degree builds on prerequisite knowledge of anatomy, physiology and biochemistry acquired through undergraduate study. It delivers advanced clinical and academic training to ensure students are prepared for the challenges of a high quality medical internship.

Course Structure
- Year 1 - pre-clinical full-time at Uni of Melbourne in Parkville
- Year 2 - Clinical rotations in Emergency and Ambulatory Medicine, Surgery and Anaesthetics, Medicine
- Year 3 - Clinical rotations in GP, Women’s Health, Child & Adolescent Health, Mental Health and Aged Care
- Year 4 - 1st half full-time research, 2nd half Transition to Practice
- + annual MD Student Conference organised by students

Affiliated Hospitals
- Metro: Austin, St Vincent’s, Epworth, Royal Melbourne Hospital, Northern, Western
- Rural: Ballarat, Bendigo, Shepparton, Wangaratta
- Extended Rural Cohort Community Based 3rd Year locations: Shepparton, Murchison, Echuca, Wangaratta, Mt Beauty, Cobram, Corowa, Yarrawonga, Benalla or Mansfield.

How to Apply
1. Register for and sit the GAMSAT
2. Ensure that you meet the course prerequisites
3. Apply via GEMSAS online
   - Applications close May 31st at 5pm AEST
4. Attend medicine interview* (by invitation)
   - Interview offers released via email early September and conducted later September
   - Multiple mini interview with 8 stations of 5 minutes each
   - Offers of places via email in early November

*The interview component is an 8 station Multiple Mini Interview (MMI). Each station takes 5 minutes and has a single interviewer. The MMI aims to assess non-academic qualities including cultural sensitivity, maturity, collaboration, reliability and communication skills. The stations could include practical tasks, answering questions, commenting on short films, and explaining thinking.

Entry Requirements
- An undergraduate degree in any discipline completed within the last ten years, with a GPA over 5.0.
- Completed prerequisite second year subjects in anatomy, physiology and biochemistry within the last ten years
  - A list of approved prerequisite subjects is available here
- Completed the Graduate Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT) with scores of at least 50 in each section. International applicants located outside of Australia at the time of application can complete the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT).

Further information on the selection criteria is available on the University Handbook.
**Additional Entry Pathways**

**Undergraduate guaranteed entry (Chancellor’s Scholars program)**
Applicants who achieved an ATAR (or notional ATAR) of 99.00 or above in Year 12 and commence and complete an undergraduate course at the University of Melbourne with a weighted average mark of 75% are guaranteed an Australian fee or international fee place.

**Rural students**
Applicants who are identified as being of rural origin will be considered separately as part of the GEMSAS application process.

To qualify as being of rural origin applicants must have lived or studied for at least 5 years (consecutive or cumulative) after commencing primary school in a place classified by the Australian Standard Geographic Classification – Remote Areas (ASGD-RA) system as level 2 – 5.

**Graduate Access Melbourne**
Some domestic applicants may be eligible for the Graduate Access Melbourne program. Graduate Access Melbourne provides access to applicants whose personal circumstances have had a sustained adverse effect on their academic achievement at undergraduate level or who are members of a specific group known to be under-represented in higher education.

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students**
Indigenous Australian applicants are given priority access to the MD program through GAM, and only need to meet the minimum requirements of selection into the course. That is, an Indigenous Australian applicant with a GPA of 5.0 or higher, who has passed the prerequisite subjects, and obtained 50 or higher in each section of the GAMSAT will be automatically invited to interview. Upon successful completion of the MMI, all applicants with verified status as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person will be offered a place in the course and will not be subject to ranking.

**International Students**
International students can apply online directly to the University of Melbourne.

See the Handbook for detailed entry requirements and selection criteria.

**Useful Resources**
See the Selection Guidelines handbook for more details.

Melbourne University medicine website
Deakin – A Day In The Life

8:00 – alarm goes off for 9am lecture.
8:04 – go back to sleep, ’cause the lectures are always recorded.
10:40 – wake up again. Regret not going to the morning lecture. Make first coffee of the day (double shot).
11:00 – caffeine hits my system. Make list of things to do today:
- Watch today’s three lectures
- Do tutorial prep for clinical skills class tomorrow
- Print off path and anatomy lab manual for Thursday
- Ethics reading – elements of consent
- Look at public health slides from last week
Download today’s lectures. Watch at 1.2x speed. Note what’s likely to be assessable, for review at exam time.
13:30 – Get ready for PBL
14:00 – PBL with my ten-person group and a retired nurse supervising. Discuss the management of an elderly Chinese man with post-MI heart failure. Learning issues on cardiovascular risk, sequelae of MI, drugs in heart failure. Try not to fall asleep when the caffeine wears off.
16:00 – finish PBL and head to the library to do tutorial prep. Coffee from the nice barista in the library café. This week: anatomy of the heart and vasculature of the trunk, pathogenesis of heart failure, cardiovascular auscultation and ECG interpretation.
17:12 – despair of ever understanding the difference between systolic and diastolic dysfunction. Message fellow non-science grad to commiserate. Figure it out eventually.
18:00 – home, via the pizza shop near my place while scrolling through last week’s public health lectures (non-communicable disease and cardiac risk) and the minutes from the last MeDUSA meeting. Consider starting work on the handover for next year’s Publications Chair.
19:20 – decide to procrastinate instead. Call best friend down in Tassie. Vent about mutual mental health problems. Decide to see medical school psychologist next week (easier to get an appointment than the regular psych).
20:30 – turn on gaming computer and sink a few hours into Overwatch/PUBG.
22:30 – feel guilty for not studying, and for having screen time before bed. Find professional clothes for placement tomorrow morning at the community health centre.
22:42 – go to bed with every intention of actually attending tomorrow’s morning lectures.

Eibhlinn Cassidy – music undergrad, MeDUSA Publications Chair
About the Course
You will study courses in
  • Ethics, Law and Professionalism (ELP)
  • Public Health Medicine (PHM)
  • Doctor and Patient (DP)- clinical skills
  • Knowledge of Health and Illness (KHI)

Course Structure
  • Year 1 and 2: systems approach and problem-based learning seminars, with a focus on interprofessional learning. Based at Deakin’s Geelong Waurn Ponds Campus
  • Year 3: intensive clinical training within one of five clinical schools
  • Year 4: three six-week terms: two ‘selectives’; a pre-internship hospital rotation and a further ambulatory rotation; and an ‘elective’ that can be taken in Australia or overseas.

Affiliated hospitals
  • Geelong Clinical School
  • Ballarat Clinical School
  • Warrnambool Clinical School
  • Eastern Health Clinical School
  • RCCS Clinical School

How to Apply
1. Register for and sit the GAMSAT
2. Apply through GEMSAS
3. Attend medicine interview (by invitation)

Entry Requirements
  • GPA
    ◦ 5.0 or greater, as calculated by the GEMSAS
  • GAMSAT
    ◦ minimum score of 50 in each of the three sections, and an overall score of 50 or greater.
  • Interview
    ◦ Invitations to interview will be sent to a maximum of 220 applicants based on GAMSAT + GPA Score (50:50) with additional weighting for: Rural/Regional residency, Prior clinical experience in a health discipline, Demonstration of financial disadvantage, Work experience, Deakin study bonus

Additional Entry Pathways
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
To submit your application, you’ll need to:
Complete the Deakin Indigenous Entry Stream Application Form and return it via email to the School of Medicine Admission and Placements Team with a copy of your curriculum vitae, as well as mail the physical copy to Deakin University.

Invitations to interview will be made based on a combination of GPA scores and completed application forms.

For 2019 entry, the deadline for email applications is 11.59pm Tuesday 31 July 2018. Postal applications will close shortly after this date.

GAMSAT is not required for Indigenous applicants.

Rural students
Applicants who meet defined regional and rural residency criteria may attract up to an 8% bonus. Applicants who wish to apply for the Rural/Regional residency bonus must provide supporting documentation to GEMSAS postmarked no later than 5.00pm AEST on Friday 23 June 2017.

Students with prior clinical experience
Applicants who have completed one year of full-time clinical practice as a registered health professional in the following health disciplines may receive a 4% bonus.

Work experience bonus
Applicants who have worked full time (i.e. minimum of 36 hours per week) for 2 years cumulatively over a 4-year period, or 2 years consecutively may receive a 2% bonus of the combined GPA and GAMSAT score.

Financial disadvantage bonus
Applicants who are able to demonstrate that they have been in receipt of a Centrelink/StudyLink benefit for at least 12 calendar months during their undergraduate degree, receive a 2% bonus.

Deakin study bonus
Applicants are eligible to receive a 4% bonus if, at the time of application, they have completed at least 2 full-time equivalent (FTE) years of study in an undergraduate degree at Deakin University and have graduated or are completing an undergraduate degree from Deakin University.

International students
Important dates: Round 1 applications close Friday 30 June. Round 2 applications close Tuesday 31 October.

All applicants must complete an International Supplementary Application Form, and an International Application for Undergraduate and Postgraduate Studies.

For selection criteria see here

Useful Resources
Deakin University medicine admissions website
2018 Course Information PDF
Western Australia

Curtin University 67
University of Western Australia 68
University of Notre Dame (Freemantle) 70
Curtin University

Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)
5 Years

About the Course
Throughout the course, you will develop knowledge of the human body in health and disease, and an understanding about how this knowledge is applied in clinical practice. In the later years of the course, you will undertake clinical placements in a variety of healthcare environments including general practice sites and hospitals. You will have the opportunity to gain experience in rural healthcare.

Course Structure
- Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine
- Theme 2: Patient and Doctor: Clinical Practice
- Theme 3: Health and Illness in Society
- Theme 4: Professional and Personal Development

How to Apply
1. Register for and sit the UMAT
2. Apply through the Tertiary Institutions Service Centre (TISC)
3. Submit the predicted ATAR form completed by school principal
4. Attend medicine interview* (by invitation)

*The top ranked applicants from each entry pathway who meet the entry requirements will be invited to attend a Multiple Mini Interview (MMI).

Entry Requirements
Prerequisite of Chemistry ATAR or equivalent
- ATAR
  - Minimum ATAR of 95
- UMAT
  - Minimum 50 in each section
- Interview

Additional Entry Pathways
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
Indigenous entry applications are by application to the Centre for Aboriginal Studies (CAS) and applicants must meet the minimum admission criteria set out in the form.

Rural students
Rural background entry and equity entry are by application to TISC and must meet the minimum admission criteria. An additional application form will be required for rural background entry and equity entry. You will need to submit their Rural/Equity form directly to the Curtin Medical School.

Equity entry pathway
Places will be available to Western Australian school leavers:
- from schools with an Index of Community and SocioEducational Advantage (ICSEA) score of 1,000 and below averaged over three years
- who are classified as experiencing financial hardship (student receiving Youth Allowance, or their parent or guardian receiving a Commonwealth Income Support or Commonwealth Means-tested Assistance Payment)

Useful Resources
Curtin University medicine Admissions Guide
ABOUT THE COURSE
The overall aim of the program is to prepare students to become accountable, scholarly, capable and caring doctors, committed to the wellbeing of the patient, community and society. This includes teaching in professionalism, leadership, advocacy, education and scholarly practice.

COURSE STRUCTURE
The course is structured around six core themes: Professional, Leader, Advocate, Clinician, Educator, Scholar (PLACES)

• Phase 1 - Foundations of medical practice
• Phase 2 - Systems based learning
• Phase 3 - Clinical integrated medical practice

In addition, all students are expected to complete an elective attachment of 4 weeks duration at the beginning of year 4.

HOW TO APPLY
Postgraduate entry
1. Register for and sit the GAMSAT
2. Apply through GEMSAS
3. Attend the medicine interview (by invitation)
   • Graduate MD interviews will take place within the period 13 September to Friday 5 October 2018 (inclusive).

Direct school leaver pathway
1. Apply via TISC
   • Applications open early-mid August and will close on 29 September 2018.
2. Submit the Predicted ATAR form by Monday 5 November 2018.
3. Attend interview (by invitation)
   • 26 November to 8 December 2018 (inclusive)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Postgraduate entry
In order to be eligible for entry, applicants must have completed a recognised bachelor degree, or will complete a recognised bachelor degree by the end of the application year.

• GPA
   ◦ at least 5.5 at time of interview selection. To calculate an unweighted GPA you simply need to add the three GPA years (final GPA year, final GPA year -1 and final GPA year -2) together and divide by three.
   ◦ Average GPA for interview offer in 2018 for domestic students was 6.73.
• GAMSAT
   ◦ Applicants must obtain a minimum overall score of 55 with no individual section score below 50.
   ◦ Average GAMSAT for interview offer in 2018 for domestic students was 68.
Final ranking for non-rural applicants to the MD will be based equally on GAMSAT, GPA and Interview

Course Offers
Standard Pathway: The lowest overall GAMSAT score to obtain a course offer was 66 (with a minimum GPA of 7). The average overall GAMSAT score was 71.74.

Rural Pathway: The lowest overall GAMSAT score to obtain a course offer was 56 (with a minimum GPA of 6.94). The average overall GAMSAT score was 64.73.

Direct school leaver pathway
MD - Approximately 65 places available including Bonded Medical Places (BMP).

Entry Requirements:
• Minimum ATAR of 99 or equivalent
• Suitable UMAT score
• Interview
• English Language Competency

Final Ranking
Final ranking will be based UMAT, ATAR and Interview and will be weighted 1:2:2 respectively.

ADDITIONAL ENTRY PATHWAYS
Rural students
Applicants must meet eligibility requirements in order to apply for the Rural Pathway. Complete the relevant questions in the application form and submit supporting documentation to GEMSAS by 22 June 2018 in order to prove eligibility.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
In addition to the pathways listed here, there are alternative pathways available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants. These are available through the Centre for Aboriginal Medical and Dental Health.

International students
International applicants will need to apply directly to the UWA by 31 May 2018 and can find an application form here.

All applicants must have a minimum GPA of 5.5. Applicants must have a minimum overall GAMSAT of 50 and usually require minimum sectional scores of 50. Applicants require minimum test scores 123/123/123/123 and an overall minimum of 492. Interviews will be held in Singapore, Canada and Hong Kong* (in July) or in Perth (in August). All interviews must be conducted in person.

USEFUL RESOURCES
UWA medicine website
University of Notre Dame (Freemantle)

About the Course
The Doctor of Medicine places a strong emphasis on practical training and experiential learning. Throughout the four years of your study you will undertake clinical placements in a variety of settings including aged care facilities, public and private hospitals and general practice.

Course Structure
1st year - Foundations of a Medical Vocation
- tutorials, clinical and communication skills sessions, workshops, site visits
2nd year - Foundations of Clinical Practice
- begin research-based or professionally-focused project
3rd year - Foundations of Clinical Practice
- clinical placements (Syd/ Melb/ Rural) in hospitals and community settings with weekly “Back-to-Base Days” with case tutorials, grand rounds, journal club, and guest lectures
4th year - Preparation for Internship
- clinical placements (Syd/ Melb/ Rural), presentation of Applied Research Project, electives at the end of examinations

Affiliated Hospitals:
- Urban hospitals
  - Fiona Stanley Hospital
  - St John of God Subiaco
  - St John of God Murdoch
  - St John of God Midland
  - Armadale Hospital
  - Hollywood Private Hospital
  - Royal Perth Hospital
- Rural Clinical Schools: Kalgoorlie, Port Hedland, Busselton, Broome, Derby, Bunbury,

Geraldton, Albany, Narrogin, Northam, Carnavon, Esperance, Kununurra, Karratha

How to Apply
1. Register for and sit the GAMSAT
2. Apply online via GEMSAS
3. Complete the Notre Dame Portfolio*
4. Attend interview** (by invitation)

*Notre Dame Portfolio
Includes: basic information, previous Notre Dame study, Religion, Languages spoken, Medical Conditions/ Disability, Education, Leadership Experience, Service to community/ Church, Other Academic or Life Achievements, Personal Statement of approx. 800 words
Sample found here
Guide found here

**Interviews in the form of MMI

Entry Requirements
- Bachelor’s degree (recognised by the Australian Qualifications Framework or the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition Guide) completed within the last 10 years, or to be in the final year of a Bachelor’s degree in any discipline.
- Personal qualities and motivation to study Medicine at Notre Dame assessed in the Notre Dame portfolio.
- Overall GAMSAT score of 50 or greater.
- Overall Grade Point Average of 5.0 or higher.
- Multi mini-interviews.
**Additional Entry Pathways**

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students**

Interested students will need to complete the Application For Entry Into Medicine at The University Of Notre Dame Australia (for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander People) application form. This form needs to be submitted along with evidence of prior educational achievement such as undergraduate degree or academic transcript.

Prospective students will be interviewed by members of the Aboriginal Health Team as a part of the application and entry process.

Selection will be based on the submitted application, prior academic achievement and outcome of a structured interview.

**Preparation Course:**
The Aboriginal Health Team runs a one week intensive Premedicine preparation program in December for commencing Aboriginal students.

**Useful Resources**
UNDF medicine website