Courses

The School of Medicine at the University of Western Sydney offers a Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) program. There are strict deadlines and academic criteria that applicants must meet in order to be eligible to apply for MBBS. Please ensure you read the Admission Requirements and How to Apply prior to submitting your application.

For information about other programs in the College of Health and Science, please see the College of Health and Science <u>course directory</u>.

- MBBS Admission Requirements
- Local Applicants How to Apply
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- Admission Types and Prerequisites
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MBBS Admission Requirements

There are **three** admission requirements that Local and International On-shore applicants must meet in order to be considered for a place in MBBS. Please note the thresholds mentioned below may be subject to change.

Requirement 1 - UAI (or equivalent) requirements for School Leavers and Non-Current School Leavers (non graduate)

All applicants who do not qualify as a Greater Western Sydney (GWS) applicant must achieve a Universities Admission Index (UAI) (or equivalent rank) of **95 or higher**. Applicants from Greater Western Sydney must achieve a UAI (or equivalent rank) of **93 or higher**. To find out if you meet the definition to be eligible to apply as a GWS applicant please see <u>Local</u> <u>Applicants - How to Apply</u>.

For those who are in year 12 at the time they apply, a predicted UAI as well as Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admissions Test (UMAT) results will be used to decide who will be invited to interviews. In order for a predicted UAI to be used, all current year 12 applicants must lodge a Prediction of Universities Admission Index (UAI) form by the advertised deadline.

Grade Point Average (GPA) requirements for Graduates

Applicants with a completed bachelor's degree must have achieved a Grade Point Average (GPA) of **5.5** or above to be considered. For those with combined degrees, grades in both degrees will be included. The degree may be in any discipline, from a University recognised for this purpose by the University of Western Sydney.

Partial Completion of an Undergraduate Degree

Students who have completed a minimum of one year full time study in a recognised University bachelor's course and have achieved a GPA of 5.5 or above will also be considered.

NOTE: The School of Medicine is not able to advise applicants if their qualifications meet the required rank. All queries in relation to qualifications and how they are converted should be directed to the UWS Admissions Office via email to <u>admissions@uws.edu.au</u>.

Requirement 2 - Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admissions Test (UMAT)

Applicants must register to sit the UMAT at a time determined by ACER. For details about registration and dates for the UMAT please see the ACER web page or contact ACER directly. Note that there is no flexibility with these dates.

UMAT Contact Details: Web: <u>http://umat.acer.edu.au/</u> Phone: (03) 9277 5746 International: (+613) 9277 5746 Fax: (03) 9277 5757 International: (+613) 9277 5757 Email: <u>umat@acer.edu.au</u>

The threshold level of achievement the University will require in UMAT will be determined each year depending on the performance of all applicants competing for a place in the MBBS course and will not be disclosed.

Applicants who meet both academic and UMAT thresholds are subsequently invited to interview. Final rankings for offers into MBBS will be based on interview performance, plus UMAT scores (with a greater emphasis being on the interviews).

Requirement 3 - Multi Station Mini Interview (MMI)

The interview will take the format of a Multistation Mini Interview (MMI). This will involve the applicant being asked a series of questions; each question will be asked by a separate interviewer in a separate interview station. Applicants will have approximately eight minutes to respond to the question before being asked to move onto the next interview station.

Interview Venue

MMIs will be held at the University of Western Sydney's Campbelltown Campus.

Interview Dates

Tuesday 2 December to Friday 5 December 2008

Some interviews will be held in late January for Interstate applicants, plus those applicants who meet the UAI threshold (but whose predicted UAI did not). Whilst January interviews will not be available to applicants who are unable to attend the December interviews, Interstate applicants may choose to attend the December interviews if eligible.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure they are available for interview. No alternative arrangements will be made for applicants who are unable to attend during the scheduled time.

Applicants who are invited to attend an interview but who fail to attend at the specified date, time and location will be regarded as having withdrawn their application. Only those candidates who have attended an interview will be considered for final selection.

Full instructions will be included with your invitation to interview.

Local Applicants - How to Apply

A local applicant is someone who is either:

- An Australian Citizen
- An Australian Permanent Resident
- A New Zealand Citizen (NZ permanent residents must apply as an International offshore applicant)

All such applicants must apply by:

- sitting the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admissions Test (UMAT)
- submitting an application to the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC)
- submitting a registration form directly to the UWS School of Medicine (forms available from July 2008), including GWS declaration and UAI prediction form where applicable.

Undergraduate Medicine & Health Sciences Admissions Test (UMAT)

Register and sit the UMAT, conducted by the Australian Council for Education Research (ACER). **UMAT has strict deadlines for registration and sitting the test**. For details about registration and dates for the UMAT please see the ACER web page or contact ACER directly.

UMAT Contact Details: Web: <u>http://umat.acer.edu.au/</u> Phone: (03) 9277 5746 International: (+613) 9277 5746 Fax: (03) 9277 5757 International: (+613) 9277 5757 Email: <u>umat@acer.edu.au</u>

Submit an application directly to the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC)

Lodge an application with the Universities Admissions Centre NSW and ACT (UAC), ensuring you include:

UAC Code CSP 705750 - Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (for a Commonwealth Supported Place) and/or

UAC Code DFEE 715750 - (Domestic Full-Fee) among your preferences.

UAC have strict guidelines and dates for the lodgement of all applications; please see the UAC Guide for full details. For further information please contact UAC directly.

UAC Contact Details: Web: <u>http://www.uac.edu.au</u> Phone: 02 9752 0200 Or UAC InfoLine 1900 957 500

Submit a Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) Registration Form directly to the UWS School of Medicine

The Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) Registration form will be available in July 2008 and will be located on this site. Completed forms must have reached the School of Medicine by 5pm on 30 September 2008. Late applications can not be considered.

Once you have completed the form, please attach to an email and forward to:

To: <u>medstudent@uws.edu.au</u>. **Subject:** Registration form for UWS Medicine - (insert your Family Name)

Applicants who submit a registration form on time will receive an email confirming receipt of registration within five working days. If you do not receive notice within that time, please contact the School immediately.

Prediction of Universities Admission Index (UAI) Form

If you are currently completing Year 12 you must also submit the Prediction of Universities Admission Index (UAI) form which will be located on this site in July 2008.

This form must be completed by the Principal of your High School (or their delegate) and faxed to the School of Medicine by the due date indicated on the form on fax number 02 9852 4700.

Statutory Declaration for Greater Western Sydney (GWS) Applicants

The University has a commitment to the Greater Western Sydney community in which it is located. In fact the University's Act says that it will '.....meet the needs of the community, beginning in Greater Western Sydney'. To that end, a proportion of the places available in this course will be allocated to applicants from the Greater Western Sydney area. Applicants who have lived in one of the 14 Local Government areas defined as Greater Western Sydney for at least five consecutive years immediately before they would commence in the course are eligible to be considered for these places.

In addition to the Registration Form for Medicine, applicants who are applying under the GWS criteria as identified under <u>Local Applicants - How to Apply</u> will be required to lodge a separate Statutory Declaration for Greater Western Sydney Applicants form when they apply to the School of Medicine for selection. This form will be available on this site in July 2008 and must be faxed to the School of Medicine on fax number 02 9852 4700 by the due date indicated on the form.

The areas 14 Local Government areas defined as Greater Western Sydney are:

- Auburn Council
- Bankstown City Council
- The Council of the Shire of Baulkham Hills
- Blacktown City Council
- Blue Mountains City Council
- Camden Council
- Campbelltown City Council
- Fairfield City Council
- Hawkesbury City Council
- Holroyd City Council
- Liverpool City Council
- Parramatta City Council
- Penrith City Council
- Wollondilly Shire Council.

IMPORTANT: There are suburbs that span across multiple Local Government areas, some of which are **NOT** classified as GWS. If you live in a suburb that has multiple Local Government areas or if you are unsure of your local government region you should check the Department of Local Government website to ensure your street address and suburb fall into one of the above-mentioned 14 GWS areas prior to lodging your application. Department of Local Government Contact Details:

Phone: 02 4428 4199 Website: <u>http://www.dlg.nsw.gov.au/dlg/dlghome/dlg_regions.asp?regiontype=0</u> Email: <u>dlg@dlg.nsw.gov.au</u>

Any candidate found to have falsified information on the GWS Statutory Declaration form may be subsequently excluded from the course.

For all materials submitted directly to the School of Medicine it is recommended that you keep a copy for your records. It is also advisable to keep any fax transmission receipts for proof of submission. If you have difficulties submitting any of the abovementioned forms, or if you have any queries, please contact the School of Medicine directly on 02 9852 4600 or freecall 1800 897 669.

Indigenous Applicants - How to Apply

After reading below, please contact Cris Carriage, Indigenous Program Officer, School of Medicine, on <u>c.carriage@uws.edu.au</u> or telephone (02) 9852 4637 for further information.

Indigenous students with an interest in completing the Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery are strongly encouraged to apply. The School recognises the large Indigenous population in Greater Western Sydney and the need for more Indigenous doctors. It will endeavour to meet a target of eight Indigenous students each year.

Indigenous applicants for Medicine at UWS should apply directly to the School using the Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) Registration form. The registration form will be available on this site in July 2008.

Indigenous applicants should have successfully completed at least the equivalent of the NSW HSC. It is desirable but not essential that they sit the UMAT.

The most important criteria for admission will be assessments of the applicant's desire to study medicine and their likelihood of succeeding in the course. These will be determined by the School on a case by case basis.

Indigenous Applicants should follow the steps below when applying:

Universities Admissions Centre (UAC)

It is not compulsory for Indigenous Applicants to lodge an application with the Universities Admissions Centre NSW and ACT (UAC), although you may wish to.

UAC have strict guidelines and dates for the lodgement of all applications; please see the UAC Guide for full details. For further information please contact UAC directly:

UAC Contact Details: Web: <u>http://www.uac.edu.au</u> Phone: 02 9752 0200 Or UAC InfoLine 1900 957 500

University of Western Sydney Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) Registration Form

The Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) Registration form will be available in July 2008 and will be located on this site. Completed forms must have reached the School of Medicine by 5pm on 30 September 2008. Late applications can not be considered.

Once you have completed the form, please attach to an email and forward to:

To: <u>medstudent@uws.edu.au</u>. Subject: Registration form for UWS Medicine - (insert your Family Name)

Applicants who submit a registration form on time will receive an email confirming receipt of registration within five working days. If you do not receive notice within that time, please contact the School immediately.

International On-shore Applicants - How to Apply

International applicants who are currently undertaking Year 12 at an Australian institution should apply the same way as a Local Applicants i.e, they need to

- Apply to UAC
- Apply to ACER to do the UMAT test
- Apply directly to the School of Medicine

Successful candidates will be advised via UAC.

IMPORTANT: International On-shore Applicants who are currently undertaking **tertiary studies at university (or working)** are not eligible to apply as a Local Applicant and should apply the same way as International Off-shore Applicants.

International Off-shore Applicants - How to Apply

CRICOS Course Code: 0602189 CRICOS Provider Code: 00917K

The School will have approximately 12-15 places for 2009. The annual fee for 2008 is expected to be approximately AUD 37,000, but this may be indexed in line with inflation for later years.

To apply, applicants should complete the International Student Admission Application form available from the University of Western Sydney International Office webpage at http://www.uws.edu.au/futurestudents/international/apply

For further information about the form and other documentation that must be submitted, please check the UWS International website <u>http://www.uws.edu.au/futurestudents/international</u> or contact the UWS International Office via email <u>internationalstudy@uws.edu.au</u>.

The requirements for off-shore International applicants to be considered for admission to the medical course are:

- achieve a scholastic performance in the final year of secondary school equivalent to a New South Wales University Admission Index of 95 (International Baccalaureate 34) or higher (the University can advise what the equivalent performance is in other qualifications such as Cambridge A levels; for those who have completed a 3 year or longer Bachelors degree, the grade point average in the degree must be at least 5.5 on the 7 point scale)
- all international students must have a good command of written and spoken English. Medicine has strict English Language requirements. International students must have completed the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or equivalent examination (Academic Module) and achieve a minimum score of 6.5 in each of the four components, and an overall score of at least 7.0.
- sit the International Student Admissions Test (ISAT), a scholastic aptitude test created and administered by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER), which is run several times each year in many countries. For details see the ACER website <u>http://www.acer.edu.au</u>.

The School will seek to provide access to early cultural support and assistance with colloquial Australian English.

Admission Types and Prerequisites

The School of Medicine will have approximately 115 places within the five different categories of Commonwealth Supported, Medical Rural Bonded Scholarship Scheme (MRBS), Bonded Medical Places (BMP), Domestic Full Fee Paying and International.

Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP)

A Commonwealth Supported Place is a higher education place for which the Commonwealth Government makes a contribution towards the cost of the student's education. Students placed into this category have no bonding or government funded scholarship attached to their enrolment. For more information, please see http://www.goingtouni.gov.au/

Medical Rural Bonded Scholarship Scheme (MRBS)

The MRBS is a Commonwealth Government initiative to deliver more doctors and improved services to rural communities. Upon completion of the MBBS, students who have entered into a contract with the Commonwealth Government for the scholarship, agree to practice for six years in rural areas of Australia.

For further information regarding the conditions and monetary value of the Scholarship please contact the Department of Health and Ageing on:

Freecall: 1800 248 720 Email: <u>MRBscholarships@health.gov.au</u> Website: http://www.health.gov.au/mrbscholarships

Bonded Medical Places (BMP) Scheme

This scheme was devised by the Commonwealth Government to provide bonded medical places across all existing medical schools, creating additional places that would not otherwise be available.

Students who accept a BMP in the medical course agree to work in a district of workforce shortage for a period of five years upon completion of their subsequent vocational training. To obtain further information on the BMP, please contact the Department of Health and Aging on:

Freecall: 1800 987 104 Email: <u>BMPScheme@health.gov.au</u> Website: http://www.health.gov.au/bmpscheme

Domestic full-fee Places

Students who accept a domestic full-fee place into the Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery will not be subjected to the bonding that applies to the Medical Rural Bonded Scholarship or Bonded Medical Placements. The annual fee for a domestic fee place in 2008 was \$34,000.

Special Enrolment Requirements

Prohibited Employment Declaration (PED)

The PED form will be made available to students as they enrol On-line using the UWS MyStudentRecord (MySR) enrolment system. Under the Child Protection (Prohibited Employment) Act, 1998, it is an offence for a 'prohibited person', as described on the form, to apply for, undertake or remain in child-related employment. ('Employment' includes undertaking practical training as part of an educational or vocational course). The PED must be completed as part of the standard enrolment process. It is necessary for all medical students to complete this form prior to commencement of studies as clinical placements begin from the first session of the course. Any student found to have falsified their declaration will be excluded from the course. There are also other penalties which are imposed for non-compliance under the Child Protection Act.

Criminal Record Check (CRC)

All students attending any kind of fieldwork, research or clinical placement in a NSW Department of Health facility are required to have a **Clearance for Clinical Placements Card** before they can attend placements. You must consent to a Criminal Record Check being carried out before this card is issued.

The Criminal Record Check consent is available electronically in MySR for commencing students. If you can not complete the form electronically, a Criminal Record Check consent can be initiated at any Student Centre.

Adult Vaccination Record

To be enrolled in this course, students must comply with the current occupational screening and vaccination policy of NSW Health at course commencement.

An Adult Vaccination Card will be mailed to you from the School of Medicine upon confirmation of your enrolment. The card is provided to students on behalf of the NSW Department of Health.

The purpose of the vaccination record is to ensure the health and safety of all patients and students in health care settings and provide a safe and healthy work environment for all students and employees. Once completed as per instructions, students will be required to carry the card whenever attending a clinical placement.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure all vaccinations are carried out. The School of Medicine is not able to make bookings or offer advice on what types of vaccinations are required. Any queries should be directed to your local Public Health Unit or GP. Alternatively you may wish to contact the NSW Department of Health directly.

NSW Health Contact Details: Website: <u>http://www.health.nsw.gov.au</u> Phone: 02 9391 9000

Medical students are required to have commenced their course of immunisations prior to commencement of studies. Comprehensive instructions are included with your card. It is recommended that you take the accompanying circular from the NSW Health Department with you when visiting your doctor for any necessary vaccinations. Please note that some immunisations require annual update.

Infectious Diseases

All enrolled medical students at UWS are required to establish their infectious or immune status via completion of the adult vaccination record (as identified in Adult Vaccination Record above).

Infectious diseases are those conditions that are notifiable under the Public Health Act and include conditions that are blood borne, such as HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis and those which are air borne, such as Legionella and Tuberculosis. Any student who has a communicable disease may place clients at risk.

Healthcare workers who are:

- HIV antibody positive
- Hepatitis B e-antigen positive
- Hepatitis B DNA positive
- Hepatitis C PCR positive

must **NOT** perform exposure prone procedures (EEP). Students are required to carry their Adult Vaccination Record card whenever they attend clinical practice and be able to produce it on demand. Students without their card will be withdrawn from the clinical facility immediately and this may affect final results. Any student who falsifies the infectious disease

status may be excluded from the course. To obtain further information on UWS Infectious Diseases Policy, please visit <u>http://policies.uws.edu.au/view.current.php?id=00102.</u>

Senior First Aid Certificate

Students undertaking a medical course must have successfully completed a WorkCover accredited Senior First Aid Course prior to the completion of the first semester of study. Once completed, students are required to take the original certificate to a Student Centre, with their Student ID card. The Student Centre staff will check the credentials and process the requirement onto your student record.

Students are requested to check their MySR Account approximately 48 hours later to ensure enrolment in the units affected by not having a First Aid Certificate have been confirmed.

Health Records and Information Privacy Act (HRIPA) 2002

In September 2004, new privacy legislation regarding health records and information came into force. This legislation formalises the principle of 'patient confidentiality'. All medical students are required by law to read a summary of the legislation and to sign an undertaking that they will comply with it (compliance form will be available on-line at the time of enrolment). This must occur before commencement of the Autumn Teaching Session. The Health Records and Information Privacy Act can be accessed via:

http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/lawlink/privacynsw/ll pnsw.nsf/pages/PNSW 03 hripact

Accepting your Offer

Offers into the MBBS will be made via the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC). Please see the UAC website <u>http://www.uac.edu.au</u> or the UAC Guide for further information regarding Offer Release dates.

Accepting your Offer

If you are made an offer into the MBBS you will be able to accept your offer online. It is important that you accept your offer by the advised date or your offer may lapse and become available to other applicants. If you experience problems or have any queries in regards to accepting your offer you should contact the UWS Admissions team directly. For more information on accepting your offer, please see the UWS Accepting your Offer Web Page at http://www.uws.edu.au/students/stuadmin/start

Enrolling Online

All UWS students must enrol online via MyStudentRecord (MySR). In order for this to take place students must first activate their MYUWS account at <u>http://myuwsaccount.uws.edu.au/</u>.

Deferred Admission

Applicants who have successfully gained a place in the MBBS may apply to defer their admission for one year. Instructions on how to apply for deferral will be included with the UAC offer.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I qualify as a Greater Western Sydney (GWS) applicant?

Applicants who have lived within the designated 14 Local Government Areas for a minimum of five consecutive years prior to commencement of their course are eligible to apply as a GWS applicant. Please see <u>Local Applicants - How to Apply</u> to find out if you qualify.

What is the UAI threshold?

The 2008 UAI threshold for 2009 entry is 95 for all non Greater Western Sydney applicants and 93 for Greater Western Sydney applicants. What is the UMAT threshold?

The UMAT threshold is not made public to applicants since it is determined each year according to the performance of all other applicants for the course.

Do my qualifications reach the required UAI or GPA rank?

The School of Medicine is not able to advise if an applicant's qualifications equate to the required ranks. All queries in relation to qualifications and how they are converted should be directed to the UWS Admissions Office via <u>admissions@uws.edu.au</u>

How will I be advised if I am invited to attend a MMI?

You will be advised in writing and via email if you have been invited to attend a MMI at the University of Western Sydney.

What should I bring to Interview?

You should bring your AIBS receipt. See information under MBBS Admission Requirements - Booking an Interview Time. Applicants should also provide a recent laser photo ID (eg. Drivers licence, proof of age card, passport and proof of citizenship/permanent residency). Written information on the identification must be in English.

Do I have to have all my vaccinations completed prior to commencing studies?

Students need only have commenced their vaccinations prior to the commencement of studies. It is recommended that if you have accepted and enrolled into the MBBS that you commence your vaccinations as soon as possible as patient contact commences in the second week of teaching.

Do I have to have my first aid certificate prior to commencing studies?

Students undertaking the MBBS must have successfully completed a WorkCover accredited Senior First Aid Course prior to the **completion of the first semester of study**. Once completed, students are required to take the original certificate to a Student Centre, with their Student ID card.

Other Information

Registration with the NSW Medical Board

The following is for your information – you do not need to take any action with respect to the NSW Medical Board at this stage. In compliance with the Medical Practice Act, all medical students at the University of Western Sydney will be registered as a prerequisite to undertaking the medical degree. Registration occurs automatically on initial enrolment and is updated annually by the University.

The Student Register contains details of name, address, medical school and year of study. No fee is charged for student registration. You can obtain further details from the NSW Medical Boards website <u>http://www.nswmb.org.au</u>. You can also find important information with respect to UWS responsibility to report any impaired students to the Board. ('Impaired' covers a wide-range of issues that may impact on a student's ability to work safely and effectively within the health system).

Indemnity Issues

For information only: UWS insurances indemnify enrolled students engaged in approved course related activities. For information on student insurances, please see http://www.uws.edu.au/finance_office/finance/student_insurances.

Clinical Placement of Students

Students will attend short (half day) placements at Campbelltown, Camden or Blacktown Hospitals for their early training in clinical skills. Whilst every effort is made to place students close to their residential address, it may not always be possible to do so. Students should expect that they will need to travel during the course of their studies to attend clinical placements.

UWS is still developing its proposals for years 3 to 5 of the medical course, including the exact numbers of students to be placed in which practices and facilities. The main axis of teaching in third year will occur in Campbelltown, Camden, Blacktown and Mount Druitt Hospitals, with clinical schools also established at Liverpool and Nepean Hospitals for student placements in the fifth year of the course.

In the fourth year of the course, part of the paediatrics term will be at Westmead Children's Hospital or Sydney Children's Hospital. However, students can expect to be placed in public and private hospitals all over Greater Western Sydney. Students can also expect to have continual contact throughout the course with general practitioners throughout Greater Western Sydney, and to be placed in at least one such practice for a block.

Forms

All forms will be available on this site from July 2008.

- Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) Registration
- Prediction of Universities Admission Index (UAI)
- <u>Statutory Declaration for Greater Western Sydney</u> (GWS) Applicants