



## PURPOSE

The intent of this document is to ensure that all specific rules and policy decisions pertaining to student selection into the Doctor of Medicine course (MD) are published in one place. This is in the interest of transparency and for the benefit of applicants.

## GLOSSARY

Term/Abbreviation	Definition
BMP	Bonded Medical Program
CSP	Commonwealth Supported Place
Domestic	Australian and New Zealand citizens, and permanent residents of Australia
FEE	Full-fee paying domestic place
GAM	Graduate Access Melbourne
GAMSAT	Graduate Medical School Admission Test
GEMSAS	Graduate Entry Medical School Admissions System
GPA	Grade Point Average
MCAT	Medical College Admission Test
MD	Doctor of Medicine course
MMI	Multi Mini Interview
MMS	Melbourne Medical School

## Application pathways

### STANDARD PATHWAY

- *Domestic*

Domestic applicants should apply for the Melbourne MD through the Graduate Entry Medical School Admissions System (GEMSAS). With the exception of eligible Guaranteed Entry, MD Rural Pathway and Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander applicants, no direct applications to the University will be accepted from domestic students for this course.

- *International*

International students must apply direct to the University through the following website:

<https://study.unimelb.edu.au/how-to-apply/graduate-coursework-study/international-applications>



- All standard pathway applicants must meet all selection requirements as outlined in the Resolutions on Selection in order to be considered for selection (<https://about.unimelb.edu.au/strategy/governance/peak-bodies-structures/academic-board/resolutions>). Meeting these requirements does not guarantee selection into the course.

### CHANCELLOR'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Domestic applicants for the course from the University of Melbourne Chancellor's Scholars Program (who achieved an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank [ATAR] of 99.9 or above and then completed an undergraduate degree at Melbourne immediately after year 12) are guaranteed a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) in the MD, provided they successfully complete the Multi Mini Interview (MMI). International Chancellor's Scholars are guaranteed an international fee-paying place in the course, provided they meet the same requirements.

### FULL-FEE GUARANTEED ENTRY SCHEME

Applicants for the course from the University of Melbourne's guaranteed entry pathway (who achieved an ATAR of 99.0 or above and then completed an undergraduate degree at Melbourne immediately after year 12) are guaranteed a full-fee paying place in the MD, provided they successfully maintain a weighted average mark (WAM) of 75 per cent in their undergraduate degree and successfully complete the MMI.

### INDIGENOUS MD STUDENT ENTRY PATHWAY

Applicants of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent are given priority access to the MD under the Indigenous MD student entry pathway. Verified Indigenous applicants are required to meet minimum selection criteria only. Applicants eligible for the Indigenous pathway will not be subject to ranking and will be selected into the program if the following minimum entry requirements are met: GPA of 5.0 or above and MMI passed. Indigenous applicants who satisfy these minimum requirements will be invited to attend an interview with a panel chaired by the Associate Dean (Indigenous) of the Faculty (or their nominee), and other appropriate Indigenous representatives. Indigenous applicants are not required to apply via GEMSAS nor sit the Graduate Medical School Admission Test (GAMSAT).

### MD Rural Pathway

Students from a rural background who are committed to undertaking their medical education wholly in rural settings and becoming part of rural and regional Australia's workforce may be eligible to apply for the MD under the MD Rural Pathway. 15 bonded Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP) are available to students who have completed an undergraduate degree with a minimum GPA of 5.0 or above, are able to demonstrate their rural origins and pass a rural specific Multi Mini Interview. The other 15 bonded CSPs are reserved for graduates of La Trobe University's Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences (Medical) degree.

Students from a rural background who wish to apply via the MD Rural Pathway will be required to submit an application directly to the University. These students will not be required to apply via GEMSAS nor sit the Graduate Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT).

### TRANSFER

#### • *Lateral transfer*

It is not possible to transfer into the University of Melbourne's MD from any other course, including other graduate medicine programs. All applicants must apply through the standard domestic or international selection processes. It is also not possible to reapply for the University of Melbourne's MD once enrolled in the course – applications from enrolled students will be deemed ineligible.



- *Fee type*

It is not possible to transfer from a full-fee paying (FEE) place into a CSP while enrolled in the course. If an international student is granted permanent residency in Australia while enrolled in the MD, and is therefore eligible for a domestic place, they will be transferred into an Australian full-fee paying place (not a CSP).

### **Treatment of elements of MD application in selection**

The following information is to be read in conjunction with published selection criteria. Applicants are advised to read the MD Handbook entry (available from: <https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/courses/mc-dmed>) prior to reading these selection guidelines.

### **GRADE POINT AVERAGE**

Standard pathway applicants must achieve a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 5.0 in their undergraduate degree in order to be considered for selection.

- *Calculation of GPA*

The University of Melbourne uses the GPA as calculated by the Graduate Entry Medical School Admissions System (GEMSAS) for standard pathway domestic and international applicants for the MD. Weightings will be applied to the final three undergraduate years of study (with the exception of honours, see below). The first of the final three pre-honours undergraduate years will be weighted by one, the second year by two and the final year by two.

- *Guaranteed entry*

Guaranteed entry full-fee applicants have their undergraduate results calculated as a WAM as per University policy and must meet a minimum WAM of 75 per cent in order to be considered for selection. Eligible Chancellor's Scholars applicants are not required to meet a minimum WAM in their undergraduate qualification but must still complete all their degree requirements.

- *Re-ranking based on postgraduate study*

Re-ranking may occur in the applicant's favour for applicants with a completed PhD or Masters qualification in a related discipline. This will be determined each year by the MD Selection Committee on a case-by-case basis, taking published quotas and cohort strength into consideration. This information will not be made available to applicants.

- *Treatment of honours in GPA*

The GPA (which is measured by considering the last three full years of the applicant's undergraduate coursework studies) will only include honours results where the honours degree is completed by the end of June in the year of application, and the results are available in time for selection. If the honours results are available for selection, the honours year will be weighted by two, the final year of the undergraduate degree by two and the second to last year of the undergraduate degree by one. If an honours degree is not completed by mid-year in the year of application, then weightings will be applied by weighting the first of the final three pre-honours undergraduate years by one, the second year by two and the final year by two.



### GAMSAT/ MEDICAL COLLEGE ADMISSION TEST

Standard pathway domestic and onshore international applicants must achieve a minimum of 50 in each section of the GAMSAT in order to be considered for selection. The University of Melbourne applies equal weighting to all three sections of the GAMSAT and does not use the GAMSAT 'overall score' in selection. International students residing overseas at the time of application may complete the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) in place of the GAMSAT. International applicants residing in Australia at the time of application must complete the GAMSAT; they are not permitted to apply using MCAT results. Applicants who apply using MCAT results, must achieve a minimum score of at least 492 in order to be considered eligible for selection.

### MULTI MINI INTERVIEW

All standard pathway applicants are ranked for selection for interview. All eligible guaranteed entry applicants are invited to interview.

#### • *Interview format*

The interview component is an eight station MMI. Each station takes five minutes and has a single assessor. The MMI aims to assess non-academic qualities including cultural sensitivity, maturity, collaboration, reliability and communication skills. The stations could include practical tasks, answering questions, commenting on short films, and explaining thinking. All applicants shortlisted for an MMI will be interviewed via an online platform.

For further information on the MMI, including information on determining a pass mark, and the number of times an applicant can sit the MMI, please read the 'Doctor of Medicine application of interview in course selection guidelines' document on the MD entry requirements webpage: <http://go.unimelb.edu.au/2my6>

### WEIGHTING OF ELEMENTS

The following weightings determine the ranking of standard pathway applicants:

#### • *GPA and GAMSAT/MCAT prior to interview*

Equal weighting is applied to the GPA and overall GAMSAT/MCAT score in determining the ranked list for interview selection.

#### • *MMI, GPA and GAMSAT/MCAT post interview*

Applicants are re-ranked based on the combined MCAT/GAMSAT, GPA and MMI results, where MCAT/GAMSAT contributes 25 per cent, GPA contributes 25 per cent and MMI contributes 50 per cent to the final ranking for course offer.

#### • The following weightings determine the ranking of MD Rural Pathway applicants:

##### - ***Prior to interview***

GPA is used to create a ranked list for rural interview selection

##### - ***Post interview***

Applicants are re-ranked based on the combined GPA and rural MMI results, where rural MMI results contribute 70% and GPA contributes 30% to the final ranking for course offer.

### 10 YEAR RULE

As stated in the Resolutions on Selection, the following 10-year rule is applied to the validity of an applicant's most recent undergraduate degree.



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The undergraduate degree is to have been completed within the 10 years prior to commencing the MD. For applicants whose most recently completed undergraduate degree was completed 10 or more years before 1 January in the year of intake, a Graduate Diploma, Masters or PhD degree or equivalent completed within 10 years is required.

### Other Melbourne MD selection policies

#### DEFERRAL

Approval to defer a place in the MD is unlikely and deferral will only be granted in exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. For further information, please see the policy available from: <https://medicine.unimelb.edu.au/study/current-student-resources/mms-students-resources/policies,-procedures-and-forms>

#### FEE TYPE ALLOCATION

Standard pathway domestic applicants (through GEMSAS) may specify the type(s) of places they wish to be considered for. Applicants will not be considered for a type of place that they have not listed. Offers will be made in the following order: CSP, BMP then FEE, with the most highest ranked applicants being offered a CSP and so on down the merit order, until all positions within the Melbourne MD quota have been filled.

Between the finalisation of the GEMSAS application process and the commencement of the academic year, if a student withdraws from the course, their place will be offered to the next-highest ranked, eligible applicant. For example, if a non-bonded CSP becomes available, and the CSP quota has not been exceeded, that place will be offered to the highest ranked BMP applicant. Under no other circumstances will domestic students be permitted to change fee type.

#### ZONE ALLOCATION

Applicants are asked to rank their preferred clinical school zone. Allocation to zones is based on a random order list and applicant preference. A successful applicant's allocation to a clinical zone is tied to their offer of a place in the course. Acceptance of an offered place is also acceptance of the zone allocation. Specific clinical schools (within the allocated zones) are confirmed during the first year of the MD. Information is available from: <https://medicine.unimelb.edu.au/study/current-student-resources/md-students-resources/clinical-schools/clinical-schools-zones>

#### COMBINED DEGREES AND CONDITIONAL OFFERS

Applicants enrolled in a combined degree who receive a conditional offer for a place at the University of Melbourne based on that combined degree, must complete both awards in order to have their offer confirmed.

#### STUDENT FINANCIAL PLANS

Students who are offered a full-fee domestic place or an international fee place in the MD are required to submit an MD Student Financial Plan prior to starting the course.

#### CONDITIONAL OFFERS

Standard pathway (domestic and international) applicants who are made an offer conditional on maintaining a specified minimum GPA will have their full offer confirmed if they have maintained the same GPA, or exceeded the provisional GPA, used in their application. An applicant whose final GPA drops,



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but only by 0.3 or less will, in most cases, have their offer confirmed. Applications with a GPA drop of more than 0.3 will be considered by the Selection Committee.

If the initial ranking and extent of drop does not put the applicant below the selection pool for that fee type, their offer will most likely be confirmed. This is subject to quotas and considered on a case by case basis. Confirmation of the place will only be possible in these cases where the applicant's initial GPA was high enough that a drop in GPA will not have a significant impact on the application rankings

### **BONDED MEDICAL PROGRAM**

Each year the government allocates a set number of CSPs in the Bonded Medical Program (BMPs) to the MD. Applicants are allocated to these places as part of the MD Rural Pathway as well as through the standard domestic pathway via GEMSAS. If an applicant is made a BMP offer they are not eligible for any other fee type place. Therefore, if they do not agree to the terms of the BMP they will be withdrawn from the MD prior to census date in the first year of the course. Please see the Department of Health website for further information.

### **Entry equity scheme**

The following schemes are designed to give an advantage in selection to applicants from target groups, or to adjust the ranking in selection for students who experienced disadvantage during their undergraduate studies.

### **GRADUATE ACCESS MELBOURNE**

Applicants who have experienced disadvantage during their undergraduate degree, or are members of specific recognised groups, are eligible to apply for Graduate Access Melbourne (GAM). A GAM application may enable re-ranking during selection for the MD, based on the level of disadvantage. GAM will only be applied to an applicant's ranking if they meet the minimum requirements for entry (as outlined above) and are therefore eligible for selection. Applicants will not be given access to their GAM score or be given information on any re-ranking of their application. Note: Indigenous applicants are given priority access to the MD under the Indigenous MD student entry pathway (as detailed above). Further information is available from: <https://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/applications/other-applications/grad-access-melb>

### **INDIGENOUS STUDENTS**

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander applicants are given priority access under the Indigenous MD student entry pathway. Please refer to the 'Indigenous MD student entry pathway' section (above) for more detail.

Prospective Indigenous applicants are strongly encouraged to make email contact with the University for advice about the direct application process and the Indigenous pathway: [mdhs-indigenous-admissions@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:mdhs-indigenous-admissions@unimelb.edu.au)

### **RURAL**

The University of Melbourne is committed to providing equitable access for applicants from a rural background to its graduate courses. The Melbourne Medical School recognises the importance of building and sustaining a rural medical workforce and will therefore offer priority access to applicants from a rural background, subject to the standard selection policies and procedures. Rural applicants must meet the minimum selection requirements in order to be considered for priority access to the MD and are still



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subject to ranking. Applicants should provide evidence of their rural status to GEMSAS if applying through the standard domestic pathway via GEMSAS and/or directly to the University if applying via the MD Rural Pathway.

Please refer to the 'MD Rural Pathway' section (above) for more detail.

Prospective rural applicants are strongly encouraged to make email contact with the University for advice about the direct application process for the MD Rural Pathway: <https://go.unimelb.edu.au/eq3i>

### PHD / MASTERS QUALIFICATIONS

Please see the 'Re-ranking based on postgraduate study' section above.

### Relevant documents and websites

- The University of Melbourne Admissions Policy, available from: <https://policy.unimelb.edu.au/MPF1295>
- The University of Melbourne Handbook entry for the Doctor of Medicine (MC-DMED), available from: <https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/current/MC-DMED>
- The University of Melbourne, MD course information, available from: <https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/graduate/doctor-of-medicine/>
- GEMSAS, available from: <http://www.gemsas.edu.au/>
- GAMSAT, available from: <https://gamsat.acer.edu.au/>
- MCAT, available from: <https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/taking-mcat-exam/>
- The Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences at The University of Melbourne, available from: <https://mdhs.unimelb.edu.au/>