



## Bachelor of Health Science - Doctor of Medicine and Surgery Pathway Guidelines

### Introduction

The Bachelor of Health Science (BHLTH) offers a pathway to the postgraduate *Medicinae ac Chirurgiae Doctoranda* (MChD), latin for Doctor of Medicine and Surgery program at the Australian National University (ANU).

This pathway is not a formalised double degree, but a pathway between two separate degrees.

The pathway is open to both domestic and international students and there are identified places for both types of places.

Up to 30 domestic students from the BHLTH will receive an offer to the MChD program each year. Ten (10) of these places will preferentially be offered to students from a rural background.

Up to 20 International places are available for international students through this pathway.

All offers are awarded based upon a student's academic performance, an interview process and their responses to the selection criteria.

Students who are interested in this pathway must meet the eligibility requirements.

Applications must be made online via <https://forms.office.com/r/rdUXXpsMii> and **close 30 July each year**.

Students who are found to have not behaved within the ANU student code of conduct will not be considered.

### Eligibility

Students are defined as eligible for the pathway when they have successfully completed a minimum of 72 units (12 courses) and are on track to complete a minimum of 96 units (16 courses) by 31 December in the year of application. These courses must have been completed at the ANU.

Student must have successfully completed or be currently enrolled in all 1000-level and 2000-level compulsory courses including the courses in the [pre-medicine stream](#).

### Applying to the pathway

If a student meets the above eligibility requirements, they can submit an application through the [online application form](#). As part of the application students will be asked to submit responses to selection criteria questions which will form part of their overall assessment. Applications **close 30 July each year**.

### MChD Interview

Students who have applied to the pathway and have met the eligible requirements will be invited to attend an interview in September that same year. There is no minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) or Weighted Average Mark (WAM) requirement for the interview. Students who may be tracking below the minimum offer WAM of 75% are still eligible for an interview.

## Assessment and selection into the MChD

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

### Weighted Average Mark (WAM)

Students must have completed all 1000-level and 2000-level compulsory courses and the courses in the [pre-medicine stream](#) in the Bachelor of Health Science. Students must achieve a minimum [weighted average mark](#) (WAM) of **75%** to be ranked and considered for an offer. A student's weighted average mark will be calculated from the best n-2 of n courses completed. E.g. if a student has completed 16 courses, then the best 14 would be used for the WAM. Please note that students must have a minimum of 14 [numerically graded](#) courses available for a WAM to be calculated.

### Admissions Interview

Students must pass the interview to be considered for an offer. A passed interview is defined as a minimum raw interview score of 60%.

### Selection Criteria Responses

As part of the online application, student will be asked to submit responses to the selection criteria. The selection criteria are the skills, knowledge, and experience required for medical training that are not otherwise assessed in the admissions process. Students will be asked to submit a maximum 200-word response for each of the below selection criteria.

1. Medical knowledge and medical practice are in a constant state of development. Students in the medical program will need to be curious, inquisitive and have an orientation to pursue lifelong learning.
2. Successful patient care means collaborating with a range of colleagues across a range of specialities, skillsets and professions. Students in the medical program will need to understand the value of the diversity healthcare professionals and value the contributions these colleagues make to patient care.
3. Students in the medical program will also need to take a collaborative and respectful approach to working with others, including proactively building relationships within and across teams.
4. In order to provide care for others, it is crucial to ensure that you are well yourself. Part of that process of self-care includes maintaining interests, connections and investments outside of your core work or studies. Students in the medical program will need to build or maintain interests, relationships and activities outside of medicine.
5. Please describe a time when you made a mistake, what steps you took to understanding what went wrong, and how you addressed the mistake.

## Offers and contingency

Up to 30 domestic students will be made conditional offers to the MChD based off their ranking position. Ten (10) of these places will preferentially be offered to students from a rural background.

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students will be considered in addition to the above domestic places and we be considered within the school's [Indigenous Pathway](#).

Successful domestic students will be offered either a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) or a Bonded Medical Place (BMP). The Bonded Medical Program 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 program, at least 29% of the total number of domestic places available in the first year of the program must be BMPs. More information about The Bonded Medical Program can be found on the [Department of Health and Aged Care](#) website.

International students are considered in addition to the domestic places. International students must meet the same pathway requirements as the domestic students however will be ranked against other international students to be considered for an offer. Successful international students will be offered an International Full Fee-Paying place.

Conditional offers will be released in mid-January before students commence their final year in the Bachelor of Health Science program.

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

Students must meet the conditions in their offer 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 with a minimum GPA of 5.0
- Screening and Vaccination requirements

### Options if a student is not successful in receiving an offer through this pathway

Students who are not successful in receiving 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 at <https://health.anu.edu.au/study/doctor-medicine-and-surgery>.

### Contact

Student Administration Office  
School of Medicine and Psychology  
ANU College of Health and Medicine

Email: [admissions.smp@anu.edu.au](mailto:admissions.smp@anu.edu.au)

Phone: +61 2 6125 1304 or +61 2 6125 5605

## Frequently asked questions

### **Q. I have transferred into the Bachelor of Health Science; can I be considered in the medicine pathway?**

**A.** Yes. Students who have transferred into the Bachelor of Health Science program may be considered for the medicine pathway, however it is important to contact [admissions.smp@anu.edu.au](mailto:admissions.smp@anu.edu.au) prior to finalising any course credit, as the amount of course credit you are receiving towards the Bachelor of Health Science may impact your eligibility into the pathway, especially if the credit is from an external institution.

### **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 results will not be included in the WAM calculation. If you have received credit from an external institution that is greater than 1.0 FTE (48 units), then you will not be eligible for the pathway. Students who have received external credit towards the Bachelor of Health Science may still be eligible for the pathway however they will not be eligible until they have completed the required amount of courses at the ANU.

Students are advised to contact [admissions.smp@anu.edu.au](mailto:admissions.smp@anu.edu.au) to seek advice about their eligibility for the medicine pathway before finalising any external course credit.

### **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 still be calculated using the same formula of  $n-2$ . In this example the WAM would be calculated using the best 15/17 course results.

### **Q. Some of my courses are a pass/fail grade (i.e. Ungraded Pass (UG)). Will these results be included in the WAM?**

**A.** No. Only numerically graded course results will be included in the WAM calculation. When using the ' $n-2$ ' formula of calculating the WAM, any pass/fail result would be one of the dropped courses. Because of this it is important to note that students must have a minimum of 14 numerically graded courses available for a WAM to be calculated.

### **Q. When is the interview and what is involved?**

**A.** Bachelor of Health Science students will sit the same admissions interview as other candidates applying to the Doctor of Medicine and Surgery. The interviews will occur in September and are all online. The interview is in two parts and contains a variety of direct and scenario-based questions.