

## **Chapter 7**

ANU College of Medicine &  
Health Sciences

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# ANU College of Medicine & Health Sciences

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## Introduction

Eighty Australian government-funded places in the ANU Medical School will be available to Australian and New Zealand citizens and Australian permanent residents in 2008. Of these 80 places:

- three must be filled by applicants who take up Medical Rural Bonded scholarships (MRB). These are only available to Australian citizens or permanent residents. MRB scholarships represent an Australian Government initiative to encourage doctors to work in rural areas of Australia after completion of basic medical and postgraduate training. Details of these scholarships are available at [www.health.gov.au/Internet/wcms/publishing.nsf/Content/health-workforce-scholar-index.htm](http://www.health.gov.au/Internet/wcms/publishing.nsf/Content/health-workforce-scholar-index.htm) While we expect that MRB scholars may wish to take up places in the Rural Stream (details below), the two programs are independent.
- 20 places are Bonded Medical Places (BMP). Students accepting these places will be bonded by the Australian Government to work in districts of workforce shortage for a period of six years after completion of their basic medical and postgraduate training but they will not be supported with a scholarship during Medical School. These represent a further Australian Government initiative to address medical workforce shortages. Details about BMP are available at [www.health.gov.au/Internet/wcms/publishing.nsf/content/health-workforce-bmp](http://www.health.gov.au/Internet/wcms/publishing.nsf/content/health-workforce-bmp)
- 57 places are Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP) funded by the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST).
- two Commonwealth Supported Places are set aside annually for Indigenous students, although Indigenous students may apply for general admission.

It is anticipated that up to 18 of the 80 students admitted annually will enter a Rural Stream that will provide rural educational experiences in southeast New South Wales throughout the four-year program. The focal point of these experiences will be in the third year of the program: students will complete their entire Year 3 studies in regional centres surrounding Canberra, principally attached to general practices. This track will provide 'hands on' clinical experiences in local hospitals with weekly structured teaching activities, which will be supported by appropriate IT.

The ANU Medical School may also admit up to 12 full fee-paying international students in 2008.

## Degree Program

Students who successfully complete the full program of study at the ANU Medical School will be awarded a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS). These degrees are recognised in Australia as being necessary for a medical student to proceed to an internship in an approved clinical establishment.

## Structure of the Program

### a. Themes

The program of study is underpinned by four themes: Medical Sciences, Clinical Skills, Population Health, and Professionalism and Leadership. These themes allow integration of course material and provide substantially more flexibility of the curriculum than traditional disciplines or subjects. Medical Sciences covers the scientific basis of medicine. The Population Health theme addresses the relationship between humans, their society and the environment. The Clinical Skills theme not only emphasizes skills concerned with communication, patient examination, simple clinical procedures and diagnosis, but also the critical appraisal of research evidence to practice optimal patient care. The Professionalism and Leadership theme addresses issues concerning the doctor as a professional as well as medical human rights, health law, ethics, and the institutional structure, history and philosophy of the medical profession.

The proportion of the program devoted to each theme will vary throughout the program, but overall the following proportions of program time will roughly be devoted to each theme:

Theme 1:	Medical Sciences	45%
Theme 2:	Clinical Skills	30%
Theme 3:	Population Health	15%
Theme 4:	Professionalism and Leadership	10%

### b. Blocks

A block structure runs beneath the theme structure and forms the basis for courses within the program. The various blocks and associated course codes are set out in the table on the next page.

In the first two years, students study for four days of each week on campus and one day a week is spent in a clinical setting. In each of Years 1 and 2, all students spend one week in a rural town in southern New South Wales.

Years 3 and 4 will be taught in clinical settings in either Canberra or in southeast New South Wales. Students will rotate through the various blocks at different times. It is anticipated that about 18 Year 3 students will spend the entirety of their year in a rural setting. These students will access core material via internet and will receive tuition from local medical staff. Student learning will not take place within the block structure but students will see a similar range of patient presentations as their urban counterparts over the course of the entire year.

## Duration

The program of study covers four years, full-time (192 units). Usually, no block of study can be completed on a part-time basis. In Years 1 and 2, a student who wishes to defer studies mid-year will only be able to re-enter the program 12 months later. In each of Years 3 and 4, any variation to fulltime study requires individual approval from the Dean.

## General Admission

Except as set out below, an applicant must have completed, or complete in the year of application, a Bachelors degree. Details, and the most up to date information on Admissions, can be obtained from the Medical School website at <http://medicalschoool.anu.edu.au/admission/admission.asp>

## Provisional Admission for School Leavers

Year 12 students who achieve a UAI/ENTER/TER of 98 or higher or are in OP Band 1 may apply for provisional admission to the ANU Medical School. Students who have a home address in Very Remote, Remote and Outer Regional Australia will also be considered for provisional admission with a UAI of 93 or higher or an OP score of 4 or less. Details of the provisional admission scheme and how to determine home locality may be

found at [http://medicalschoool.anu.edu.au/admission/admission\\_provisional.asp](http://medicalschoool.anu.edu.au/admission/admission_provisional.asp) Those applying for provisional admission must make themselves available for interview in Canberra in January following release of their scores. Those interviewing satisfactorily will be offered provisional admission to the Medical School, provided they enrol in one of the single or combined Bachelor degree programs at ANU. The chosen degree program must be completed within the minimum time required of an applicant undertaking full-time study. This will usually be 3 years for a Bachelors degree, 4 years for an Honours degree and 4 or 5 years for combined Bachelors degrees, depending on the degree combination. Provisional entry to Medical School will only be converted to offer of a place by achievement of a GAMSAT score and GPA as required for normal graduate entry (see 'Admission for Local Students' on the website). There will be no necessity for a further interview.

## Blocks and associated courses

Block	Course Code, Name	Year, Semester
Foundation Block: DNA to Death	MEDI1001, Medicine 1a, 24 units	Year 1, Semester 1
Cardiovascular, Respiratory and Renal	MEDI1002, Medicine 1b, 24 units	Year 1, Semester 2
Endocrine and Reproductive Health		
Digestive Diseases and Nutrition	MEDI2001, Medicine 2a, 24 units	Year 2, Semester 1
Musculoskeletal and Neurosciences		
Haematology, Oncology, Immunology and Infectious Diseases	MEDI2002, Medicine 2b, 24 units	Year 2, Semester 2
Human Disease and Society		
Foundations of Internal Medicine and Surgery	MEDI3001, Medicine 3a and MEDI3002, Medicine 3b, 48 units	Year 3, Semesters 1 and 2
Integrated Community and Child Health		
Elective	MEDI4001, Medicine 4a and MEDI4002, Medicine 4b, 48 units	Year 4, Semesters 1 and 2
Senior Medicine and Surgery*		
Psychological and Addiction Medicine		
Women's Health		
Acute Care		

\* Sub-specialities in medicine and surgery will be addressed during this rotation.