

# MEDSTART BIBLE

Medical **Universities Admissions**

*Enrol in our Masterclass today.*

**Phone** 1300 998 628

**Web** [medstart.com.au](http://medstart.com.au)



*your journey starts here*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction	8
1.1 Welcome	8
1.2 Key Dates	9
2. Universities and Places	10
2.1 Which universities offer medicine and how many places are available?	10
2.2 Which universities should I apply for?	14
2.3 What is a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP)?	14
2.4 What is a Bonded Medical Place (BMP)?	15
2.5 What are Medical Rural Bonded Scholarship Places (MRBS)?	16
2.6 How much are course fees?	16
2.7 What is the difference between the MBBS and the MD?	17
3. Applications and Interviews	19
3.1 How should I complete my medical application?	19
3.2 Should I do interview preparation?	20
4. New South Wales Universities	21
4.1 The University of New South Wales	22
Overview	22
Key dates (2019)	22
Entry requirements	23
Prerequisites	24
Course structure	25
Application	27
4.2 Western Sydney University	32
Overview	32
Key dates (2019)	32
Entry requirements	33
Greater Western Sydney (GWS) applicants	35

Prerequisites	36
Course structure	36
Application	37
4.3 University of Newcastle/University of New England – Joint Medical Program	38
Overview	38
Key dates (2019)	38
Entry requirements	38
Prerequisites	39
Course structure	39
Application	40
4.4 University of Sydney	41
Overview	41
Key dates (2019)	41
Entry requirements	42
Prerequisites	42
Course structure	43
Application	43
5. Victoria Universities	44
5.1 Monash University	45
Overview	45
Key dates (2019)	45
Entry requirements	45
Prerequisites	46
Course structure	46
Application	47
5.2 La Trobe University	48
Overview	48
Key dates (2019)	48

Entry requirements	48
Prerequisites	48
5.3 The University of Melbourne	50
Overview	50
Key dates (2019)	50
Entry requirements	51
Prerequisites	51
Course structure	52
Application	52
6. Queensland Universities	53
6.1 James Cook University	54
Overview	54
Key dates (2019)	54
Entry requirements	55
Prerequisites	55
Course structure	55
Application	56
Overview	60
Key dates (2019)	60
Entry requirements	60
Prerequisites	60
Course structure	61
Application	61
6.2 Bond University	62
Overview	62
Key dates (2019)	62
Entry requirements	62
Prerequisites	63

Course structure	63
Application	63
6.3 Griffith University	64
Overview	64
Key dates (2019)	64
Entry requirements	64
Prerequisites	64
Course structure	65
Application	65
6.4 The University of Queensland	66
Overview	66
Key dates (2019)	66
Entry requirements	66
Prerequisites	67
Course structure	67
Application	68
Overview	69
Key dates (2019)	69
Entry requirements	69
Prerequisites	69
Course structure	69
Application	70
7. South Australia Universities	71
7.1 The University of Adelaide	72
Overview	72
Key dates (2019)	72
Entry requirements	72
Prerequisites	72

Course structure	73
Application	73
Overview	74
Key dates (2019)	74
Entry requirements	74
Prerequisites	74
Course structure	75
Application	75
7.2 Flinders University	76
Overview	76
Key dates (2019)	76
Entry requirements	76
Prerequisites	76
Course structure	77
Application	77
8. Western Australia Universities	78
8.1 The University of Western Australia	79
Overview	79
Key dates (2019)	79
Entry requirements	79
Prerequisites	80
Application	80
8.2 Curtin University	81
Overview	81
Key dates (2019)	81
Entry requirements	81
Prerequisites	81
9. Tasmania Universities	82

9.1 The University of Tasmania	83
Overview	83
Key dates (2019)	83
Entry requirements	83
Prerequisites	83
Course structure	84
Application	84

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 WELCOME

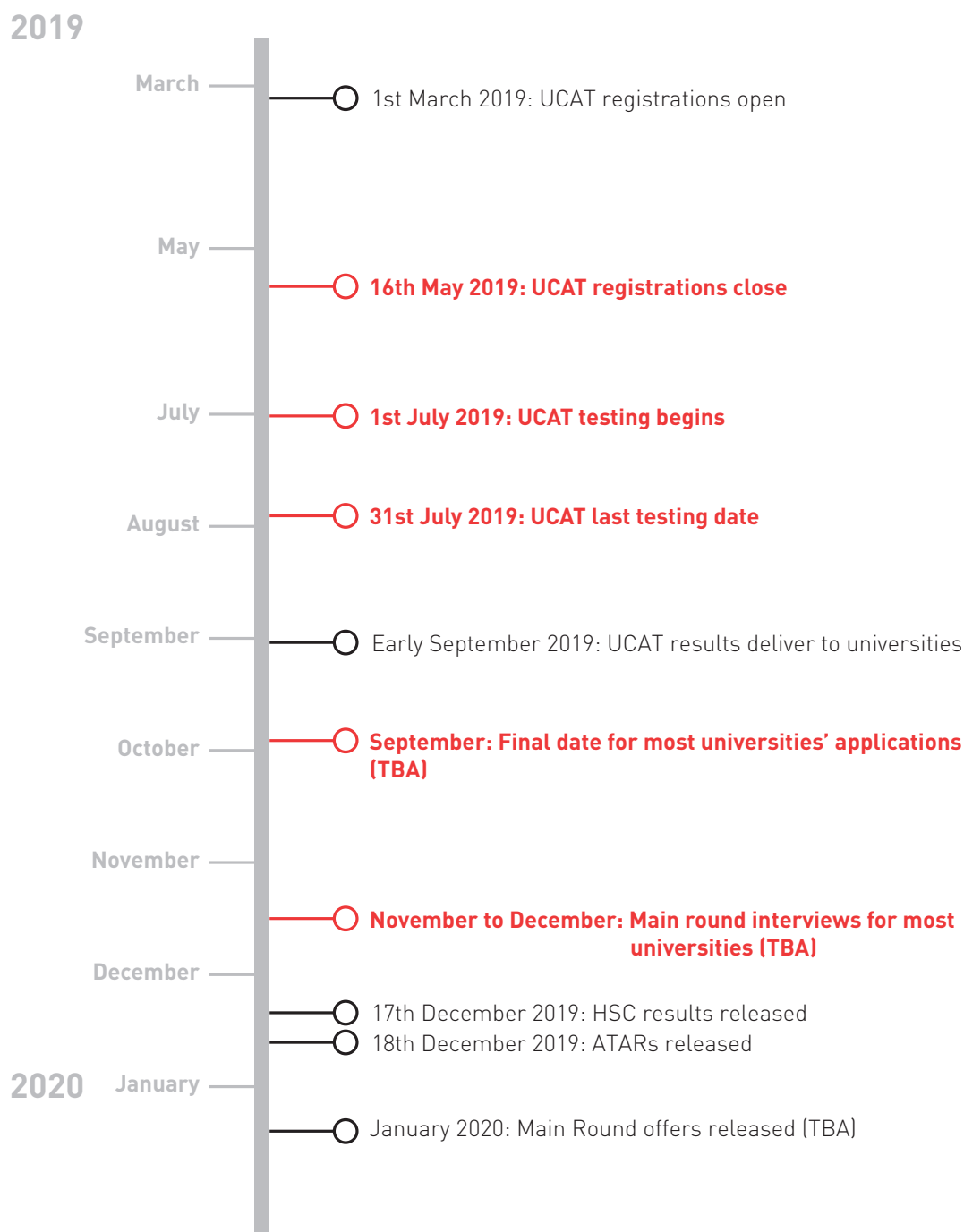
Welcome to MedStart's Medical Universities Admissions Guide. This guide is a comprehensive resource addressing the frequently asked questions regarding medical places and providing a detailed breakdown of all the Universities offering medical or dental places to high school leavers.

Please note that this guide only contains specific information for domestic school leaver applicants only. International students and students who have commenced or completed another degree will need to undertake further research to supplement the information contained in this guide.

Whilst every care has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within this guide, information can change regularly and no guarantee is made. Prior to finalising any important decisions please contact the university to confirm all information.



## 1.2 KEY DATES



## 2. UNIVERSITIES AND PLACES

### 2.1 WHICH UNIVERSITIES OFFER MEDICINE AND HOW MANY PLACES ARE AVAILABLE?

**Total number of medical positions in Australia (2015): 2983**

*(places for domestic students, not including international students or NZ universities)*

**Number of *undergraduate* medical positions in Australia: 1300 (approx.)**

*(Includes provisional entry streams for undergraduates into postgraduate courses e.g. University of Sydney combined medical program)*

Approximately 20,000 people sit the UCAT each year.

*Information for table 1\*:*

- High school leavers –see ‘undergraduate’ universities and pathways
- University graduates –see ‘postgraduate’ universities and pathways

\*Note that specific universities have different rules governing admission for those who have commenced but not completed university study. Please check each university you are interested in applying to if you fit into this category.

21 Universities offer medicine in Australia and 2 more in New Zealand.

**Table 1. Universities, admission pathways and number of places based on 2019 admissions.***(Numbers in final column: Total number of places domestic non full-fee students/CSP/BMP)<sup>1</sup>*

University	Admission level	No. of places
<b>South Australia</b>		315
University of Adelaide	Undergraduate	178*
Flinders University	Undergraduate pathway (S.A)	25
	Undergraduate pathway (N.T)****	12/0/12
	Postgraduate (S.A)	86/54/32
	Postgraduate (N.T)****	12/0/12
<b>Queensland</b>		
James Cook University	Undergraduate	150
Bond University	Undergraduate & Postgraduate	90***
The University of Queensland	Undergraduate pathway	140/100/40
	Postgraduate	140/100/40
Griffith University	Postgraduate	150**
<b>ACT</b>		
Australia National University	Postgraduate	90/64/26
<b>Victoria</b>		
Monash University	Undergraduate	242/175/67
	Postgraduate	75^^^
Deakin University	Postgraduate	130/93/37
University of Melbourne	Postgraduate	255/182/73

<b>New South Wales</b>		
The University of Newcastle/University of New England	Undergraduate	170
The University of New South Wales	Undergraduate	195/135/60
The University of Western Sydney	Undergraduate	100/75/25
The University of Notre Dame	Postgraduate	58/43/15
The University of Sydney	Postgraduate	228/164/64 <sup>^</sup>
The University of Wollongong	Postgraduate	70/52/18
Macquarie University	Postgraduate	40
<b>Western Australia</b>		
The University of Western Australia	Undergraduate pathway	40 (none bonded)
	Postgraduate	85/50/35
The University of Notre Dame	Postgraduate	100/71/29
Curtin University	Undergraduate	70
<b>Tasmania</b>		
The University of Tasmania	Undergraduate	100
<b>New Zealand</b>		
The University of Auckland	Undergraduate & Postgraduate	219 <sup>^^</sup>
The University of Otago	Undergraduate & Postgraduate	266 <sup>^*</sup>

### Notes

<sup>1</sup> CSP – Commonwealth Supported Place. BMP – Bonded Medical Place

More information about each of these place types located further in the document.

\*Approximate number, based on 2012 number of first year domestic medical students. Includes bonded places.

\*\* 54 CSP, 36 BMP and 60 via the B.Medical Science Pathway

\*\*\* Full fee paying places only. Cost is \$280,000+ over 5 years, \$115,000+ can be financed through FEE-HELP. 20% of places reserved for graduate applications.

\*\*\*\*Places sponsored by the Northern Territory Government. Preference given to residents of the NT, particularly indigenous, but other non-NT applicants may apply.

Students who take these places will be bonded to work in NT for two years after graduation.

^ There are 30 domestic places for high-school leavers via the Double Degree Medicine Program (99.95 ATAR required)

^^Two pathways of entry:

Overlapping year one – one year of Bachelor of Health Sciences or Bachelor of Science (Biomedical Science) before applying. Need a minimum GPA of 6.0 in these courses

Graduate entry (20-25% of all places) – open to graduates who complete any degree with a minimum GPA of 6.0

Places include 37 allocated for the Regional Rural Admissions Scheme and up to 54 places for the Maori Pacific Admission Scheme

^^^ From 2017 onwards, at least 50 of the 75 postgraduate entry MBBS positions will be reserved for those who have completed the Monash University Bachelor of Biomedical Science degree. The remaining positions (approximately 25 of the original 75) will be open to students who have completed the following degrees at Monash University

Bachelor of Biomedical Science (including double degrees)

Bachelor of Pharmacy

Bachelor of Physiotherapy

Bachelor of Science (dependent on completion of designated units)

^\* 150 places for Health Sciences First Year and 40 for Graduate entry, further categories for Maori and Pacific Islanders, allied health professionals and more

^^\* Undergraduate entry double degree program available for those with ATAR of 99.95 (99.50 for Music Studies, performance interview required) and has satisfactory performance in an interview.

## 2.2 WHICH UNIVERSITIES SHOULD I APPLY FOR?

The short answer is apply to all medical universities that you are willing to attend.

Unlike other fields such as commerce and law, where you obtain your medical degree from is of little significance when practicing in Australia. All courses are developed in conjunction with and accredited by the Australian Medical Council.

Once you have graduated, the medical school you have attended will have no bearing on your opportunities for career progression and specialisation.

When considering medical schools to apply for, it is important to think about:

- **Location** – some universities will be located interstate, and some away from metropolitan areas
- **Cost** – while course fees for almost all universities can be deferred to HECS, you may be required to move out of home if you attend a far away medical school which can be a significant cost.
- **Degree length** – whether to pick a 5, 6 or 7 year program.
- **Scholarship opportunities** – while scholarships for medical programs are generally limited, this varies greatly from university to university.

## 2.3 WHAT IS A COMMONWEALTH SUPPORTED PLACE (CSP)?

The unencumbered Commonwealth Supported Place is the 'standard' place for a domestic student. These places are available to Australian citizens, permanent residents and New Zealand citizens.

A student with a CSP is only required to pay a partial 'contribution' for the cost of their study. This varies by area of study, and increases with inflation each year. The annual contribution for medicine in 2016 was \$10,440.

The government pays for the rest of the cost of your education (approximately \$20,000 per year).

## **2.4 WHAT IS A BONDED MEDICAL PLACE (BMP)?**

### **Introduction**

Approximately 25% (28.5% in 2016) of the Commonwealth Supported Places offered at each university are Bonded Medical Places (BMP). Students have the choice of applying for these additional places.

If a student is offered a BMP and chooses to accept, he or she must sign a contract with the Commonwealth Government agreeing to work in an 'area of workforce need' at the end of their training.

Once the census date for the first year of study has passed (around the end of March), you cannot transfer from the BMP to a standard Commonwealth Supported Place

Citizens of New Zealand are ineligible to receive a bonded medical place

### **Areas of need**

Areas of need are defined by the Commonwealth Government based on healthcare workforce shortages. Most of these are in outer metropolitan, rural and remote areas.

You are eligible to work in an area of workforce shortage of your choice.

### **Return of service requirement**

From 2016, the Bonded Medical Place scheme has changed to have a return of service requirement of only 12 months. This can be completed anytime from your internship year until five years post fellowship (the end of your speciality training). This has made the Bonded Medical Place much more attractive.

Previously, students were required to work in your chosen area of workforce shortage for a period equal to the length of their medical degree and had to complete at least part of the requirement after they had become a fully qualified specialist. As you are likely to be in your late 20's or early 30's at this stage, this would undoubtedly place a huge strain on families forced to relocate.

The changes to the scheme from 2016 mean that the Bonded Medical Places are now much more attractive, and it is reasonably easy to complete your return of service requirements. Many students treasure the experience of working in a rural location.

**Breaching contract**

With the return of service obligation reduced to 12 months, most students would not be too tempted to breach their contract.

Breaching the BMP contract may result in the need to repay a large portion of the Commonwealth Government's funding contribution to your medical place.

Note that if this occurs, you are still a registered doctor and free to practice.

Some students have been known to take BMP with the intention of breaching contract and paying the penalty in the future. The rationale is that this is similar to paying for a full-fee place at a private university such as Bond, except that payment will be made once they are working and earning money.

Unfortunately we are unable to comment on merits/detriments of this approach. If you are considering this option please ensure you research the contract conditions carefully and consider that your future financial circumstances might not be as unconstrained as you may predict.

**2.5 WHAT ARE MEDICAL RURAL BONDED SCHOLARSHIP PLACES (MRBS)?**

The Medical Rural Bonded Scholarship scheme has been ceased from 2016 onwards with the places reserved for these students transferred to standard Bonded Medical Places.

**2.6 HOW MUCH ARE COURSE FEES?**

You can borrow up to the FEE-HELP limit to pay your tuition fees. For 2019, the FEE-HELP limit is \$104,440. If you plan to study medicine, dentistry or veterinary science, the FEE-HELP limit is \$150,000. This does not mean you get that amount each year.

Australian Citizens can choose defer the cost of their contribution until they start earning over \$50,000 p.a. by taking a HECS-HELP loan. This loan is interest free but indexed to inflation each year to maintain its real value.

Any upfront payment of the HECS contribution over \$500 comes with a 10% discount (the amount of money paid upfront will reduce your debt by that amount + 10%).

Note that international students and students taking a full fee place have different course fees. Check with each individual university for these.



## 2.7 WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE MBBS AND THE MD?

If you wish to practice in Australia, it does not matter which University you obtain your degree from. All Australian medical programs are tightly regulated and will all give you the necessary knowledge and skills base.

Further, the name and prestige of a university has very little impact on your career progression. Internships in NSW are awarded on an entirely ballot based system, and when you are applying for specialist colleges, a report from your supervisor (that will outline your skills, knowledge and manner) and interview are the two most important criteria for selection (in addition to academic papers, references and exams if required).

Some universities have decided to switch from awarding an MBBS to awarding an MD. These include:

- The University of New South Wales
- The University of Melbourne
- Flinders University from 2013
- Griffith University from 2014
- The University of Sydney from 2014
- The University of Western Australia from 2014
- The University of Queensland from 2015

This switch has occurred for several reasons. Firstly, the MD is a Masters degree and hence a 'higher' qualification than an MBBS which is at a Bachelors level. On the Australia Qualifications Framework scale, the MD is a level 9 and the MBBS is a level 7.

Secondly, the switch has purportedly been done to increase 'global familiarity' with the degree name (medical degrees in the USA are MDs), however the degrees are largely equivalent. This applies for overseas as well. There is no real advantage to having an MD if you intend to practice overseas, as overseas employers are usually familiar enough with foreign medical graduates to recognise the acronym of M.B.B.S.

In fact, in the USA for example, once an international medical graduate becomes licenced to practice in the United States most jurisdictions will allow the use of M.D. in their title regardless of the original degree earned.

In reality, there will be little or no practical difference for a student awarded the MD vs the MBBS.

Why the sudden switch in name? Changes to the Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) in July 2011 allowed for this opportunity to occur. Universities who award the MD may also be allowed to offer more full-fee paying places, although many are not choosing to do so.

It is important to note that all MD programs except for the UNSW program are postgraduate, and requires the completion of an undergraduate degree at least three years in duration.

## 3. APPLICATIONS AND INTERVIEWS

### 3.1 HOW SHOULD I COMPLETE MY MEDICAL APPLICATION?

Some universities have questions that need to be completed as part of the application into the medical program. The criteria and purpose of these questions vary from university to university.

There are a few general points to keep in mind when creating answers for these applications. For more specific information, see the specific universities in this document.

- Always talk in terms of the interests of the admissions board. What can you say that will show them you have characteristics that are desirable for a medical professional?
- Focus on answering questions in a way that will support your personality and individual strengths in the interview. Do not be too caught up in giving the textbook 'correct' answer.
- Giving the textbook correct answer is what most candidates will be doing and does nothing to differentiate you from them. It will work in your favour to deviate from the common correct answer and give something that is still correct, but more unique and supports your personality.
- Remember to *keep a copy of your application* before you send it off. You are going to be attending the interview months after you write the application. If you forget what you have written and come out as inconsistent with your answers in the interview, it will work against you. Save it, and read what you wrote while preparing for the interview to ensure consistency.

### **3.2 SHOULD I DO INTERVIEW PREPARATION?**

Should I do interview preparation is one of the most common questions that students have after they complete the UCAT exam. There are many benefits to completing an effective interview preparation course. These include:

- **Past questions and how to answer them** – this is one of the most valuable parts of an interview preparation course. Without an idea of what kind of questions will be asked it will be difficult to prepare for an interview on your own.
- **Mock interview with feedback** – It is extremely valuable to practice a full length semi-structured or multi station mini interview. Oftentimes you may think you can answer a question, but it is not until you are asked the question and you are actually forced to answer it that you realise it is harder than it seems.
- **Information on manner, dress, and general presentation.**

Each individual student has their unique personality and their own style of answering questions.

Be wary of the prep course that does not customise their advice depending on the student.

Trying to fit every student into the mould of a charismatic interviewee may result in the student coming off as 'fake' in the interview. Congruency with their natural personality is the most important factor in a successful interview; it will allow you to present confidently and authentically.

For more specific information please consult the MedStart Interview Bible.

# **4. NEW SOUTH WALES UNIVERSITIES**

## 4.1 THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

### Bachelor of Medical Studies (BMed) and Doctor of Medicine (MD)

#### OVERVIEW

The University of New South Wales (UNSW) offers its six year medical degree as the Bachelor of Medical Studies (BMed)/Doctor of Medicine (MD). This is one of the most popular undergraduate medical courses in NSW, attracting between three and four thousand applicants each year for the 135 standard (non-rural) places. As such, entry is competitive but achievable with proper preparation.

The only consequence of the change from the MBBS to the BMed/MD program is that the research year, which previously could be done in 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year, now must be done in 4<sup>th</sup> year. The curriculum and course is otherwise identical to its MBBS program. Please see section 2.7 for an explanation of the practical differences between the MBBS and MD.

#### KEY DATES (2019)

- May 2019 (TBA) – Medicine Application Portal opens online
- 30<sup>th</sup> September – Last day to lodge on-time application with UAC
- 30<sup>th</sup> September – Last day to submit application through the Medicine Application Portal
- 18<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> December – Interviews for NSW/ACT applicants
- 18<sup>th</sup> December - ATAR results released
- December 2019 (TBA) – Final round interview invitations sent, based on actual ATAR scores
- January 2020 (TBA) – Final round interviews
- Early January 2020 – IB Results released
- Mid-January 2020 – Medicine selects IB Diploma applicants and interstate applicants for interview and interview invitations are e-mailed to applicants
- 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – Interviews (IB/interstate/overseas applicants)
- January 2020 (TBA) - Round 2 offers released via UAC
- 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020 - Commencement of Year 1

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

### Academic Merit (33%)

- Minimum requirements for eligibility, depending on tertiary education
- ATAR 96.00 (but median ATAR is approximately 99.60)
- OP3 (QLD)
- 37 International Baccalaureate

### UCAT (33%)

- There is no minimum UCAT score as such. However, it is expected that only applicants who have reached the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile would meet the threshold to be invited for an interview.

(\* In terms of the percentile rank, it is best to aim for above 90<sup>th</sup> percentile to be competitive for an offer.)

### Interview (33%)

Your predicted ATAR (which is calculated by your school and recorded in your application) is combined with your UCAT to determine your eligibility for an interview. This works on a scale – the higher your performance in the UCAT the lower the ATAR required for admission, and vice versa.

According to previous data, achieving approximately the following marks in your UMAT and predicted ATAR *has traditionally* been sufficient to secure an interview.

UMAT Score	UMAT percentile	Predicted ATAR
162	~68	99.95
168	~78	99.50
177	~88	99.00
192	~94	98.00
201	~98	97.00
210	~100	96.00

Approximately 450 local applicants will be interviewed.

**Non-school leavers**

If you have completed at least 75% of the first year of study or greater in an undergraduate degree, you will have your ATAR and undergraduate results combined in a 50:50 ratio to give a final score for academic merit.

Note that an applicant with a high school ATAR of less than 92.00 will be unable to increase their marks to the minimum 96.00 that is required regardless of performance at university.

The UNSW website states that for a student who achieved 98.00 ATAR to retain that rank, they would need to obtain a combination of distinctions and high distinctions in university.

Applicants who have not completed the HSC or equivalent must be in at least their second year of full time university studies to be eligible for application.

**Provisional entry from BMedSc program at UNSW**

The top 15 willing Bachelor of Medical Science graduates are given the opportunity to transfer into the 4<sup>th</sup> year of the MD program. These top 15 are selected based on the weighted average mark for the first two years of BMedSc, combined with their UCAT results and interview scores – weighted equally. The interview will be held during or immediately following the second year of BMedSc at UNSW.

Students offered a provisional place at the end of second year will have to undertake units and subjects including bridging courses to bring them up to speed with the medical cohort, and when they join the program they will complete the Phase 2 Integrated Clinical Studies course and all Phase 3 courses.

If a place is offered, it is provisional – you must complete the requirements of BMedSc with honours as well as the additional bridging coursework as previously described.

The outcome of pursuing this path is that students will be granted a BMedSc (Hons) and the medical degree in a total time of 7 years.

**PREREQUISITES**

None

HSC Standard English or equivalent is assumed knowledge.



## **COURSE STRUCTURE**

The course is a six-year program consisting of 26 teaching periods - 4 teaching period per year in years 1-4 loosely following the general university timetable. Years 5 and 6 contain 5 teaching periods each, with the 5<sup>th</sup> being held in summer. Each teaching period is generally of 8 weeks duration. As a result, UNSW medicine usually has longer years, with breaks that do not coincide with the rest of the university.

### **Year structure**

#### Phase 1 – Years 1 and 2

Foundations course + 7 x 8 week modules covering basic medical science, social, ethical and legal issues related to health care, and early experience in clinical or other health related environments.

#### Phase 2 – Year 3

2 x 16 week courses with increased clinical content. Students have clinical days at teaching hospitals 3 days a week, and university days twice a week.

#### Independent Learning Project (ILP) – Year 4

#### Phase 3 – Years 5 and 6

10 x 8 week courses (5 per year, with the additional one held in summer). Students complete courses in disciplines of internal medicine, surgery, psychiatry, primary care, obstetrics and gynaecology and children's health (paediatrics).

Minimum of 4 weeks to be spent in a rural location

### **Clinical Schools**

Students will need to travel to clinical schools throughout the course – UNSW is partnered with:

- St Vincent's hospital in Darlinghurst
- St George hospital in Kogarah
- Sutherland hospital in Sutherland
- Prince of Wales hospital at Randwick
- South Western Sydney hospitals in Liverpool, Bankstown, Campbelltown and Fairfield
- Rural clinical schools in the greater Murray and mid-North coast areas

### Independent Learning Project

The program includes a compulsory 'Independent Learning Project'. This is essentially a research project that can be conducted in a self-directed manner or with pre-approved supervisors organised by the Medical Faculty itself.

This is great practice for medical research skills, however completing this project even if you manage to obtain proper publications out of it is of limited practical advantage - most speciality colleges only recognise recent (less than 3 year old) publications in their admissions process.

### **Honours**

Students with an interest in research may be able to enrol in the BSc (Med) Honours program. If accepted and approved by the Honours Committee, the student will be exempt from undertaking the Independent Learning Project and will complete a full year of research in its place.

### **Combination with Arts**

UNSW Medicine offers interested students the opportunity to combine their medical degree with an Arts degree. The total time to finish both degrees will be 7 or 8 years depending how the student chooses to structure his learning.

This program is perfect for those looking for a more well rounded university experience, allowing them to take advantage of the wealth of general subjects that arts students can take. This can be a great avenue to explore interests and diversify a student's knowledge base.

This can be directly applied for, or selected once admission has been gained into the UNSW Medicine program. There is no advantage applying for this program separately to the UNSW medicine program through The Universities admissions centre (UAC). You can transfer into this program anytime during the first year of the UNSW Medical program for commencement at the start of the second year.

Students can opt to finish this course in 7 years – to do this they will have to undertake an arts-focused Independent Learning Project (ILP) as well as complete an additional Arts course above the normal semester load in at least one semester. All other students will complete this degree in 8 years.

Honours can be granted based on weighted marks for specified assessments in the BMed/MD program as well as the marks obtained in the best 24 units taken in the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences.

## APPLICATION

The UNSW application is *not* used as part of the selection of applicants for the interview. Applicants are solely selected for interviews based on their UCAT results and academic record/predicted ATAR.

The UNSW medicine application is now completed online. The questions, however, have not changed in many years. Now there are strict word limits to the application.

That does not mean that the application is not important. The application forms the foundation of your interview – the interviewers read the application prior to inviting you into the room, and what is written in the application will direct their thinking and line of questioning. It is thus important to put in some thought to the application.

### General principles

Always remember that the interviewers will be reading this application immediately before meeting you in person. Think in terms of their interests: what would they like to see in a candidate for the UNSW Medical course?

Remember that interviews are included in the admissions process to ensure that medical graduates have the necessary interpersonal skills required for optimum contribution in the health field. While you must ensure that your answers have a certain level of maturity, do not worry about providing specific medical knowledge and information – you will be taught all of that during the course itself.

- Focus on answering questions in a way that will support your personality and individual strengths in the interview. Do not be too caught up in giving the textbook 'correct' answer.
- Giving the textbook correct answer is what most candidates will be doing and does nothing to differentiate you from them. It will work in your favour to deviate to the common correct answer and give something that is still correct, but more unique and supports your personality.
- Keep your answers *concise*. There are now strict word limits for this application. Convey the information you need in the minimum words possible – doctors will be appreciative of this communication style!
- Remember to *keep a copy of your application* before you send it off. You are going to be attending the interview months after you write the application, and if you forget what you have written and come out as inconsistent with your answers in the interview, that will work against you. Save it, and read what you wrote while preparing for the interview to ensure consistency.

**Specific questions**

*1. Where did you attend primary school(s)? Where did you attend secondary school(s)? 50 words*

A straightforward question.

*2. Which are (or were) your two favourite and your two least favoured subjects in your final year at school or in your most recent university studies? – 50 word limit*

A straightforward question.

Do not worry too much about the specific subjects that you list here - although it might not make sense to the interviewers if you are applying for medicine and your least favourite subject is biology, for example!

If the word limit allows it, you might want to include a few words describing why you like or dislike each subject.

Be honest here. If you like all your subjects, there is no need to pretend that you dislike two of them - say you love them all.

*3. What work experience, paid work or voluntary work did you undertake while at school and/or at university? 100 words*

Remember to emphasise and highlight the more unique, impressive or medically related work. Positive differentiation is a powerful advantage in any interview and can capture the interviewer's attention prior to the interview commencing.

For some of you this word limit may be difficult to stick to. If that is the case, a list format might be the most effective.

For those with only one or two things to list, it may be worthwhile describing in a sentence or two what each of them were, what you learned etc.

*4. Have you studied at University, TAFE or College, since leaving school? If so, what courses and where? Have you done any work since leaving school? 100 words*

A straightforward question.

*5. Tell us about your interests, hobbies or sports. Any special achievements in these areas? What languages, other than English, do you speak fluently and in what settings? 200 words*

Again, emphasise and highlight the more unique and impressive interests you have. Avoid writing solely about academic pursuits – the interviewers know that you need to be of a high academic standard to be even sitting before them in an interview.

*6. What are your main reasons for wanting to study Medicine and why would you like to undertake Medicine at UNSW? 150 words*

This is a very important question and requires some thought. This passage provides an introduction to the very first question that you will likely be asked in the interview itself – why you want to study medicine.

The issue here is a lot of people submit their application after writing something arbitrary in this box, and when offered an interview they prepare a response that does not go in alignment with what was written here (part of the reason why it is so important to keep a copy of your answers to this application).

When writing an answer to this question, keep in mind that the ‘best’ answers to the question of why you want to do medicine demonstrates a deeply personal motivation, motivation that extends back years and years, and preferably demonstrated with specific actions. If you already know what you are going to say in the interview, answer this question with a general overview of the reasons but avoid going into too much detail – you want to demonstrate and convince the interviewers when you are talking to them that you would love to study medicine at the exclusion of anything else.

If you are unsure how you are going to craft your answer for the interview yet, ensure you leave it general enough so as not to limit your potential answers for the interview.

It is also important that you don't forget the second part of this question – why do you want to undertake medicine at UNSW? You must address this now, and potentially will be required to do the same in the interview.

Some reasons may include:

Compulsory Independent Research Project giving a head-start into medical research

Proximity of University to home (interstate applicants can state that they would like to move away from home for the personal growth and increase in maturity that typically accompanies this)

Reputation of the University, lecturers and course quality – try and substantiate this for the interview by reading up on research conducted by the university

And many more – try and think of new and unique ones!

*7. What personal characteristics do you think doctors should have? 150 words*

This is a straightforward question, where you can list or describe all the characteristics a health professional should have – in your opinion.

*8. For you, which two of these characteristics are the most important, and why? 100 words*

Remember that positive differentiation can be a great asset in interviews. Many students will be focussed on giving the 'textbook' correct answer here, listing empathy as the most important characteristic.

If that is genuinely what you believe is the most important characteristic of a healthcare professional, then by all means put that down. However, if you believe the most important characteristics are something else then go with that – as long as you can justify yourself you will be fine. In fact, if you put something non conventional, and justify it well here and in the interview, especially if it reflects on your own personal qualities, it can be an advantage.

*9. Please nominate one other person (apart from a family member) whom we may be able to contact for further comment, if we consider this necessary. Please include name and contact details. (This person does not have to be an academic, or from your school). 25 words*

Ensure you gain this person's permission first. It will help if it is a person that knows you well and thinks highly of you. It would also help if they had a list of your achievements and qualities, so they could read over them before taking the call.

*10. Optional Closing Statement (is there anything else you might like to add?) 200 words*

Remember that this is completely optional. You can use this space to cover something that you think they would want to know about you but wasn't covered above – or you can use this space to thank them for their time, or leave it blank.

**Note that the application is due at the end of September each year. No applications received after the closing date will be considered.**

## 4.2 WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

### Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)

#### OVERVIEW

This five year medical program is the most recent addition to the medical schools in Sydney. The WSU School of Medicine opened to students in 2007 and was created to address a shortage of health care professionals in the Greater Western Sydney (GWS) area. The program attracts and accepts residents of the GWS area with lower admission requirements and has a focus on the GWS area throughout its curriculum.

This is a high quality program, centring around problem-based learning in some of the newest medical research and education facilities in Australia.

#### KEY DATES (2019)

- Early August 2019 – WSU Medicine Applications for 2020 intake open
- Late September 2019 – WSU Medicine Application close
- Early October 2019 – All applicants emailed to acknowledge receipt of required information. Applicants will be notified if any information is missing.
- Mid-October to Mid-November 2019 – Interview invitations sent in an iterative process
- Late November 2019 – Main round interviews for applicants from NSW, ACT and NT
- January 2020 (TBA) – Main round offers released via UAC
- January 2020 (TBA) – Interviews for applicants outside NSW, ACT or NT
- February 2020 (TBA) - Year 1 commences



## **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

### **Academic merit (threshold)**

There is a distinction between Greater Western Sydney and Non Greater Western Sydney applicants depending on the location of your residence. This is explained in detail in the following section.

#### ***Non Greater Western Sydney Applicants***

- ATAR – 95.5
- OP – 1-3
- IB – 37
- 1 Semester full time GPA – 6.5
- 1 year full time GPA – 6.1
- Between 1 year and 3 years GPA – 6.0
- Completed degree incl. postgraduate GPA – 5.6

#### **Greater Western Sydney Applicants**

- ATAR – 93.5
- OP – 1 – 4
- IB – 36
- 1 Semester full time GPA – 6.0
- 1 year full time GPA – 5.7
- Between 1 year and 3 years GPA – 5.5
- Completed degree incl. postgraduate GPA – 5.1

Academic performance at WSU is a *threshold only*. This means if you get an ATAR of 96.00 or 99.95, you are on equal footing.

#### **UCAT (40%)**

WSU does not publish the specific marks required in the UCAT to be offered an interview and the score required changes from year to year depending on the strength of the applicants. This score is called a 'threshold' score, but since it changes year after year depending on performance of applicants it essentially works in a rank based system – the top x percentage of candidate scores will be accepted as the threshold for the interviews.

Further, the UCAT score itself is used in the final ranking of candidates, in conjunction with their score from the MMI interview. The exact proportions are uncertain, however it is likely to be a 40/60 split UCAT and Interview.

### **Interview (60%)**

Successful candidates will be invited to complete a Multi-station Mini Interview (MMI), where candidates are asked one or more questions by separate interviewers in a series of rooms. Applicants will have approximately eight minutes to respond to the question before being asked to move to the next interview station.

Three times as many students are interviewed as there are places for the medical program.

### **Graduates**

Up to 25% of the total intake of students may be graduates – once the applicant has completed a University degree the graduate GPA or GPA from a subsequent partially completed university course will be considered. The ATAR or equivalent will not be considered in this case.

### **GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY (GWS) APPLICANTS**

A proportion of the places available to this course are allocated to applicants from the GWS area. To be eligible to apply as a GWS applicant your residential postcode should be included in the table below, and you must have lived in that postcode for at least five consecutive years immediately prior to commencement of the course. You will complete a GWS declaration as part of the online application.

Auburn	2127, 2128, 2141, 2143, 2144
Bankstown	2136, 2143, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2190, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214
Baulkham Hills	2117, 2118, 2125, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2756, 2765, 2775,
Blacktown	2146, 2147, 2148, 2155, 2164, 2747, 2760, 2761, 2762, 2763, 2765, 2766, 2767, 2768, 2769, 2770
Blue Mountains	2758, 2773, 2774, 2776, 2777, 2778, 2779, 2780, 2782, 2783, 2784, 2785, 2786, 2787
Camden	2171, 2179, 2556, 2557, 2567, 2570
Campbelltown	2167, 2174, 2179, 2559, 2565, 2558, 2566, 2560, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566
Fairfield	2160, 2161, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2170, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178
Hawkesbury*	2753, 2754, 2755, 2756, 2757, 2758, 2754, 2765, 2775
Holroyd	2142, 2145, 2146, 2148, 2150, 2160, 2161, 2164
Liverpool	2168, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2178, 2179, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2565, 2745
Parramatta	2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2121, 2122, 2142, 2145, 2146, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2160, 2161, 2162
Penrith	2178, 2745, 2747, 2748, 2749, 2750, 2753, 2555, 2759, 2760, 2765,
Wollondilly	2560, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2745, 2752, 2787

\* The Suburbs of Bucketty and Mogo Creek within the Hawkesbury City Council are also included for the purposes of GWS identification.

**MedStart: We get you into Medicine.**

[www.MedStart.com.au](http://www.MedStart.com.au)

**PREREQUISITES**

No formal prerequisites

**COURSE STRUCTURE**

5 year program

**Year structure**

Years 1 and 2 – weekly Problem Based Learning (PBL) project, lectures, resources and clinical practices. You will be primarily based on the WSU Campbelltown campus in the School of Medicine, with weekly clinical days in the teaching hospitals in Campbelltown/Camden or Blacktown/Mt Druitt

Years 3 to 5 – completely based on rotating through clinical placements across Greater Western Sydney and rural NSW.

The medical program is organised into ‘Curriculum Themes’:

- Patient care
- Health in the community
- Personal and professional development
- Scientific basis of medicine

**Clinical schools**

You will be required to travel to the WSU teaching hospitals as part of your degree. These are likely to include, *but are not limited to*:

- Campbelltown Hospital
- Blacktown Hospital
- Mount Druitt Hospital
- Lismore (regional)
- Bathurst (regional)

Students may be required to visit any other Sydney or rural hospital as part of their degree.

### **Combine with Bachelor of Arts**

WSU offers the ability to combine your medical program with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Applying to this program must be done through UAC with a separate course code for consideration. The admissions requirements are the same as applying to the normal medical program (separate application, UCAT results etc.) with the following differences:

- ATAR (or equivalent) cutoff for consideration is 99.85
- Quota of three places for the combined degree
- Up to ten places set aside for the interview for those applicants with the MBBS/BA UAC course code in their preferences.
  - If there are more than ten applicants, the top ten will be ranked by UCAT score
- The final ranked selection list for admissions will be based solely on interview performance

Students will take a year off the MBBS program ideally between years 2 and 3 or between years 3 and 4 to study the Bachelor of Arts full time. You have the option of taking a second full time year off to complete the Bachelor of Arts, bringing the total length of the program to 7 years. Alternatively student's can carry a small overload in years 1-4 of the MBBS program to finish the combined degree in 6 years.

### **APPLICATION**

The WSU application is largely straightforward.

There are two parts to this application

1. MBBS Registration (completed online)
2. Predicted ATAR form

#### **1. MBBS Registration**

This form only requires factual information regarding residential status, address and so on to be filled out in an accurate manner. This should take about five minutes to complete.

#### **2. Predicted ATAR form**

This form should be printed and handed in to your principal, year advisor, or delegate that is handling the medical applications for your school. In most cases, they will send this form in for you.

## **4.3 UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE/UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND – JOINT MEDICAL PROGRAM**

### **Bachelor of Medicine (BMed)**

#### **OVERVIEW**

The Bachelor of Medicine (BMed) is a five year degree is offered as part of the 'Joint Medical Program' (JMP) conducted by the University of Newcastle in conjunction with the University of New England. There are 110 places in the University of Newcastle and 60 places in the University of New England (Armidale). The curriculum is shared between the two locations.

The program has a heightened rural focus and is based on the belief that medical students that undertake part of their training in a rural community are more likely to practice in these locations.

Note that while you will be based in the primary university campus of either Newcastle or Armidale for the first three years, you will complete at least one year of the final two years at a metropolitan clinical school (Hunter/Central coast).

#### **KEY DATES (2019)**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> April – UAC applications open
- Mid-August 2019 – JMP Medicine Application Form released online
- 30<sup>th</sup> September – JMP Medicine Application Form due
- 30<sup>th</sup> September – Closing date for UAC early bird applications
- November to December (TBA) – Main round interviews
- 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – Main round offers released via UAC
- Late January 2020 – Interstate interviews

#### **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

##### **Academic merit (33%)**

- ATAR (or equivalent) of 94.30 or above.
- Rural or remote applicants – ATAR (or equivalent) of 91.40 or above
- Bachelor degree (complete) - better than pass average
- Bachelor degree (incomplete) - close to credit average

##### **UCAT (33%)**

The UCAT cut-off for invitation to MSA/PQA will not be determined until after direct University applications have closed as the cut-off is dependent upon the performance of the application cohort.

Note: there is no threshold requirement attached to the subtests.

**MedStart: We get you into Medicine.**

**[www.MedStart.com.au](http://www.MedStart.com.au)**

**Interview – JMP Multiple Skills Assessment (MSA) (33% with PQA)**

Formerly called the Multistation Mini Interview, this interview requires candidates to rotate through a circuit of eight stations conducting various activities and discussing certain scenarios.

You can attend either the University of Newcastle or the University of New England. A preference is made for which University to attend for the interview but no guarantee is made. The location in which you conduct your interview has no bearing on your final placement location.

**Personal Qualities Assessment (PQA) (33% with MSA)**

This is a relatively new addition to the admissions criteria and is completed online on the same day as the interview. The PQA test has four sections:

- **Test 1 – Mental Agility Test** – similar to an I.Q test and designed to measure fluid intelligence
- **Test 2 – Interpersonal values and social responsibility** – candidates are given situations required to respond based on their opinions or values. There are no right or wrong answers similar to a personality test.
- **Test 3 – Interpersonal traits** – statements are given about people and discriminates how candidates might think and behave in certain situations
- **Test 4 – Personal Characteristics Inventory** – candidates are required to rate themselves on 100 statements designed to assess honesty about themselves and their thoughts, feelings and attitudes.

**PREREQUISITES**

No subject prerequisites

**COURSE STRUCTURE**

5 year program

The course is highly centred around small group learning. Throughout year 1 and 2 students are allocated into a problem based learning group of 8-10 students that is deliberately balanced for gender, ages and experience.

## Year structure

The course structure is as follows:

- Year 1 – Medical sciences focus. Semester 1 focuses on major causes and effects of disease and semester 2 explores the musculoskeletal, gastrointestinal and renal systems. Problem based learning throughout.
- Year 2 – continual progression through body systems covering cardiovascular, respiratory, haematology, neurology, psychiatry and endocrinology. Problem based learning throughout
- Year 3 – general practice and subspecialties are studied through problem based learning and clinical placements
- Year 4 – Medicine and surgery, women's, adolescents' and children's health covered through clinical attachments and associated tutorials
- Year 5 - designed to ease the transition from medical student to intern, students enrol in two courses covering disciplines of medicine, psychiatry, palliative care, primary health care, anaesthesia, intensive care, emergency medicine, oncology and surgery.

## Clinical Schools

The JMP has five clinical schools located in the following locations:

### *Urban*

- Central Coast clinical school based around Gosford and Wyong Hospitals
- Hunter Clinical School including John Hunter, Calvary Mater, Belmont, Maitland and Hunter Valley Hospitals

### *Rural*

- Manning Clinical School based around Manning Base Hospital in Taree
- Peel Clinical School based around Tamworth Rural referral Hospital
- Tablelands Clinical School Based around Armidale Rural Referral Hospital

## APPLICATION

This is a straightforward application and completed online.

You are able to state either University of Newcastle or University of New England as your preferred university of enrolment. There is an area to indicate if you would only want to attend one of the two universities, but note that this would mean you are applying for fewer available spots.



## 4.4 UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

### Bachelor of X and Doctor of Medicine (Double Degree Medicine pathway)

#### OVERVIEW

The University of Sydney offers high achieving school leavers the option to enrol in the 'combined medical program' which allows students to combine an undergraduate degree with 'guaranteed entry' into the four year graduate entry medical program.

Students will complete the undergraduate component of their degree in the first three years while completing a one week observational study of their choosing. Students can combine the postgraduate MD with the following degrees:

- Arts
- Science

Each year, up to 30 domestic places are offered for this program each year. All students achieving 99.95 will receive an Outstanding Achievement Award (\$10,000 per year for the length of degree).

#### KEY DATES (2019)

This program does not require a separate application.

- September 2019 (TBA) – on-time applications with the UAC close
- October 2019 (TBA) – closing date for direct applications to the University
- 18<sup>th</sup> December – ATARs released
- December 2019 (TBA)– Assessment Day
- January 2020 (TBA) – Main round offers released via UAC
- January 2020 (TBA) - UAC January Round 2 offers released

## **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

### **Academic merit**

ATAR (or equivalent) – 99.95

A credit average must be maintained throughout the length of the undergraduate degree in order for the guaranteed pathway to remain\*

\*Note that this is not a hard and fast rule – if a student achieves lower than this for a semester they will generally be given a chance to achieve higher than this result in the subsequent semester before further action is taken.

\*\*Also note that following the effort required to achieve 99.95 ATAR it is “relatively easy” to maintain a credit average.

### **Interview**

Candidates who have listed the combined medical program as first preference in their Universities Admissions Centre preferences and achieve the required ATAR will be invited to attend a semi structured interview. It involves a written assessment and a panel discussion.

## **PREREQUISITES**

Mathematics (equivalent of band 4 in the NSW HSC subject Mathematics\* or band E3 in Mathematics Extension 1 or 2) from 2019, if you are completing a senior secondary (Year 12) qualification in Australia.

*\*The subject requirement refers to Mathematics (not Mathematics General or Mathematics Standard), or Mathematics Advanced which will be first examined in the NSW HSC in 2020.*

## **COURSE STRUCTURE**

The following pathways are available:

- Bachelor of Arts/Doctor of Medicine
- Bachelor of Science/Doctor of Medicine

For all courses not run by the science faculty, students will need to complete three subjects in the science faculty – biology, physics and chemistry.

Students will complete these degrees just like a normal student in one of these degrees, and will be automatically enrolled into the graduate medical program on completion of their first degree.

Students are also required to complete a compulsory one week observational study of their choosing. The faculty will assist you in organising this and also offers pre-organised placements in regional areas such as Dubbo subject to availability. Students will be required to submit a 1000 word report following the placement.

## **APPLICATION**

This program does not require a separate application. Listing this program as preference one in the University Admissions Centre is sufficient for application.

# **5. VICTORIA UNIVERSITIES**

## 5.1 MONASH UNIVERSITY

### Medical Science and Doctor of Medicine (MD)

#### OVERVIEW

Monash University has just changed from a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) degree to a MD. Entry is only open to school leavers and must be done within two years of completing year 12. The program offers 150 commonwealth supported places, and an additional 90 bonded and Extended Rural Cohort places.

Monash also offers a graduate entry into the same medical degree.

#### KEY DATES (2019)

(\*The schedule for 2020 entry for Medicine is not updated in Monash University)

- September 2019 (TBA) – Apply for the Monash MBBS program via the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC)
- December 2019 (TBA) – Interview invitations emailed to eligible VCE applicants
- January 2020 (TBA) – Interviews for Victorian applicants
- January 2020 (TBA) – Interviews for Victorian IB applicants
- January 2020 (TBA) – Round 1 offers made through VTAC
- January 2020 (TBA) – Interviews for interstate and NZ applicants
- February 2020 (TBA) – Round 2 offers made through VTAC

#### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

##### Academic Merit (33%)

ATAR (or equivalent) – 90

Note that while this is the minimum figure, the competitive nature of this degree means the average cutoff is generally much higher. It is recommended to have an ATAR of 95 or higher to be considered 'competitive'.

##### UCAT (33%)

The UCAT minimum score's requirement is not updated in the Monash University website\*.

(\* According to the previous UMAT requirement, the minimum score of 50 in each construct is required for consideration. Note that due to the competitive nature of this course, it is advisable to aim for a percentile greater than 90.)

## Interview

Interviews are offered on the basis of ATAR and UCAT scores. The interview is a Multi Station Mini Interview consisting of eight sequential interview stations each of eight minutes in length. The Interviews are meant to determine an understanding of an applicant's:

- Motivation
- Communication skills
- Critical Thinking
- Ethical/empathetic reasoning

The interviews are held in January 2019 at the Monash Clayton campus.

## PREREQUISITES

Students need to have achieved 35/50 in English as a Second Language or 30/50 in English

Students need to have achieved 30/50 in Chemistry

## COURSE STRUCTURE

### 5 year program

The course is delivered in about 20 formal contact hours per week, with the rest of the learning self directed.

### Year structure

Year 1 and 2 – semesters are 12 weeks in duration

Year 3 and 4 – semesters are 18 weeks in duration

Year 5 – semesters are around 18 weeks in duration but subject to vary.

Content is directed around four central themes:

- Personal and professional development
- Population, society, health and illness
- Scientific basis of clinical practice
- Clinical skills

Years 1 and 2 will be structured around blocks of bodily sub systems, including the topics of cardiovascular, endocrinology, gastrointestinal, genomics, human behaviour, human development and growth, immunology, infection, metabolism, molecules, cells and tissues, musculo-skeletal, neurosciences, nutrition, renal, reproduction and respiratory.

Years 3 and 4 will be delivered in clinical rotation blocks in a range of hospitals, clinics and rural environments. The third year will be focussed on 'integrated medicine and surgery' and the fourth year on 'women's and children's health' and 'general practice and psychological medicine'.

Year 5 will be focussed on the transition from university to Medical internship.

All students will gain experience in a rural setting at some point in their degree. This generally involved one day in a rural community in first year and a two-week rural program undertaken in year 2 of the course.

High academic performance in the MBBS program will lead to the degree being awarded with honours.

## **APPLICATION**

There is no separate application for this university.

## 5.2 LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

### Bachelor of Health Sciences in Dentistry/Master of Dentistry

#### OVERVIEW

This five year program conducted in the Bendigo campus of La Trobe University combines an undergraduate and postgraduate qualification that enables graduates to register as a dental practitioner. The undergraduate Bachelor of Health Sciences is completed in three years to allow for entry into the Master of Dentistry program.

#### KEY DATES (2019)

(\* The schedule for 2020 entry for Medicine is not updated in the La Trobe University)

- September (TBA) – Apply for the La Trobe University dental program via the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC)
- January 2020 (TBA) – round 1 offers made through VTAC
- February 2020 (TBA) – round 2 offers made through VTAC

#### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

##### Academic Merit

ATAR (or equivalent) 99.1 (Lowest selection rank after VTAC Round 1)

There is no interview or UCAT component for year 12 applicants.

Non year 12 applicants must complete the UCAT, a VTAC personal history submission and may be required to sit for an interview.

#### PREREQUISITES

Scores of at least 35/50 in any English

Scores of at least 25/50 in Chemistry and Biology

#### Course structure

This is a five year program



## Year structure

Year 1 involves the completion of the following units:

- Academic integrity
- Preclinical oral health practice
- Introduction to oral health sciences
- Dental science
- Rural health
- Principles of Public Health Practice

Year 2 involves the completion of the following units:

- Craniofacial growth and development
- Medicine for dentistry
- Dentistry public health and preventative practice

Year 3 involves the completion of the following units:

- Research in dentistry
- Treatment planning and communication
- Oral pathology and medicine

Year 4 and 5 are based primarily around clinical practice.

## Clinical schools

Major teaching clinics are located in:

- Bendigo
- Mildura
- Melton
- Wodonga

Students will attend all of these sites on a rotational basis.

## Application

There is no separate application for this program. Application should be made via VTAC by the stipulated deadline.

**MedStart: We get you into Medicine.**

**[www.MedStart.com.au](http://www.MedStart.com.au)**

## 5.3 THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

### Guaranteed entry into Doctor of Medicine (MD)

### Guaranteed entry into Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)

#### OVERVIEW

The University of Melbourne offers a guaranteed entry into the postgraduate Doctor of Medicine (MD) and Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) degree for high achieving year 12 students. Students who achieve 99.90 ATAR or above can apply for guaranteed entry into MD as part of the 'Chancellor's Scholars Program' and complete one of the following undergraduate degrees:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Biomedicine
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Environments
- Bachelor of Music
- Bachelor of Science

Additional benefits of the program include a Melbourne National Scholarship, which pays for all course fees (no HECS debt at the end of your degree), provides \$2500 to support an approved period of study overseas and also a \$10,000 allowance per year (\$5,000 for Victorian students) for the duration of the undergraduate degree. Interstate applicants also receive a \$700 travel allowance.

However, acceptance into Medicine is not 'guaranteed' as suggested and requires the successful completion of a MMI interview. Applicants are able to complete this MMI interview prior to commencing their undergraduate degree if they so chose, in order to ascertain whether they will have guaranteed entry to the postgraduate Medical program upon completion of their chosen undergraduate degree. Please contact the University of Melbourne directly for further information.

#### KEY DATES (2019)

- September 2019 (TBA) – Apply to an appropriate undergraduate degree via the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC)
- January 2020 (TBA) – round 1 offers made through VTAC
- February 2020 (TBA) – round 2 offers made through VTAC

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

Applicants interested in applying for the guaranteed entry to MD program must register their interest in the MD interview via an online process and list one of the following Chancellor's Scholars Program courses in their VTAC preferences:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Biomedicine
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Environments
- Bachelor of Music
- Bachelor of Science

Applicants who have fulfilled these two criteria and achieve the required ATAR will be granted an interview within the change of preference period.

**Academic Merit**

In order to be eligible for this program the student must achieve an ATAR (or equivalent) of 99.90 or above.

**Interview**

Applicants who have registered interview interest, placed an appropriate degree in their VTAC preferences and achieve the required ATAR will be granted an interview within the change of preference period.

The interview is a short (30 minutes) MMI format and is a threshold interview – feedback will be given on performance prior to the change of preference period ending. Rural and interstate applicants have the option of being interviewed via Skype.

**PREREQUISITES**

No formal prerequisites for commencing the undergraduate portion of the program.

Note that there may be certain prerequisites that will need to be completed in the undergraduate component of your degree to be eligible to enrol in the postgraduate MD program.

## **COURSE STRUCTURE**

This is a 4 years full time program.

### **Year structure**

Following the completion of the undergraduate portion of the degree, students begin the postgraduate Doctor of Medicine course, which has the following structure.

#### *Year 1 (36 weeks)*

Medical and biological sciences focus. Case based learning, lectures and practical classes are integrated in discrete bodily systems focussing on anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, microbiology, immunology, pathology, pharmacology, population health and psychological sciences.

Students will also commence Principles of Clinical practice that focuses on the development of core clinical skills of medical interview and physical examination

#### *Year 2 (40 weeks)*

Clinical skills focus. Students complete Principles of Clinical practice 2 in a full time clinical setting. The start of the year will have a 9 week foundation term covering the lungs, heart, abdomen, joints, brain, mind and life cycle. Following this are three eight-week rotating terms in medicine, ambulatory care/emergency medicine and surgery/anaesthetics.

#### *Year 3 (33 weeks)*

Clinical skills focus. Students complete Principles of Clinical practice 3 and cover general practice, mental health, aged care, women's health and children's and adolescent health.

#### *Year 4 (40 weeks)*

The first half of this year is dedicated for a semester long research project. The latter half of the year is designed to ease the transition from medical school to internship covering preparation to practice, vocational selective and trainee intern subjects. Students are also required to find and complete an additional four week clinical placement at some point prior to graduation.

## **APPLICATION**

You must apply for the Chancellor's Scholarship Program Code in your VTAC application. You must also register for and complete an MMI, either in the year you complete Year 12, or you may complete it in the final year of your undergraduate studies if you are accepted into the Chancellor's Scholars Program.

**MedStart: We get you into Medicine.**

**[www.MedStart.com.au](http://www.MedStart.com.au)**

# **6. QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITIES**

## 6.1 JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY

### Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)

#### OVERVIEW

James Cook University (JCU) offers the only full medical course in Northern Australia with a six year undergraduate Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) degree. There are 150 places offered of which 135 are allocated to year 12 applicants.

JCU is one of the only new medical courses that wrote an entirely new and tailored medical program to suit the region and current priorities in health.

Students are based in Townsville for the first three years, year four is undertaken at either Cairns or Townsville while year fives and six are based almost entirely in a clinical setting in teaching sites at Cairns, Mackay and Darwin.

The top 25% of students are eligible to apply for the honours program that runs concurrently with the final two years of the MBBS course. The program provides valuable training in research skills and the opportunity to complete an independent research project.

#### KEY DATES (2019)

- 30<sup>th</sup> September – Closing date for JCU Application Form and QTAC application
- 30<sup>th</sup> September - Closing date for QTAC application
- Mid-October 2019 – Prediction of Academic Achievement form to be **received** by JCU
- Early November 2019 - Email notification of invitation to attend interview
- Late November to Early December – Interviews held at JCU Townsville
- Late December - Email notification of invitation to attend January interview
- January 2020 (TBA) – January Interviews held at JCU Townsville
- January 2020 (TBA) – First round of QTAC offers released
- January 2020 (TBA) – Last date to respond to QTAC January offer round
- February 2020 (TBA) – Second round of QTAC offers released
- February 2020 (TBA) – Last date to respond to QTAC February offer round

## **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

### **Academic Merit**

While there is no formal threshold for entry into this program, academic requirements are competitive particularly as this university does not use results of the UCAT exam.

Based on applicant feedback, an ATAR of ~98-99 is a good aim for application. An ATAR closer to ~95-97 could also be sufficient if the student has an extremely well written application and performs well on the semi structured interview.

### **Written application**

This is an important part of the JCU application process. See the separate 'application' section below.

### **Interview**

Candidates with a well written application and sufficiently high academic results will be invited to sit a semi-structured interview at the Townsville campus.

Note that the UCAT is not required for this medical program.

## **PREREQUISITES**

- English or equivalent
- Maths B or equivalent
- Chemistry or equivalent

## **COURSE STRUCTURE**

JCU is one of the only new medical courses that wrote an entirely new and tailored medical program to suit the region and current priorities in health. There is a distinct emphasis on rural, remote and indigenous health as well as tropical medicine and the health of under-served populations.

The course is *fully integrated* and *systems based*. Anatomy, physiology, pharmacology and psychology are taught concurrently for each system such as respiratory, cardiovascular, renal etc. Clinical exercises are designed to parallel this systems approach.

Students are based in Townsville for the first three years, year four is undertaken at either Cairns or Townsville while year five and six are based almost entirely in a clinical setting in teaching sites at Cairns, Mackay and Darwin. Note that the distances of these clinical settings from Townsville are vast and students will be required to relocate closer for the final two years.

**APPLICATION**

This is one of the most 'difficult' applications to complete. The questions themselves are straightforward, however since the application is used as part of the admissions criteria you must invest time into producing something that is well written, concise and clear. It is often claimed that JCU admissions have the belief that they can train anyone with the required skills to be a health professional with a threshold level of academic performance, but they cannot train someone to become a good person.

Complete the application with this in mind. Talk in terms of their interests and convey information about yourself that shows them why you would make an excellent candidate to study medicine and become a great health professional.

Important things to remember, JCU:

- wishes to create students 'clinically competent but with a sense of social responsibility'
- has been described by the World Health Organisation as 'socially accountable medical education'
- has a strong desire to 'close the gap' – addressing the issues in health of Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People
- has a strong focus on the health of rural and remote communities
- has a strong focus on Tropical Medicine

When answering these questions always keep in mind that the interviewers may direct questions based on these answers – always keep a copy of what you have sent in just in case.

Direct communication is key. Convey the intended meaning with the smallest number of words possible.



*Question 1 – Why do you want to be a Medical Practitioner/Health Professional?*

Remember to always think in terms of their interests. Craft your answer into a flowing story that moves the interviewers. A good answer will demonstrate how you have an interest in studying medicine that is:

- Deep – your reasons for studying medicine should delve far beyond the notions of ‘status’, ‘money’ and even ‘helping people’ in the superficial sense. They should link completely into your psyche and life experiences, and relate to the characteristics of yourself that make you suitable for this field
- Personal – explain how your decision to study medicine is deeply personal and not dictated by external circumstances. This will typically be expressed through anecdotal evidence and reflection.
- Long term – a *demonstrated* long term interest is advantageous. Show the panel that you have wanted to be a doctor for several years at the exclusion of other courses. Justify your claims with anecdotes of important life experiences that influenced your decision and resolve.

You do not need to cover these points discretely; try to ensure that your answer covers these things explicitly or implicitly.

*Question 2 – Tell us why you’re interested in enrolling for a course where important themes are rural, remote, indigenous and tropical health and medicine?*

With this question it is important to keep in mind that a lot of students (perhaps yourself included) have not cultivated an interest in these themes. The reasons that these students will typically give are generic – unsubstantiated assertions of interest with facts about issues in these themes.

In order to differentiate yourself with this question and provide a great answer, aim to craft a response that again shows deep, personal and long term reasons that justify your interest in these areas.

For example, if you have family living in a rural area, or if you come from a nation with issues in tropical medicine such as malaria, you can and should draw on these experiences to provide justification of your answer.

*Question 3 - What activities (paid employment, work experience or voluntary) have you undertaken, in addition to your studies, which indicate your motivation to study Medicine or another Health Professional degree at James Cook University?*

This is a very specific question. If you have a lot of *relevant* activities then it would be best to write about as many of them as possible, with a short statement on how they have indicated your motivation to study medicine – for example, perhaps your passion for medicine led you to volunteer at a hospital for a more hands on experience. Make the link between your motivation to study medicine and your activities explicit.

If you have fewer *relevant* activities to talk about it would be worthwhile to elaborate slightly more on what you have learned from each activity, and how that helped you grow and develop qualities that would be suited to the health field.

There is often a temptation to ‘embellish’ this section to varying degrees. While there may be no real way for them to verify your claims, you must be very careful if you decide to go down this route – you may be questioned specifics about your experiences in the interview.

*Question 4 – Provide any other information you believe is relevant to your application*

While you should not waste the opportunity to use this space, make sure you invest significant thought into what is written here and how you structure it. Resist the urge to expand on points already raised in previous questions.

Think in terms of their interests, and discuss things about you that you feel they would want to know. If you have space, thank them for their time!

**Letters of support**

You are allowed to attach up to three letters of support in your application.

It would be wise to obtain these from the 'best' sources you can – for example a school principal would be better than a family friend. Someone who knows you well and likes you is preferable but not essential.

Approach candidates humbly and understand that this is an additional task for them that they do not have to do. Respect their time and make it very clear to them exactly what you need – make it as easy for them as possible. You might want to produce a list of your experiences and achievements to give to them so they have something to refer to. Where possible, try to vary the sources you draw from. For example, one ideal approach would be to have one letter from your school principal, one from someone related to an extracurricular activity (e.g. coach or manager of your sports club), and one letter from a place you volunteered or worked for.

You must also ensure you ask for permission to put their phone number on the application as outlined in the application criteria.

Do not be scared of asking someone to do this. The worst that can happen is they will say no. Remember that a lot of people would love to help a student realize their dreams so if you explain the situation with passion they will be more likely to want to help!

Thank them for their time with a small gift.

## Bachelor of Dental Surgery

### OVERVIEW

Dentistry at James Cook University (JCU) comes in the form of a five year Bachelor of Dental Surgery. This is a relatively new program having been established in 2008 in response to oral health challenges in Northern Australia. Information regarding this degree parallels the MBBS program described above, with identical applications and submission dates.

One exception is that entry to the Bachelor of Dental Surgery is made on the basis of the application and academic merit alone; there is no interview component.

### KEY DATES (2019)

- 30<sup>th</sup> September – Closing date for JCU Application Form and QTAC application
- January 2020 (TBA) – First round of QTAC offers released
- 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020 (TBA) – Last date to respond to QTAC January offer round
- February 2020 (TBA) – Second round of QTAC offers released
- February 2020 (TBA) – Last date to respond to QTAC February offer round

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entry to the Bachelor of Dental Surgery is made on the basis of the application and academic merit alone.

There is no interview component to this.

See information for the MBBS program for details.

### PREREQUISITES

- English or equivalent
- Maths B or equivalent
- Chemistry or equivalent

**COURSE STRUCTURE**

This is a five year course.

The first three to four years are based on the Cairns Campus, while the final year is based clinically through placements in public and private dental clinics in:

- Mackay
- Proserpine
- Atherton
- Thursday Island

**APPLICATION**

See MBBS section above.

## 6.2 BOND UNIVERSITY

### Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)

#### OVERVIEW

The previous Bachelor of Medicine / Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) will not be taking any new students. Instead, Bond University will offer two sequential degrees - Bachelor of Medical Studies (BMedSt) followed by the Doctor of Medicine (MD). The UCAT will no longer be required.

The course is privately funded. The medical program features small group learning, state of the art equipment and a strong curriculum. These benefits come with a cost however – the price of the degree is over \$280,000, of which \$115,000 can be sourced from a FEE-HELP loan from the government.

Bond offers 84 full fee paying places only. Applications are accepted until early February so students can see if they have been offered a CSP position at a public university prior to applying.

#### KEY DATES (2019)

The application is made to QTAC only.

- 16<sup>th</sup> January – Applications open via QTAC
- 2<sup>nd</sup> February – Applications close via QTAC
- 17<sup>th</sup> February to 24<sup>th</sup> February – Medical program interviews
- 9<sup>th</sup> March – Round 1 offers for successful QTAC applicants

#### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

##### Academic Merit

ATAR (or equivalent): 97+\*

\*To be competitive for an interview

##### Psychometric Testing

From 2018, a psychometric test will be offered to half the applicants based on their academic achievement. Approximately 50% of applicants will be offered the opportunity to complete an online psychometric test based on their academic achievement.

##### Interview

Short-listed applicants will be invited for an MMI, which has 8 stations.

**PREREQUISITES**

- English

Plus one of:

- Maths B (or equivalent)
- Chemistry
- Physics

If you have not completed one of these subjects you have the opportunity of completing an accredited bridging course prior to the application deadline.

**COURSE STRUCTURE**

Bond medicine centres around Problem Based Learning (PBL) and is structured around the three themes of:

1. Scholar and scientist – basic medical sciences, clinical sciences, research
2. Practitioner – clinical skills
3. Professional – ethics, professionalism, medicolegal issues

The medical program is advertised as 4 years and 8 months – however the course starts in late may, and thus finishes at the same time as other five year programs.

**Year structure**

**Years 1-3** – Basic medical sciences taught in cycles of bodily systems combined with clinical skills. These years are primarily on the Bond University campus

**Year 4** – Five eight week clinical rotations covering Child Health, Medicine, Mental Health, Surgery and Women's Health.

**Year 5** – Clinical placements covering medical and surgical specialities (cardiology, respiratory, urology, General practice, Emergency, Anaesthetics etc.),

**APPLICATION**

Application is made via QTAC only. There is no separate application for this university.

## 6.3 GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

### Bachelor of Medical Science (BMedSci) with Provisional entry into postgraduate Doctor of Medicine (MD)

#### OVERVIEW

Griffith University offers a provisional entry scheme for high achieving year 12 students to their four-year postgraduate Doctor of Medicine (MD) program. This provisional entry scheme is unique in that successful applicants are placed in a two year accelerated undergraduate program that allows them to complete both degrees within a six year period.

Students will be required to maintain a GPA of 5.0 throughout the 2 year accelerated undergraduate Bachelor of Medical Science Degree and achieve a minimum grade of pass in the 'Human Skills for Medicine' course (which replaced the interview component of this course).

Note that the first two years have minimal holiday periods due to the accelerated nature of the program.

#### KEY DATES (2019)

- 8<sup>th</sup> December - Applications close to be considered for January offer rounds
- 29<sup>th</sup> December - Applications completely close via UAC
- 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – Main round offers released via UAC
- 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020 - Course start date

Note that you apply through UAC.

#### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entry is based on academic merit only

ATAR (or equivalent): 99.85

#### PREREQUISITES

- English

Plus one of:

- Biological sciences
- Chemistry
- physics or Maths B.



**COURSE STRUCTURE**

The four-year Doctor of Medicine degree centres around four themes:

1. Doctor and Patient
2. Knowledge of Health and Illness
3. Doctor and Health in the Community
4. Doctor and Law

**Year 1 and 2** – primarily on campus (Gold Coast or Nathan) with one day/week of clinical exposure.

**Years 3 and 4** – Entirely based on clinical placements.

**APPLICATION**

Application is made via QTAC or UAC (if applicant is from NSW or ACT)

## 6.4 THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

### Provisional entry to postgraduate Doctor of Medicine (MD)

#### OVERVIEW

The University of Queensland offers high achieving year 12 applicants provisional entry into their four year postgraduate Doctor of Medicine (MD) course. This pathway is only open to high school leavers and has 150 places reserved for this stream (of which 25% of places are bonded).

Students accepted into this program are free to study any undergraduate bachelor degree offered by the University of Queensland as a full time student. They are then guaranteed a position in the postgraduate MBBS program provided they complete their undergraduate degree in the minimum time and maintain a minimum GPA of 5.0.

#### KEY DATES (2019)

Note that applications to this degree are made via QTAC only.

- December 2019 (TBA) – final date to apply with QTAC for main round offers
- January 2020 (TBA) – First round of QTAC offers released

#### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

##### Academic Merit

ATAR (or equivalent): 99

Must maintain a minimum overall GPA of 5.0 during their bachelor's degree

##### UCAT

According to the previous data, the required UMAT threshold for this degree has been fairly constant over the years. The following table is published data on the UQ website, where the first number is the minimum UMAT for a non-bonded spot, and the second number applies for a bonded spot:

Intake	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Cut-off	188 /174	180/169	179/175	187/181	186/181	185/180

When applicants have the same UMAT scores, their Section 1 score is used as a tiebreaker. In 2018, the tiebreaker score was 66.

Note that applicants do not need to participate in interview (MMIs) in 2019. But Interviews will be part of the entry requirements from 2020.

**MedStart: We get you into Medicine.**

[www.MedStart.com.au](http://www.MedStart.com.au)

**PREREQUISITES**

English

**COURSE STRUCTURE**

The University of Queensland has a huge yearly intake of 480 students, of which 300 are Australians and 140 are reserved for year 12 applicants.

The program is centred around Problem Based Learning

**Year structure**

**Years 1 and 2** – Phase one of the program. Medical science and foundational skills for clinical practice.

Primarily based on campus at the University of Queensland.

The following broad topics are covered:

- Medical sciences
- Clinical skills
- Ethics & Professional practice
- Global & community medicine
- Evidenced Based Practice

**Years 3 and 4** – Phase two of the program centred around clinical practice. Primarily based in clinical settings in various hospitals.

The following broad topics are covered in year 3:

- Surgery rotation
- Mental health rotation
- General practice rotation
- Medicine rotation
- Medicine in society rotation

The following broad topics are covered in year 4:

- Obstetrics and gynaecology rotation
- Paediatrics and child health rotation
- Specialities 1 rotation
- Specialities 2 rotation
- Clinical skills

**MedStart: We get you into Medicine.**

**[www.MedStart.com.au](http://www.MedStart.com.au)**

**Clinical schools**

The University of Queensland has 11 clinical schools, including 2 overseas:

Brunei clinical school

Greenslopes clinical school

Ipswich clinical school

Mater clinical school

Northside clinical school

Ochsner clinical school

PA-Southside clinical school

Royal Brisbane clinical school

Rural clinical school

Sunshine coast clinical school

Wesley & St Andrew's clinical school

High performing students will be offered the opportunity to graduate with honours, and complete a modified third and fourth year.

**APPLICATION**

Application to this program is made via QTAC only. Note that there are separate course codes if you wish to apply for a non-bonded and bonded place.

## **Bachelor of Dental Science (Honours) (BDS(Hons))**

### **OVERVIEW**

The University of Queensland offers a five year undergraduate Bachelor of Dental Science (Honours) (BDS(Hons)) with 55 commonwealth supported places.

Note that the regular Bachelor of Dental Science course is no longer available

### **KEY DATES (2019)**

Note that applications to this degree are made via QTAC only.

- December 2019 (TBA) – final date to apply with QTAC for main round offers
- January 2020 (TBA)– First round of QTAC offers released

### **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Academic achievement**

ATAR (or equivalent): 99

#### **UCAT**

UCAT will become be a mandatory admissions test in 2019.

There is no interview component.

### **PREREQUISITES**

English

Chemistry

### **COURSE STRUCTURE**

This is a five year program.

#### **Year 1 – Foundation year**

Students complete studies in biological science, chemistry and oral biology with an introduction to **dental practice**

**Years 2-4**

- Further advanced studies in the biological sciences, along with clinical work in the following areas:
- General practice dentistry
- Orthodontics
- Paediatric dentistry
- Periodontics
- Prosthodontics
- Oral Medicine
- Oral Radiology
- Oral Surgery
- Endodontics

**Year 5 – Clinical practice year**

The final year of the BSc program is entirely based on clinical rotations throughout Queensland, Tasmania and the Northern Territory in a variety of clinical settings.

Students with high academic performance will be awarded honours upon graduation.

**APPLICATION**

Application to this program is made via QTAC only.

# **7. SOUTH AUSTRALIA UNIVERSITIES**

## 7.1 THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

### Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)

#### OVERVIEW

The University of Adelaide offers a six-year Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) degree to 150 students each year.

#### KEY DATES (2019)

- September 2019 (TBA) – Closing date for applications to South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre (SATAC)
- October 2019 (TBA) – Interview invitations sent
- Late November to December – Interviews held
- January 2020 (TBA) – Last date for changing preferences via SATAC
- January 2020 (TBA) – Main round offers made via SATAC
- February to March 2020 – Offers may be made throughout this period

#### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

##### Academic merit (40%)

ATAR (or equivalent): 90+

##### UCAT (20%)

There is a lower emphasis placed on the UCAT for this medical program, making up only 20% of the admissions criteria.

Interview (40%)

Structured oral assessment.

#### PREREQUISITES

Biology OR chemistry OR mathematics



## **COURSE STRUCTURE**

This is a six year program.

The course is structured around Case Based Learning (CBL) – analogous to Problem Based Learning (PBL) offered by other universities. The course is structured into three themes:

1. Scientific Basis of Medicine
2. Clinical Practice
3. Medical Professional and Personal Development

### **Year structure**

#### *Years 1-3*

Students develop a deep theoretical understanding of the foundational medical sciences that underpin medicine. This is supplemented with weekly clinical activities, working on clinical skills with surrogate patients. In year 3, students are trained in clinical skills in the public teaching hospitals. The years are primarily focussed on the following areas:

1. Fundamentals of biomedical science
2. Medical microbiology and immunology
3. Research and clinical reasoning

Years 1-3 develop student skills to allow them to fully participate in clinical years 4-6.

#### *Years 4-6*

These are known as the clinical years and almost entirely involves placements in teaching hospitals and community settings in both urban and rural settings.

## **APPLICATION**

Applications are made through SATAC only. Once this application has been made, be sure to log into the Universities separate portal to 'track' your application – bookings for oral assessments will only be made available through this page.

## Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS)

### OVERVIEW

The University of Adelaide also offers an undergraduate course in dentistry in the form of a five year Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) degree.

### KEY DATES (2019)

- September 2019 (TBA) – Closing date for applications to South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre (SATAC)
- October 2019 (TBA) – First round interview invitations sent
- Late November to early December – First round interviews held
- January 2020 (TBA) – Last date for changing preferences via SATAC
- January 2020 (TBA) – Main round offers made via SATAC
- February to March 2020 (TBA) – Offers may be made throughout this period

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants will be ranked in consideration for an offer based on three components:

#### Interview Results - First Ranking Level

Structured oral assessment

ATAR (or equivalent): 90+

#### UCAT - Second Ranking Level

#### Academic Results - Must meet threshold and Final Ranking Level

ATAR (or equivalent): 90+

### PREREQUISITES

One subject from: Chemistry, maths, physics

AND

One subject from: Biology, geology, chemistry, physics

**COURSE STRUCTURE**

This is a five year program.

The program centres around a Case Based Learning (CBL) approach.

**Year overview**

**Years 1 and 2** – there is a patient care focus, and establishes a knowledge of biology and the structure and function of the human body with an introduction to the practice of dentistry as a career

**Years 3 and 4** – building upon foundational knowledge and extending an understanding of dental disorders and human diseases that can have oral effects.

**Year 5** – clinical year. Students will undergo a variety of placements in private and public, rural and urban, dental centres.

**APPLICATION**

Applications are made through SATAC only. Once this application has been made, be sure to log into the Universities separate portal to 'track' your application – bookings for oral assessments will only be made available through this page.

## 7.2 FLINDERS UNIVERSITY

### Bachelor of Clinical Sciences and Doctor of Medicine (MD)

#### OVERVIEW

Flinders University offers high achieving high school leavers the ability to complete a two year Bachelor of Clinical Sciences with guaranteed entry into the four year graduate Doctor of Medicine (MD) program. There are 25 places for students wishing to study in Adelaide and a further 12 places for those wishing to study in Darwin.

#### KEY DATES (2019)

- Late August 2019 – Applicants shortlisted for interviews notified
- 23<sup>rd</sup> September to 6<sup>th</sup> October 2019 – Interviews will be held
- January 2020 (TBA) – Last date for changing preferences via SATAC
- January 2020 (TBA) – Main round offers made via SATAC
- Mid-February 2020 (TBA) – Commencement of Year 1

#### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

##### Academic Merit (90%)

ATAR (or equivalent) –

- 95+ (for Adelaide)
- 90+ (for Darwin) (note that all Darwin applicants will be given a bonded medical place).

##### UCAT (10%)

According to the previous UMAT requirement, the scores are mainly derived from Constructs 1 and 2 of the UMAT. However, the UCAT requirement is not updated yet.

#### PREREQUISITES

No formal prerequisites

**COURSE STRUCTURE**

The total program length is 6 years, with the MD component running over the final four years.

The MD course is centred around the following themes:

- Doctor and Patient/Clinical performance
- Knowledge of Health and Illness
- Health Professions and Society

Years 1 and 2 are centred around Problem Based Learning (PBL). The rest of the years have a mix of tutorials and clinical exercises. In years 3 and 4, students may undertake clinical rotations at various clinical hospitals in South Australia or the Northern Territory.

**APPLICATION**

Application is made via SATAC only.

# **8. WESTERN AUSTRALIA UNIVERSITIES**

## 8.1 THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

### Pathway to Doctor of Medicine (MD) and Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD)

#### OVERVIEW

The University of Western Australia (UWA) offers high achieving high school students the opportunity to receive a conditional offer to the postgraduate entry Doctor of Medicine (MD) and Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) degrees. Once accepted, an applicant is guaranteed a place in the postgraduate degrees upon completion of a UWA bachelor degree with a minimum GPA of 5.5.

65 places are available for the MD program (including bonded spots), and 24 places are available for the DMD program.

#### KEY DATES (2019)

- Early August 2019 – Applications for 2020 intake open
- Late September 2019 – Applications close for 2020 intake
- 29<sup>th</sup> September – Final date to apply via Tertiary Institutions Service Centre (TISC)
- Late November 2019 – MMI interviews for domestic applicants held
- Mid December 2019 – ATAR release date
- January 2020 (TBA) – Main round offers available

#### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

##### Academic Merit (40%)

ATAR (or equivalent) minimum: 99

##### UCAT (20%)

Past thresholds are not released but expected to be high due to high demand and limited places.

All three sections are weighted equally.

##### Interview (40%)

The number of people offered an interview is 2-3 times the number of places available.

The interview is 35-45 minutes long and semi structured.

**Spatial awareness test (DMD only)**

This test is performed on the day of the interview. It is conducted on paper and pencil and takes approximately 30 minutes. Results are either pass or fail – a higher mark does not provide advantage, however a student must pass to be considered for a place.

**Manual dexterity test (DMD only)**

This test is performed on the day of the interview.

This is a test of manual coordination and is newly introduced for 2013. Results from this test this year will not be used in the selection criteria, and the test is being conducted for research purposes only.

**PREREQUISITES**

English

**APPLICATION**

Applications are submitted via TISC only.



## 8.2 CURTIN UNIVERSITY

### Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery

#### OVERVIEW

Curtin Medical school offers a five year, direct entry MBBS degree and was introduced very recently. The first year focuses on building a solid foundation of scientific knowledge, as well as developing communication and clinical skills. You will also be introduced to medicine in rural settings, as well as the ethicolegal aspects relating to medicine. The course revolves around four themes:

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

#### KEY DATES (2019)

- September (TBA) - Applications to Tertiary Institutions Service Centre (TISC) close
- November 2019 (TBA) - First round interviews for top-ranked students
- December 2019 (TBA) - First round interviews for students
- January 2020 (TBA)- First round offers
- January 2020 (TBA)- Second round interviews
- January 2020 (TBA)- Second round offers

#### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

##### Academic Merit

Minimum ATAR: 95

##### UCAT

According to the previous UMAT requirement, the minimum score of 50 in each construct is required. However, the UCAT requirement is not updated yet.

##### Interview

Applicants are ranked and selected for an interview based on their academic merit score and their UCAT. It is anticipated 180 applicants will be invited for interview.

#### PREREQUISITES

All applicants must satisfy the Chemistry prerequisites and English entry requirements to be eligible for further consideration.

**MedStart: We get you into Medicine.**

**[www.MedStart.com.au](http://www.MedStart.com.au)**

# 9. TASMANIA UNIVERSITIES

## 9.1 THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

### Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)

#### OVERVIEW

The University of Tasmania offers an undergraduate Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) as a five-year course primarily based in Hobart.

#### KEY DATES (2019)

- September 2019 (TBA) – Direct applications to the University of Tasmania close. Need to specifically apply for MBBS program by this date
- December 2019 (TBA) – First round offers made available for Tasmanian Year 12 applicants
- January 2020 (TBA) – First round offers made to interstate and IB applicants.

#### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

##### Academic Merit

ATAR (or equivalent): 95+

##### UCAT

This is used to rank applicants who have met the threshold of 95 ATAR.

Note that there is no interview component for this program.

#### PREREQUISITES

- English
- Chemistry

## **COURSE STRUCTURE**

This is a five-year course.

The course is structured around five main themes:

1. Human Health and Disease
2. Communication and Collaboration
3. Community Health and Disease
4. Personal and Professional Development
5. Integration

**Years 1-3** are based in Hobart and are largely on campus

**Years 4-5** involve a series of clinical rotations in Hobart, Launceston or Burnie.

Associated clinical schools are:

- The Royal Hobart Hospital
- Launceston General Hospital

## **APPLICATION**

Note that you must apply directly with the University of Tasmania to be considered for this course.



***Enrol in our Masterclass today.***

**Phone 1300 998 628 Web [medstart.com.au](http://medstart.com.au)**

**Chatswood** Level 5 North Tower, 1-5 Railway St Chatswood 2067 NSW

**Epping** Shop 24 UG, 74 Rawson Street Epping 2121 NSW

**Hurstville** Level 3, 12 Butler Road Hurstville 2220 NSW