

Bachelor of Health Science – Doctor of Medicine and Surgery

Pathway Guidelines

Overview

The Bachelor of Health Science (BHLTH) offers a pathway to the postgraduate *Medicinae ac Chirurgiae Doctoranda* (MChD), latin for Doctor of Medicine and Surgery at the ANU without having to sit the Graduate Australian Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT) or applying through Graduate Entry Medical School Admissions System (GEMSAS). Up to 30 students from the Bachelor of Health Science program will receive a letter of offer to the MChD. These offers are awarded based upon a student's academic performance, an interview process and an application statement.

Eligibility for Admission into the Bachelor of Health Science

All admissions requirements are approved and available in the ANU online hand book: [Programs and Courses](#). In the event of a discrepancy between this document and the handbook, the handbook takes precedence.

Supplementary Form

Applicants are required to submit a compulsory supplementary form as part of their application. Please see the [ANU Undergraduate – Additional Selection Criteria](#) for further information.

Rural Background

There are approximately 60 places available in each intake of the Bachelor of Health Science. Thirty percent of offers made to domestic students are reserved for students from rural backgrounds. Applicants from a rural background are asked to indicate this in their supplementary form and are required to upload supporting documentation with their application. Please see [ANU Undergraduate – Additional Selection Criteria](#) for further information.

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Descent

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander applicants are encouraged to apply, are asked to indicate this in their supplementary form and are required to upload supporting documentation with their application. Please see [ANU Undergraduate – Additional Selection Criteria](#) for further information.

Assessment and Selection into the Bachelor of Health Science

Students will be ranked for offers taking into consideration both their ANU selection rank and their supplementary form responses.

Offers for the Bachelor of Health Science

Up to 60 domestic and up to 10 international applicants will be made offers to the Bachelor of Health Science based off their selection rank. Offers to applicants who apply direct to ANU will be released in August. Offers to applicants who apply through UAC will be released during the January offer rounds.

Eligibility into the BHLTH – MChD pathway

Students must be on track to complete a minimum of 96 units (16 courses). The 96 units must include successful completion or current enrolment in all 1000-level and 2000-level compulsory courses and the courses in the [pre-medicine stream](#) in the Bachelor of Health Science. Students who have met the above will be invited to attend an interview in September. Upon successful completion of the 96 units, students who achieve a minimum Weighted Average Mark (WAM) of 75% will be ranked. A student's WAM, interview score and application statement will be used to determine a student's selection rank as outlined in the details below.

Assessment and Selection into the MChD

Offers into the MChD program will be based on a final weighted score derived from a student's weighted average mark (40%), interview score (40%) and application statement (20%).

Weighted Average Mark

Students must have completed or be enrolled in all 1000-level and 2000-level compulsory courses and the courses in the [pre-medicine stream](#) in the Bachelor of Health Science. Student's must achieve a minimum [weighted average mark](#) (WAM) of 75% to be ranked and considered for an offer into the MChD. A student's weighted average mark will be calculated from the best n-2 of n courses completed. e.g. if a student completed 20 courses then the best 18 would be used for the WAM.

COVID-19 adjustment

Students who have been impacted by COVID19 and have completed courses from the 2020 academic year will have their WAM calculated using the best n-4 of n courses completed. E.g. if a student has completed 16 courses then the best 12 would be used for the WAM. Please note that students must have a minimum of 12 graded courses available for a WAM to be calculated.

Admissions Interview

All students enrolled in the Bachelor of Health Science program and who are on track to complete all 1000-level and 2000-level compulsory courses and the courses in the [pre-medicine stream](#) in the Bachelor of Health Science will be invited to attend an interview in September. Students must pass the interview to be considered for an offer. A passed interview is defined as a minimum raw interview score of 60%.

Application Statement

Students will be asked to submit an application statement, which will consist of a Curriculum Vitae (CV) and a short personal reflection. Additional information and instructions about the application statement will be sent to students in November and will be due back in December the same year.

Offers into the MChD

Up to 30 domestic students will be made conditional offers to the MChD based off their ranking position (40% weighted average mark, 40% interview score and 20% application statement) noting that up to 10 places are reserved for students from a rural background. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students will be considered within the ANU Medical School [Indigenous Pathway](#). Conditional offers will be released in January/February before students commence their final year in the Bachelor of Health Science and prior to the GAMSAT registration deadline.

Successful domestic students will be offered either a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) or a Bonded Medical Place (BMP). The Bonded Medical Place (BMP) Scheme is an initiative of the Australian Government which aims to provide more Australian-trained doctors in regions experiencing a shortage of medical practitioners. In line with this scheme, at least 28.5% of the total number of domestic places available in the first year of the program must be BMPs. More information about The Bonded Medical Place Scheme can be found on the [Department of Health website](#).

International students in the Bachelor of Health Science are considered in addition to the domestic places. International students must meet the same pathway requirements as the domestic students (as detailed above) to be considered for an offer. Successful international students will be offered an International Full Fee-Paying place. The MChD has up to 10 places available for international students in each intake year. These places will be filled from students from ANU medicine pathway programs and the ANU direct application process.

After initial acceptance of the offer, students may apply to defer enrolment for 12 months with notification to the Medical School Admissions Office. Student must notify their intent to defer or commence by July 30 in the year preceding their commencement year in the MChD program.

Students must meet the conditions in their offer letter before their offer is confirmed. Some conditions include;

- Confirm intention to commence the MChD by 30 July, the year preceding offered commencement.
- Successful completion of the Bachelor of Health Science Program including the pre medicine stream
- Have a minimum overall GPA of 5.6 at the completion of the Bachelor of Health Science Program
- Screening and Vaccination requirements must be met before commencement of the MChD

Options if a student is not successful in gaining an offer through the pathway

Students who are not successful in gaining an offer through this pathway may still be eligible to apply to the MChD through the standard admissions process, however they must meet the minimum eligibility requirements as outlined on the [Medical School website](#).

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. I received credit towards the Bachelor of Health Science from an external institution, will these results be included in the WAM calculation?

A. No. Only eligible courses completed at the ANU will be considered. If you have received credit from an external institution these result/s will not be included in WAM calculation. If you have received credit from an external institution that is greater than 1.0 FTE, then you will not be eligible for the medicine pathway. If you are receiving external credit towards the Bachelor of Health Science degree you are encouraged to contact the Medical School Admissions Office for clarification on your eligibility into the pathway.

Q. I received credit towards the Bachelor of Health Science internally from the ANU, will these results be included in the WAM calculation?

A. Yes. Courses completed at the ANU that have been officially credited towards the Bachelor of Health Science program will be considered when assessing your weighted average mark.

Q. What happens if you complete more than the minimum 16 courses by the time of the WAM assessment (eg. completion of courses over non-standard sessions)?

A. Students have the flexibility to form their own study plan which may include part time study and enrolment in non-standard sessions, provided they fulfil the requirements of the pathway. If a student has completed more than the minimum 16 eligible courses by the time of the WAM assessment e.g. they have completed 17 courses, then their weighted average mark will be calculated using the best 15/17 course results.

Q. What is the Medical School Admissions Interview?

A. Bachelor of Health Science students will sit the same standard Medical School interview as other candidates applying to the Doctor of Medicine and Surgery. The interviews will occur in mid-September. To be considered for the interview students must be on track to complete a minimum of 16 courses (96 credit points). The 96 units must include successful completion or current enrolment in all 1000-level and 2000-level compulsory courses and the courses in the [pre-medicine stream](#). All Bachelor of Health Science students who are on track will be invited to sit the Medical School interview.

Q. The pathway states that up to 10 of the 30 places are reserved for students from a rural background. If the required number of rural background students are not eligible to receive an offer, will those remaining places be made available to non-rural students?

A. No. If the rural background places are not filled, those places will not be offered to non-rural background students. The Medical School must meet the government requirement which states that 28.5% of the commencing domestic cohort within the Doctor of Medicine and Surgery program must be of students from a rural background. Therefore, if the allocated rural background places are not filled through this pathway the remaining rural numbers will be offered through GEMSAS and other pathway programs.