Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)

UQ School of Medicine

Founded in 1936 the School of Medicine at the University of Queensland (UQ) was the first medical school in Queensland and is one of the largest in Australia.

The School offers a bachelor degree, postgraduate and higher degree programs and undertakes an important research role in a variety of disciplines across a multitude of divisions and sites that make up the School.

The School has an extensive alumni network comprising leaders in the medical profession. The majority of medical practitioners in Queensland are graduates from the UQ.

The MBBS program

The Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) program at UQ is a four year graduate entry program. The broad aim of the MBBS program is to produce competent, caring, scientific doctors who can anticipate and respond to the increasing pace of change in the profession. To achieve this, case based learning is a key component of the program. Students work cooperatively in groups with tutors to examine a carefully planned series of patient-centered problems, each designed to highlight principles and issues in health and disease. Hence, the emphasis is on student-centred self directed learning rather than didactic teaching.

To develop high levels of clinical skills and medical knowledge, students are provided with extensive clinical training and patient contact from Year 1 of the program.

Through a close affiliation with Queensland Health, the School of Medicine is able to offer medical students the opportunity to undertake their clinical training across a network of hospitals, GP surgeries and community medical centres in locations through central, south east and south west Queensland. Students are also able to undertake some training overseas.

Admission to the MBBS

The selection process aims to draw applicants from a wide range of social and educational backgrounds. Although applicants will require appropriate knowledge and skills for success in the admissions test, there are not any specific prerequisite secondary or university subjects that must be completed to be eligible to apply for a place in the MBBS program.

There are two entry points available:

1. Year 12 Provisional Entry Sub Quota
   This sub quota is available for students who may make an application to the MBBS program while in their final year of secondary school.

   Students who receive an offer in the sub quota may opt to fast-track their career by enrolling in one of the six-year dual degrees, the Bachelor of Arts/MBBS or the Bachelor of Science/MBBS.

   Selection criteria:
   • Queensland OP1 (or equivalent)
   • Undergraduate Medicine & Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT)

   The entry requirements and application process are outlined in more detail in the following pages.

2. Graduate Entry (Main Quota)
   This option is open to graduates of all disciplines.

   The selection criteria for the 2008 intake is currently under review. More information will be available later in the year.

   Selection criteria for the 2007 intake:
   • Key degree (bachelors, honours, masters or PhD)
   • Graduate Australian Medical Schools Admissions Test (GAMSAT). International students may opt to sit the North American Medical Colleges Admission Test (MCAT)
   • Interview
## Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery
### Program of Study: Pass Degree

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<th>Year 1, Semester 1 &amp; 2</th>
<th>Year 2, Semester 1 &amp; 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>MEDI1000</td>
<td>MEDI1006</td>
<td>MEDI3001 Rural Medicine (3 units)</td>
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<td>Foundations of Medical Practice</td>
<td>Systematic Preparation for Clinical Practice (16 units)</td>
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<td>(14 units)</td>
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<td><strong>Year 1, Semester 2</strong></td>
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<td>MEDI3005 General Practice &amp; the Community (3 units)</td>
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<td>Elective (2 units)</td>
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<td>MEDI3008 Critical Appraisal of Published Material (1 unit)</td>
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**Year 4**
- MEDI4010 Obstetrics & Gynaecology (3 units)
- MEDI4012 Paediatrics & Child & Adolescent Health (3 units)
- MEDI4014 Specialities I (3 units)
- MEDI4015 Specialities II (3 units)
- MEDI4016 Elective Placement (3 units)
- MEDI4018 Clinical Skills (3 units)

*An honours stream is available for Years 3 & 4*
MBBS Year 12 Provisional Entry Sub Quota

A sub quota is available for students who may make an application to the MBBS program while in their final year of secondary school.

All sub quota offers are provisional. Students are required to complete study in a first bachelors degree at UQ, with a satisfactory academic performance, prior to entering the MBBS program.

Up to 50 Commonwealth supported places will be available for domestic. Domestic full fee paying places are not available in the sub quota. A domestic student is an Australian citizens or Permanent Residents or New Zealand citizens.

Approximately 30 full fee paying places will be available for international students.

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for this sub quota students must have sat the Undergraduate Medicine & Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT) and be in Year 12 in the year of application.

English Proficiency

Prospective students whose Year 12 studies (or equivalent) were not completed in English will be required to sit the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic Module. A minimum overall score of 7.0 (with 6.0 in the written band; 7.0 in the spoken band) is required for the MBBS program.

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is not accepted for the MBBS program.

Selection criteria

Selection to the Year 12 Provisional Entry Sub Quota, including the dual degree programs, will be based on the following two criteria:

- Performance in the Undergraduate Medicine & Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT)
  
  All applicants must achieve a minimum of 50 percentile in each section of the UMAT

- Attainment of Queensland OP1 (or equivalent)

Application Process

All prospective students must first register to sit the Undergraduate Medicine & Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT).

UMAT is held once each year and is conducted on a single day. Candidates are required to lodge a registration form and fee (currently $140) with the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER). Registrations usually close in mid June and the test is held in July.

A more detailed description of UMAT is given in the UMAT Information Booklet available free from ACER: www.acer.edu.au/umat

International students completing Year 12 in Australia and all domestic students must complete the following steps to apply:

1. Submit an Application to the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC)

As there is not a specific QTAC course code for the dual degrees or the sub quota applicants are not able to nominate for the sub quota or the dual degrees on the QTAC application. Students should list the UQ degree/s they wish to study prior to commencing the MBBS.

To register their interest for the sub quota, they must also submit the online application form directly with the School of Medicine (see below).

2. Submit an Application to the UQ School of Medicine

Applicants are required to submit an application for the MBBS Yr12 Provisional Entry Sub Quota with the UQ School of Medicine.

Applicants can only submit this application after they have registered for the UMAT and lodged their QTAC application. The UMAT candidate number and QTAC application number will be needed to lodge the application to the School.

Applications open on the 2 October, 2006 and close on 17 November, 2006. The application is submitted online via the School’s website: www.som.uq.edu.au The application is free of charge.

International students completing secondary school overseas may apply directly to the Uni-
University’s International Admissions. On this form prospective students may indicate their interest in the sub quota and their preferred study pattern.

Deferment

Sub quota students may defer the commencement of the first degree program for one year only as per the University’s Admission Rules for Undergraduate Programs, Rule 2.3 Deferment.

Study Options

Sub quota students have the opportunity to choose from one of the following study patterns:

- Any UQ bachelor degree plus MBBS
- Bachelor of Arts/MBBS
- Bachelor of Science/MBBS

Any UQ bachelor degree + MBBS program

Duration: 7 (or more) years full-time

Students may choose to study any of the bachelor degree programs available at UQ prior to entering the MBBS program. Most bachelor degree programs at UQ are 3 years full-time in duration; some bachelor degrees are 4 or 5 years.

Students will be required to complete the requirements of this first degree, within the minimum specified time for that degree, prior to entering the MBBS program. In addition to this, students will be required to have achieved an overall grade point average (GPA) of 5.00 in this degree.

Bachelor of Arts/MBBS and Bachelor of Science/MBBS dual degrees

Duration: 6 years full-time

Students who receive an offer in the sub quota may opt to fast-track their career by enrolling in one of the six-year dual degrees, the Bachelor of Arts/MBBS or the Bachelor of Science/MBBS.

Domestic students who receive a sub quota offer from the School of Medicine and a QTAC offer for a bachelor program at UQ may lodge a program change request for the dual degree via mySI-net, the University’s online enrolment system. This request is lodged once the student has received their QTAC offer and enrolment pack which includes the login details for mySI-net.

International students should contact UQ’s International Admissions to vary their enrolment.

Dual Degree Structure

The MBBS dual degrees are similar in structure to other dual degrees offered at UQ. Dual degree students are enrolled in two degrees concurrently. Students complete the core requirements of each degree however they are not required to complete the electives that students enrolled in the single degree have to do. Dual degree students gain credit for these electives on the basis of the other degree they are studying. Thus dual degrees are shorter in duration than studying two single degrees consecutively.

In the MBBS dual degree programs students sacrifice 16 units of electives from the BA or the BSc (UQ students typically complete 16 units of study per full-time year). However, no courses (subjects) are sacrificed from the MBBS component of the dual degree.

The dual degree programs comprise 96 units, with 32 units from the BA or BSc and 64 units from the MBBS. The 32 units for the BA or BSc component may include either two single majors or one double major. All majors currently offered in the three-year BA will be available in this dual program. The majors available in the BSc component are biomedical science, mathematics and psychology.

For the dual BA/MBBS and BSc/MBBS degrees, students are required to complete the BA or BSc component within two years and achieve an overall grade point average (GPA) of 5.00 before entering the MBBS component of the dual degree.

Students who do not achieve a GPA of at least 5.00 and still wish to gain entry into the MBBS will be required to complete the standard three year BA (48 units) or BSc (48 units) and then apply for entry into the MBBS as a graduate applicant.

Grade Point Average

Regardless of the study pattern chosen, students must achieve an overall grade point average (GPA) of 5.00 in their first degree to be permitted to enter the MBBS program.

The grade point average is the average of results obtained by the student, weighted by the unit value of each course. UQ awards grades on a seven point scale, where four is a pass, five is a credit, six is a distinction and seven is a high distinction.
Fees

The places available to domestic students in the Yr12 Provisional Entry Sub Quota are all Commonwealth supported places. Domestic full fee paying places are not available in the sub quota.

Students with a Commonwealth supported place are liable for only part of the total cost of tuition. The portion that students are financially liable for is called the student contribution amount. Most students are not required to pay their student contribution amount upfront.

The student contribution amount varies depending upon the discipline category of courses (subjects) studies. The level of the student contribution amount is determined by the University, within limits set by the Commonwealth. As a guide for UQ:

- most courses in the BA fall into Band 1 (approx $4889/year),
- most courses in the BSc fall into Band 2 (approx $6979/year)
- all MBBS courses fall into Band 3 (approx $8170/year).

The tuition fees for international students will vary depending on the study pattern chosen. As a guide, the indicative annual tuition fees for 2007 are:

- $16 480/year for the BA
- $22 733/year for the BSc
- $37 080/year for the MBBS

Fees are reviewed annually. For further information about fees please refer to:  
http://www.uq.edu.au/study/?page=947

Further information

MBBS Admissions
School of Medicine
Ph 07 3365 5278
Fax 07 3365 5433
Email admissions@som.uq.edu.au
Web www.som.uq.edu.au

UQ International Admissions
Ph +61 7 3346 7376
Fax +61 7 3365 1794
Email uqrep@uq.edu.au
Web www.uq.edu.au/international

Medical Rural Bonded Scholarship Scheme

The Medical Rural Bonded Scholarship Scheme (MRBSS) is only available to Australian citizens and Permanent Residents.

Eligible sub quota students will have the opportunity to apply for a Medical Rural Bonded Scholarship Scheme (MRBSS) place in the MBBS program in the students' last semester of study prior to entering the MBBS program. Selection will be on the basis of academic merit.

For further information about the MRBSS refer to this website: www.health.gov.au/mrbscholarships or Ph 1800 248 720.