

Gaining entry to a medical course is the first step in becoming a fully qualified medical practitioner.

Other steps are:



Pathways to entry to medical courses

- **Undergraduate entry** – accepts qualified Year 12 students directly into medical studies.
- **Pathway entry** – accepts qualified Year 12 students into an initial undergraduate program, followed by seamless entry into a post-graduate medical course (conditions apply).
- **Graduate entry** - accepts qualified applicants who have completed an undergraduate degree (in any field) directly into a post-graduate medical course.

Undergraduate entry

Students can apply for entry to undergraduate medical courses (i.e. Bachelor degrees) in Year 12. Undergraduate medical courses are usually five - six years in length. The following institutions offer undergraduate medical courses. The websites for the institutions have been listed for you to access information about the programs they offer.

Australia

- Curtin University (WA) <http://healthsciences.curtin.edu.au/schools-and-departments/curtin-medical-school/>
- James Cook University (QLD) <https://www.jcu.edu.au/courses-and-study/courses/bachelor-of-medicine,-bachelor-of-surgery/>
- University of Adelaide (SA) http://www.adelaide.edu.au/degree-finder/bmbbs_bmbbs.html
- University of Tasmania (TAS) <http://www.utas.edu.au/courses/hsi/courses/m3n-bachelor-of-medicine-and-bachelor-of-surgery>
- Western Sydney University/Charles Sturt University (Joint Program) (NSW) <https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/study/courses/undergraduate/doctor-of-medicine.html>

New Zealand

- The University of Auckland <https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/study/study-options/find-a-study-option/bachelor-of-medicine-and-bachelor-of-surgery-mbchb.html>

Pathway entry

Year 12 students can apply for entry to undergraduate courses (i.e. Bachelor degrees) that, once completed, provide guaranteed entry (dependent on students meeting required criteria in their undergraduate course) to post-graduate medical courses. More information will be provided on Queensland courses in this category in this handout.

Australia

- Bond University (QLD) <https://bond.edu.au/program/medical-program>
- CQUniversity (QLD) <https://www.cqu.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-medical-science-pathway-to-medicine>
- Charles Darwin University (NT) <https://www.cdu.edu.au/study/bachelor-clinical-sciences-wcsci1-2021>
- Flinders University (SA) <https://www.flinders.edu.au/study/courses/bachelor-clinical-sciences-doctor-medicine>
- Griffith University (QLD) <https://www.griffith.edu.au/study/degrees/bachelor-of-medical-science-1280>
- La Trobe University (VIC) <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-biomedical-science-medical#entry-requirements>
- University of Melbourne (VIC) <https://students.unimelb.edu.au/further-study/guaranteed-entry>
- Monash University (VIC) <http://www.med.monash.edu.au/medicine/admissions/direct-entry/prospective-students.html>
- University of Newcastle (NSW)/University of New England (NSW) <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/degrees/bachelor-of-medical-science-doctor-of-medicine-joint-medical-program>
- University of New South Wales (NSW) <https://med.unsw.edu.au/undergraduate>
- University of Queensland (QLD) <https://future-students.uq.edu.au/admissions/doctor-medicine>
- University of the Sunshine Coast (QLD) <https://www.usc.edu.au/study/courses-and-programs/bachelor-degrees-undergraduate-programs/bachelor-of-medical-science>
- University of Sydney (NSW) <https://sydney.edu.au/medicine-health/study-medicine-and-health/postgraduate-courses/doctor-of-medicine.html>
- University of Western Australia (WA) <https://www.uwa.edu.au/study/how-to-apply/health-and-medical-sciences-applications/direct-pathway-md-and-dmd-domestic>
- University of Wollongong (NSW) <https://www.uac.edu.au/undergraduate/courses/uow/757500.shtml>

New Zealand

- University of Otago: <http://www.otago.ac.nz/courses/qualifications/mbchb.html> (Students complete a common Health Science year before applying for admission to second year medicine).

Use the above links to obtain information about these courses

The information you need, includes:

- Year 11 and 12 subjects: prerequisite subjects (i.e. subjects you must have successfully studied to gain entry); assumed knowledge subjects (i.e. these are not prerequisites, however it is assumed that you have studied them previously); recommended subjects (i.e. subjects that are not prerequisites or assumed but would be helpful); some courses do not require any specific subjects.
- Previous ATAR cut-offs if available.
- The application process (this process may begin early in the year and may include several steps).
- Who do you apply to (e.g. QTAC, the institution, an interstate tertiary admissions centre, or more than one of these)?

- Cut-off dates for applications.
- Is UCAT (University Clinical Aptitude Test) required?
- Is an interview and/or completion of an application form part of the application process?
- Are scholarships available?
- Can you do another degree with medicine (e.g. B Science/B Medicine)?
- What teaching approach does the medical school have and will it suit my preferred learning style?
- Are there quotas and special pathways for Indigenous and/or Rural applicants?
- Are there other special entry programs/pathways for Year 12 students?

Graduate entry

Students who have successfully completed an undergraduate degree (in any field) can apply for graduate entry medical courses (usually 4 years in length). Contact the following institutions for information about their graduate entry medical courses, entry criteria. (which may include prerequisite subjects, a minimum GPA, GAMSAT, Multiple-Mini Interview and/or regular interview) and application processes (e.g. do you apply through GEMSAS?).

- Australian National University (ACT) <http://medicalschoo.anu.edu.au/study/degrees/mchd>
- Deakin University (VIC) <https://www.deakin.edu.au/course/doctor-medicine>
- Flinders University (SA) <https://www.flinders.edu.au/study/courses/postgraduate-doctor-medicine>
- Griffith University (QLD) <https://www.griffith.edu.au/study/degrees/doctor-of-medicine-5099>
- Macquarie University (NSW) <https://www.mq.edu.au/about/about-the-university/faculties-and-departments/medicine-and-health-sciences/macquarie-md>
- Monash University (VIC) <https://www.monash.edu/medicine/som/grad-entry/entry>
- University of Melbourne (VIC) <http://mdhs-study.unimelb.edu.au/degrees/doctor-of-medicine/overview>
- University of Notre Dame (Sydney, NSW) <http://www.nd.edu.au/sydney/schools/medicine>
- University of Notre Dame (Fremantle, WA) <http://www.nd.edu.au/fremantle/courses/postgraduate/medicine/md>
- University of Queensland (QLD) <https://future-students.uq.edu.au/study/programs/doctor-medicine-5578>
- University of Sydney (NSW) <https://www.sydney.edu.au/courses/courses/pc/doctor-of-medicine0.html>
- University of Western Australia (WA) <https://www.uwa.edu.au/study/how-to-apply/health-and-medical-sciences-applications/grad-entry-md-and-dmd>
- University of Wollongong (NSW) <http://coursefinder.uow.edu.au/information/index.html?course=doctor-of-medicine>

Pathway entry to medicine in Queensland

Bond University

<https://bond.edu.au/program/medical-program>

Bond University's pathway to medicine is through two sequential degrees – a 2 year 8 month (8 semesters) B Medical Studies followed by a 2 year (6 semesters) Doctor of Medicine. Applications are through QTAC. The closing date is usually in mid-January of the commencement year.

Entry Process:

Step 1: Academic assessment and prerequisites (assessed by QTAC when applying). Prerequisites:

- Year 12 English, English as an Additional Language, Literature, or English & Literature Extension (QCAA General Subject, Units 3 and 4 at Grade C or better)
- Plus one of:
 - Chemistry (QCAA General Subject, Units 3 and 4 at Grade C or better) or
 - Mathematical Methods or Specialist Mathematics (QCAA General Subject, Units 3 and 4 at Grade C or better) or
 - Physics (QCAA General Subject, Units 3 and 4 at Grade C or better).

Step 2: Psychometric testing – This is an online test that does incur a fee. The results will determine if an applicant is shortlisted for an interview.

Step 3: Interview – This is in the form of a structured Multiple Mini Interview.

Bond University offers an Indigenous Medical Scholarship <https://bond.edu.au/scholarship/bond-university-indigenous-medical-scholarship>

CQUniversity (CQU)

<https://www.cqu.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-medical-science-pathway-to-medicine>

CQU's 3 year B Medical Science (delivered in Rockhampton and Bundaberg) provides a pathway to the University of Queensland's (UQ) Doctor of Medicine program (<https://future-students.uq.edu.au/study/programs/doctor-medicine-5578>) delivered in Central Queensland and Wide Bay regions. This is a new course, commencing in 2022. Current Year 12 students can register interest in the course on the above website (this is not an application). Applications are through QTAC and usually open in August.

Entry requirements for the B Medical Science:

- Complete Year 12 in 2021 and attain an ATAR
- Meet the prerequisite - QCAA General Subject English (Units 3 & 4, C) or equivalent. Recommended subjects are Mathematical Methods (Units 3 & 4, C) or equivalent; and one of Biology, Chemistry, Physics (Units 3 & 4, C) or equivalent.
- Sit for UCAT ANZ and receive a competitive aggregate score on the first four sections.
- Participate in a Multiple Mini Interview. Applicants will be shortlisted based on their UCAT ANZ results.

There will be a limited number of places (20 places in Rockhampton and 20 places in Bundaberg) available into the B Medical Science.

Students who complete the B Medical Science and meet the GPA requirements will progress into UQ's Doctor of Medicine, a four-year full-time program.

Griffith University (GU)

<https://www.griffith.edu.au/study/degrees/1280>

Completion of the B Medical Science program with a GPA of at least 5.0 and a minimum grade of Pass in the designated course Human Skills for Medicine will enable graduates to gain direct entry into GU's Doctor of Medicine (<https://www.griffith.edu.au/study/degrees/5099>).

Entry requirements for the B Medical Science:

- Complete Year 12 in 2021 or up to 3 years before applying and have not attempted tertiary study at diploma level or higher
- Obtain a minimum ATAR of 99.75 or a Rank of 99
- Meet the prerequisites - English, English as an Additional Language, Literature or English & Literature Extension (Units 3 & 4, C). Assumed knowledge - Mathematical Methods (Units 3 & 4, C); and one of Biology, Chemistry or Physics (Units 3 & 4, C).

Because of the competitiveness of this program, special entry schemes (adjustment factors) do not apply.

Under GU's Rural Priority Access Scheme, a proportion of the medical science intake is required to be from a rural background RA2-5. Applicants who qualify will be given priority access to the B Medical Science program.

The University of Queensland (UQ)

<https://future-students.uq.edu.au/admissions/doctor-medicine/find-your-entry-pathway#>

Year 12 students apply for Doctor of Medicine (MD) (Provisional Entry for School-Leavers) and/or Doctor of Medicine (MD) Provisional Entry for School-Leavers (Bonded Medical Places) through QTAC. Successful applicants enrol in any UQ undergraduate degree program (see recommended undergraduate programs at <https://medicine.uq.edu.au/future-students/pathways-medicine>.)

Entry requirements for provisional entry:

- Be a current Year 12 student
- Attain a minimum ATAR of 95 or IB threshold of 37
- Sit for UCAT ANZ
- Meet an English prerequisite (and other prerequisites for the first degree chosen)
- Attend a Multiple Mini Interview (<https://medicine.uq.edu.au/future-students/changes-md-admissions/multiple-mini-interview-mmi>)

Applicants will receive an overall score based on their interview score (50%). UCAT ANZ Sections 1 – 4 aggregate (25%) and ATAR (25%).

UQ's special admissions (adjustment) schemes apply to this course. Applicants can gain a maximum of 5 points (see <https://future-students.uq.edu.au/admissions/doctor-medicine/review-admission-schemes>).

Requirements to progress to UQ's Doctor of Medicine:

- Complete the undergraduate degree in the minimum time (i.e. 3 year degree finished in 3 years) with a GPA of 5.00
- Successfully complete two subject prerequisites - <https://medicine.uq.edu.au/future-students/doctor-medicine-prerequisites>.

Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander applicants can apply for the Doctor of Medicine through an admissions pathway (see <https://atsis.uq.edu.au/future-students/admission-pathways>).

University of the Sunshine Coast (Sippy Downs) (USC)

<https://www.usc.edu.au/learn/courses-and-programs/bachelor-degrees-undergraduate-programs/bachelor-of-medical-science>

USC's 3 year B Medical Science, offered at Sippy Downs campus, provides a pathway into Griffith University's (GU) Doctor of Medicine program. Enrolments into the B Medical Science are capped at 20 places each year.

Entry requirements for the B Medical Science:

- Complete Year 12 in 2021 or up to 3 years before applying and have not attempted tertiary study at diploma level or higher
- Obtain a minimum ATAR of 99.60
- Meet the prerequisites – English (Units 3 & 4, C). Recommended prior study - Mathematical Methods (Units 3 & 4, C); and one of Biology, Chemistry or Physics (Units 3 & 4, C).

Due to the competitiveness of this program, special entry (adjustment) schemes including Access USC and the Educational Access Scheme (EAS) do not apply. However, a limited number of places in this program may be set aside for applicants from a rural background. Refer to the Rural Access Scheme (<https://www.usc.edu.au/study/how-to-apply/pathways-to-study/pathways-from-year-12/rural-access-scheme>) to check eligibility.

To progress to GU's Doctor of Medicine, students must complete the B Medical Science and gain a minimum GPA of 5.0. They must also achieve a minimum Pass grade in the subject Human Skills for Medicine.

The University Clinical Aptitude Test for Australia and New Zealand (UCAT ANZ)

<https://www.ucat.edu.au/ucat-anz/>

UCAT ANZ is an admissions test used by the UCAT ANZ Consortium of Universities in Australia and New Zealand for entry to their medical, dental and clinical science degree programs. It is used, in conjunction with other criteria, to select applicants. It is delivered in Pearson VUE test centres throughout Australia. You can access the UCAT ANZ Official Guide from the above website. The Guide contains practice tests.

UCAT ANZ is required for entry to the following graduate entry and provisional entry medical courses:

State	University	Course
QLD	University of Queensland	Medicine (provisional entry) Dental Science
	Griffith University	Dental Health Science
NSW	University of New South Wales	Medicine
	Uni of Newcastle/Uni of New England	Joint Medical Program
	Western Sydney Uni/Charles Sturt University	Joint Medical Program
	Charles Sturt University	Dental Science
VIC	Monash University	Medicine
	La Trobe University	Biomedical Science (Medical)
SA	University of Adelaide	Medicine, Dental Surgery, Oral Health
	Flinders University	Clinical Sciences/Medicine
WA	Uni Western Australia	Medicine and Dental Medicine direct pathways
	Curtin University	Medicine
TAS	University of Tasmania	Medicine
NT	Charles Darwin University	Clinical Sciences
New Zealand	Auckland	Medicine
	Otago	Medicine, Dentistry

UCAT ANZ Test Format

The UCAT is a two-hour computer-based test which assesses a range of abilities identified by universities as important to practicing in the fields of medicine/dentistry/clinical sciences. The test consists of five separately timed subtests which each contain a number of questions in a multiple-choice format. These subsets are:

- Verbal reasoning – assesses the ability to critically evaluate information presented in written form
- Decision making – assesses the ability to make sound decisions and judgements using complex information.
- Quantitative reasoning – Assesses the ability to critically evaluate information presented in a numerical form
- Abstract reasoning – Assesses the use of convergent and divergent thinking to infer relationships from information
- Situational judgement – Measures the capacity to understand real world situations and to identify critical factors and appropriate behaviour in dealing with them

Key Dates for 2021 UCATANZ applications

Candidates taking the UCAT ANZ in 2021 for entry to universities in Australia and New Zealand in 2022 should note the following key dates:

Concession Scheme and Access Arrangements open	1 February 2021
Bookings Open	1 March 2021
Concession application deadline	10 May 2021
Access Arrangements deadline	17 May 2021
Booking Deadline	17 May 2021
Late booking deadline	31 May 2021
Cancellation deadline	7 June 2021
Testing begins	1 July 2021
Last testing date	11 August 2021
Results delivered to universities	by early September 2021

UCAT ANZ 2021 test fees:

Test taken in Australia	\$306
Concession Fee (Australia only)	\$199

UCAT ANZ Preparation

It is not mandatory to do a UCAT ANZ preparation program. However it is highly recommended to prepare for the test by doing practice tests found on the UCAT ANZ's website at <https://www.ucat.edu.au/ucat-anz/>. The important preparation is to become familiar with the types of questions asked and the time limitations.

Several organisations provide UCAT ANZ preparation programs. The following are a selection:

- MedEntry <https://www.medentry.edu.au/>
- MedStart <https://medstart.com.au/>
- National Institute of Education <http://www.nie.edu.au/>.

Special Schemes/Programs

Bonded Medical Program

<https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/reformed-bonded-programs>

The Bonded Medical Program provides students with a Commonwealth Supported Place in a medical course at an Australian university in return for a commitment to work in eligible regional, rural and remote areas for a specified period after completion of their medical course. This commitment is referred to as a Return of Service Obligation (RoSO).

Students who gain a place under this program have a 3 year Return of Service Obligation (RoSO) The RoSO is to be completed over an 18 year period. There are a wide range of options as to how, where and when to complete the RoSO.

Rural background schemes

Rural areas of Australia often have limited access to educational opportunities and medical services. To assist in addressing this ongoing challenge, many universities allocate a proportion of their medical places to students from a rural background. These schemes will differ from institution to institution so it is best to contact the universities that you are interested in attending for more information You can also find this information on the university websites.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander alternative entry programs

Most universities have alternative entry programs for Indigenous applicants. The entry requirements and application processes for these students are specific to each institution. Find this information on the university websites.

Helpful links

- Australian Medical Association <https://ama.com.au/careers/becoming-a-doctor>
- Graduate Entry Medical School Admission System (GEMSAS) <http://www.gemsas.edu.au/>
- Graduate Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT) <http://gamsat.acer.edu.au/>
- Medical Schools in Australia and New Zealand, Confederation of Postgraduate Medical Education Councils <http://www.cpmec.org.au/Page/australian-medical-schools>
- Medical Board of Australia – Medical Specialties and Specialty Fields <http://www.medicalboard.gov.au/Registration/Types/Specialist-Registration/Medical-Specialties-and-Specialty-Fields.aspx>

Please Note:

Institutes can change their information/requirements at any time. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this handout is correct at the time of publishing. We recommend that you check all information with the institution/s that you are interested in applying to.

It is essential to check the relevant university websites for 2022 entry information.