



OPTIONS | CAREER INFORMATION

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 for Queensland students

There are three main pathways:

- Direct entry
- Graduate entry
- Provisional entry

Note, while initial medical qualifications in Australia have traditionally been at the bachelor degree level, several medical schools have recently moved to a doctor of medicine (MD) program or a dual pathway B Medical Studies/Doctor of Medicine, where graduates receive a master's degree.

Direct (or undergraduate) entry

Students can apply for entry to undergraduate medical courses in Year 12. Undergraduate medical courses are usually five - six years in length. The following institutions offer this pathway. The websites for the institutions have been listed for you to access up-to-date information about the courses.

Australia

- Bond University (QLD) <https://bond.edu.au/program/medical-program> (dual pathway)
- 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>
- Monash University (VIC) <http://www.med.monash.edu.au/medicine/admissions/direct-entry/prospective-students.html> (dual pathway)
- University of Adelaide (SA) http://www.adelaide.edu.au/degree-finder/bmbbs_bmbbs.html
- University of Newcastle/University of New England (NSW) <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/joint-medical-program/about-the-jmp>
- University of New South Wales (NSW) <http://med.unsw.edu.au/about-medicine> (dual pathway)
- University of Tasmania (TAS) <http://www.utas.edu.au/courses/hsi/courses/m3n-bachelor-of-medicine-and-bachelor-of-surgery>
- Western Sydney University (NSW) <https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/study/courses/undergraduate/doctor-of-medicine.html>

New Zealand medical courses with direct entry:

- University of Auckland <https://www.fmhs.auckland.ac.nz/en/som/for/future-students.html>
- 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)



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The information you need to obtain includes:

- Years 11 and 12 subjects: prerequisite subjects (i.e. subjects you must have successfully studied to gain entry); assumed 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 OP/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 replacing UMAT) required?
- Is an interview and/or completion of an application form part of the application process?
- Are scholarships available?
- Can I do another degree with medicine (e.g. B Science/B Medicine)?
- What teaching approach does the medical school have and will it suite my preferred learning style?
- Are there quotas for Indigenous and/or Rural applicants?
- Are there other special entry programs/pathways for Year 12 students?

Graduate or Direct 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 an 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) <http://www.deakin.edu.au/course/doctor-medicine>
- Flinders University (SA) <http://www.flinders.edu.au/courses/postgrad/md/>
- Griffith University (QLD) <https://degrees.griffith.edu.au/Program/5099/Overview/Domestic?searchHash=y5mBr3nvlMZ0aQiWqdhgpN%2FAg1Q%3D>
- Monash University (VIC) <http://www.med.monash.edu.au/medicine/admissions/grad-entry/index.html>
- University of Melbourne (VIC) <http://mdhs-study.unimelb.edu.au/degrees/doctor-of-medicine/overview>
- University of Notre Dame (Fremantle, WA) <http://www.nd.edu.au/fremantle/courses/postgraduate/medicine/md>
- University of Notre Dame (Sydney, NSW) <http://www.nd.edu.au/sydney/schools/medicine>
- University of Queensland (QLD) https://my.uq.edu.au/programs-courses/program.html?acad_prog=2332
- 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) <http://www.meddent.uwa.edu.au/courses/postgraduate/md-overview>
- University of Wollongong (NSW) <http://coursefinder.uow.edu.au/information/index.html?course=doctor-of-medicine>

Provisional entry in Queensland

The following Queensland institutions offer provisional entry to graduate entry medical courses. Students apply for this type of entry in Year 12. If successful, they are guaranteed a place in a graduate entry medical course (usually 4 years in length) after successfully completing an undergraduate degree, without having to sit for GAMSAT.



Griffith University (GU) School of Medicine

<https://degrees.griffith.edu.au/Program/1280/Overview/Domestic?searchHash=7MRGzEKWhKTHdg506ok%2Fzb1lqvQ%3D>

Year 12 students apply for entry to the Bachelor of Medical Science (MD Provisional Entry for School-Leavers). This program provides secondary school leavers with a three year (equivalent offered over two years) degree that results in guaranteed entry into GU's Doctor of Medicine program on completion of the degree (with a GPA of 5.0 or better and a pass in the subject 'Human Skills for Medicine'). The Bachelor of Medical Science is offered at both the Nathan and Gold Coast Campuses.

The application requirements for this course are:

- Must be a current Year 12 student or an applicant who has completed Year 12 no more than three years prior to application and who has not previously attempted tertiary study at diploma level or higher.
- Academic achievement – OP or equivalent; prerequisite: English (4SA); assumed knowledge: Maths B (4SA), and one of Biological Science, Chemistry or Physics (4SA). For future students achieving an ATAR: English, English as an Additional Language, Literature or English & Literature Extension (Units 3&4, C), and assumed knowledge in Mathematical Methods (Units 3&4, C); One of Biology, Chemistry or Physics (Units 3&4, C).
- QTAC application.

The GU Subject Bonus Scheme, OP 1 – 6 Guarantee Scheme, Educational Access Scheme (EAS) and the Gold Coast and Logan Campus Priority Access Scheme do not apply to this course. However, a proportion of the Griffith University medical science intake will be required to be from a rural background RA2-5. Applicants who meet these criteria will be given priority access to Griffith University Bachelor of Medical Science programs.

The University of Queensland (UQ) School of Medicine

<https://future-students.uq.edu.au/apply/doctor-of-medicine/overview>

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). Successful applicants enroll in any undergraduate degree program at the University of Queensland (see recommended undergraduate pathways and programs at <https://medicine.uq.edu.au/pathways-medicine>). For guaranteed entry into the medical program on completion of their undergraduate degree, provisional entry students must achieve the required grade point average (GPA 5.0) and complete the degree at UQ within the minimum time specified.

To be eligible for a place, students must meet the following criteria:

- Must be in their final year of secondary school at the time of application.
- Academic achievement - OP 1/Rank 99 or equivalent, English (4SA). Also, must meet the prerequisites for the undergraduate study pathway chosen.
- Competitive overall score in the University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT).
- QTAC application.

The UQ Subject Bonus Scheme and Rural Access Scheme are applied to this course but the UQ OP Guarantee Scheme does not. If you're an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander applicant, you can apply for the Doctor of Medicine through an [admission pathway](#).



University of the Sunshine Coast (Sippy Downs)

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

This highly competitive program provides provisional direct entry (subject to entry requirements) to Griffith University's Doctor of Medicine program.

The Bachelor of Medical Science program is restricted to high-achieving secondary school students who have completed Year 12 no more than three (3) years before admission. Applicants must not have previously attempted any tertiary study at diploma level or higher since completing year 12. Enrolments are capped at 20 places each year.

Graduates who gain a GPA of 5.0 or better and with a minimum Pass grade in [MED300](#) Human Skills for Medicine will be offered provisional direct entry into the Griffith University Doctor of Medicine (MD) graduate-entry program to become accredited medical practitioners.

Prerequisite: English (4SA); Recommended prior study - Maths B (4SA); One of Biology, Chemistry or Physics (4SA). NOTE: special entry schemes including Access USC and the Educational Access Scheme (EAS) do not apply.

Some interstate universities have similar entry pathways into graduate entry medical programs for Year 12 students. For example:

University of Melbourne – Guaranteed entry into graduate degrees

<https://study.unimelb.edu.au/search?query=medicine>

University of Sydney – Double degree medicine undergraduate entry

<http://sydney.edu.au/medicine/study/md/double-degrees.php>

University of Western Australia – Direct pathways for high school leavers

<http://www.studyat.uwa.edu.au/courses-and-careers/medicine>

University of Wollongong - Double Degree Pre-Medicine, Science and Health

<https://coursefinder.uow.edu.au/search-results/index.html?q=medicine>

Flinders University – Clinical Sciences and Medicine <https://www.flinders.edu.au/study/courses/bachelor-clinical-sciences-doctor-medicine>

For more Australia wide study options visit Course Seeker - <https://www.courseseecker.edu.au/#>

UCAT – (UMAT no longer used)

The University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT) is an admissions test used by the UCAT ANZ Consortium of universities in Australia and New Zealand for their medical, dental and clinical science degree programmes

The UCAT ANZ test replaces UMAT from 2019 (for university entry in 2020)

The test helps universities to select applicants with the most appropriate abilities and professional behaviours required for new doctors and dentists to be successful in their clinical careers. It is used in collaboration with other admissions processes such as interviews and academic qualifications

The UCAT ANZ is a computer-based test delivered in Pearson VUE test centres throughout Australia

Some pathways to medicine/dentistry/clinical sciences will not require the UCAT. For some applicants a different test may be required and candidates should refer to the websites of the universities to which they intend to apply.



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

State	University	Course
Queensland	UQ	Medicine (provisional entry) and Dental Science
New South Wales	UNSW	Medicine
	Newcastle/UNE	Medicine
	WSU	Medicine
	Charles Stuart Uni	Dental Science <i>(to be confirmed in April 2019)</i>
Victoria	Monash University	Medicine
South Australia	Uni of Adelaide	Medicine, Dental Surgery, Oral Health
	Flinders University	Medicine <i>(to be confirmed in April)</i>
Western Australia	UWA	Medicine and Dental Medicine (direct pathway)
	Curtin University	Medicine
Tasmania	University of Tasmania	Medicine
Northern Territory	CDU	Clinical Sciences <i>(to be confirmed in April)</i>
New Zealand	Auckland	Medicine
	Otago	Medicine, Dentistry

UCAT 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

This information is subject to change. Finalised details of the 2019 test programme will be updated in due course and you should visit the UCAT ANZ website regularly for updates at <https://www.ucat.edu.au/ucat-anz/test-format/>. For more information about UCAT visit <https://www.ucat.edu.au/ucat-anz/>



Key dates for UCAT 2019 are:

Registration and online booking of test date and time	1 March 2019
Concession scheme opens	1 March 2019
Concession deadline	10 May 2019
Registration and online booking closes	17 May 2019
Testing begins	1 July 2019
Last testing date	31 July 2019

UCAT test fees in 2019 are:

Test taken in Australia	\$298.00
Concession Fee (Australia only)	\$198

UCAT Preparation

Several organisations provide UCAT 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/>

It is not mandatory to do a UCAT preparation program, but it is highly recommended to prepare for the test by doing practice tests found on the UCAT official site to become familiar with the types of question and the time limitations.

Bonded Medical Places (BMP) Scheme

The BMP Scheme is an Australian Government initiative to provide more doctors to locations (called Eligible Locations) that are considered by the Department of Health to need qualified medical practitioners. The BMP Scheme provides funding for additional Commonwealth supported medical school places at Australian medical schools. From 2016, 28.5 % of all first-year Commonwealth Supported Places in Australian medical schools are expected to be bonded through this scheme. In return, after completing their medical course, from 2019 onwards, participants agree to work in an Eligible Location in Australia for a total of 3 years (previously 1 year). The application and selection process for the scheme is the responsibility of the universities. The 2019 information booklet about the BMP Scheme can be downloaded at <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/BMP-2016>.

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.



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.

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.cpmecc.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>