Doctor of Medicine (Ochsner)

1 Definitions

placement means an activity that gives students practical experience in an authentic work environment in accordance with PPL 3.10.04 Placement in Coursework Programs;

clinical unit means an organisational unit within the Faculty of Medicine, including teaching hospitals and other medical teaching sites within a geographical region;

intercalated means that students can enrol in a higher degree by research (HDR), and take time out from the MD program;

phase 1 means the first and second years of the MD program;

phase 2 means the third and fourth years of the MD program.

2 Program requirements

2.1 Program requirements

(1) To complete the program, a student must complete 64 units and all courses set out on the MD course list.

(2) A student must complete additional requirements set by the associate dean (academic) to meet registration and/or legislative requirements.

(3) Students must complete requirements as specified in their letter of offer.

2.2 Observership

(1) A student must complete a minimum of 8 weeks, of approved placements(s), prior to the commencement of the second year of the program.

(2) For the purposes of meeting the requirements of subrule 2.2(1), a student must provide evidence of satisfactory completion to the medical dean in a format as specified.

2.3 Phase 2 Summative Clinical Assessment

(1) A student must pass the Phase 2 clinical assessment approved by the medical dean and associate dean (academic).

(2) For the purpose of subrule 2.3 (1), a student may be granted approval to demonstrate clinical competency through an alternative form of assessment approved by the medical dean and associate dean (academic).

(3) Students will be provided up to three opportunities to pass the Phase 2 clinical assessment.

(4) For the purpose of subrule 2.3 (3), prior to attempting their third and final attempt of the Phase 2 clinical assessment a student may be required to—

(a) undertake further clinical placement courses and other requirements; and

(b) undertake other academic remediation activities approved by the executive dean.

3 Maximum credit for other study

Unless a student is entering the program under clause 5 Alternative Entry paragraph (a) listed in Table 2 of Schedule 1 of the Admission Rules, no credit will be granted for previous study.

Note See PPL 3.50.03 Credit for Previous Studies and Recognised Prior Learning.

4 Special rules

4.1 Immunisation schedule

(1) Before commencing the program, the student must complete a schedule of immunisations as approved by the executive dean.
4.2 Blood-borne viruses
(1) Before commencing the program the student must provide evidence of his or her status with respect to blood-borne viruses.
(2) A student who has a blood-borne transmissible virus must not undertake invasive procedures. 

Note See PPL 3.50.08b Alternative Academic Arrangements for Students with a Disability—Procedures

4.3 First aid and CPR certificate
Before commencing the program, a student must hold a first aid and CPR certificate and maintain currency for the duration of the program.

4.4 Blue card
Before commencing the program, a student must obtain and provide evidence of a valid blue card and thereafter hold a current blue card for the duration of the program.

4.5 Criminal history check
Before commencing the program, a student must provide a satisfactory official criminal history certificate as required by the executive dean.

4.6 Continuous enrolment
(1) Unless approved by the executive dean, a student must enrol as a full-time student and undertake the program without interruption.
(2) An interruption of study should not exceed 12 months in duration.
(3) The executive dean may require a student who has taken a period of interruption, to demonstrate clinical competencies required prior to further study in the program.
(4) For the purpose of subrule 4.6(3), a student who fails to demonstrate clinical competence may be required to—
   (a) undertake further clinical placement courses and other requirements; and/or
   (b) undertake other academic remediation activities set by the executive dean.

4.7 Progression through program
(1) Unless approved by the executive dean, a student must not enrol for the subsequent years of the program until gaining credit for all courses in the preceding year.
(2) Students must attempt the United States Medical Licensing Examination Step 1 examination before commencing Phase 2 of the program.
(3) A student who fails the Workplace Learning Portfolio course in Year 3 and Year 4 must undertake the relevant Portfolio Remediation course in lieu of the Workplace Learning Portfolio course.

4.8 Refusal of enrolment
(1) A student who fails to pass all courses set for a semester will be cautioned that their academic progress falls below an acceptable standard.
(2) Despite subrule 4.8(1), a student who fails to pass all courses set for a semester will be required to show cause to the associate dean (academic) why their enrolment should not be cancelled, if—
   (a) the student has been cautioned in any earlier semester within the program; or
   (b) the student has failed two clinical placement courses.
(3) Despite subrules 4.8(1) and 4.8(2), a student will be refused further enrolment in the program if—
   (a) the student has failed to pass all courses set for a semester and has been required to show cause in any earlier semester within the program under these rules; or
   (b) the student has failed three clinical placement courses; or
   (c) the student has failed the same course in phase 1 twice; or
   (d) the student has failed the same clinical placement course in phase 2 twice; or
   (e) the student has failed a Portfolio Remediation course.
(4) A student who is required to show cause under subrule (2) must do so no later than 20 business days after being required to show cause.

(5) A student who is required to show cause is required to attend a meeting with the associate dean (academic), or nominee.

(6) Show cause applications will be determined in accordance with criteria set by the associate dean (academic).

(7) A student who has been required to show cause may have conditions set on their re-enrolment by the associate dean (academic).

(8) A student will be refused further enrolment in the program if—
   (a) the student fails to show cause by the due date; or
   (b) the student’s show cause application is refused; or
   (c) the student fails to meet the conditions set on their enrolment by the associate dean (academic).

4.9 Supplementary assessment

The associate dean (academic), upon consideration of advice from the MD program board of examiners, may grant supplementary assessment for a maximum of 4 units of study in a single semester in which the student gains a grade of 3 or a non-graded fail of N.

4.10 Award of the master of medical studies

A student who withdraws from the program after successfully completing 32 units in phase 1 of the program at this university may be awarded the master of medical studies.

4.11 Clinical school placements

The medical dean will decide at which clinical unit a student will be based.

5 Intercalated MD/PhD programs

5.1 Enrolment requirements

To enrol in the intercalated MD/PhD programs, a student must—
   (a) be admitted to the MD program at this university; and
   (b) be qualified for admission to the PhD program of this university; and
   (c) gain an overall GPA of 5.5 in phase 1 of the MD program with a minimum grade of 4 on the first attempt in all courses; and
   (d) satisfy the dean of the graduate school and the medical dean that the student is qualified to undertake the program.

5.2 Program requirements

(1) Enrolment in both the MD and PhD programs in a single academic year must be approved by both dean of the graduate school and the medical dean.

(2) Confirmation of PhD candidature is subject to the requirements of the university.

(3) Students intercalate following completion of phase 1 of the MD program and then, after up to two full-time years of PhD research, enter phase 2 of the MD program full-time and continue their PhD enrolment part-time.

6 Intercalated MD/MPhil programs

6.1 Enrolment requirements

To enrol in the intercalated MD/MPhil programs, a student must—
   (a) be admitted to the MD program at this university; and
   (b) be qualified for admission to the MPhil program of this university; and
   (c) gain an overall GPA of 5.5 in phase 1 of the MD program with a minimum grade of 4 on the first attempt in all courses; and
   (d) satisfy the dean of the graduate school and the medical dean that the student is qualified to undertake the program.
6.2 Program requirements
(1) Enrolment in both the MD and MPhil programs must be approved by the dean of the graduate school and the medical dean.
(2) Confirmation of MPhil candidature is subject to the requirements of the university.
(3) Students intercalate following completion of phase 1 of the MD program and then, after up to one full-time year of MPhil research, enter phase 2 of the MD program full-time and continue their MPhil enrolment part-time.

7 Concurrent MD/MPhil programs
7.1 Enrolment requirements
To enrol in the concurrent MD/MPhil programs, a student must—
(a) be admitted to the MD program at this university; and
(b) be qualified for admission to the MPhil program of this university; and
(c) gain a GPA of 5.5 in year 1 of the MD program with a minimum grade of 4 on the first attempt in all courses; and
(d) satisfy the dean of the graduate school and the medical dean that the student is qualified to undertake the program.

7.2 Program requirements
(1) Enrolment in both the MD and MPhil programs in a single academic year must be approved by the dean of the graduate school and the medical dean.
(2) Confirmation of MPhil candidature is subject to the requirements of the university.
(3) Students who are admitted into the concurrent MD/MPhil must fulfil all the requirements of the full-time MD degree while concurrently enrolled in the MPhil part-time.