

# Policy: University Medal

## Purpose

To outline the standards which underpin the award of university medals at ANU.

## Overview

This policy sets out principles designed to support the holistic recognition of exceptional student academic achievements at honours or masters level through the award of university medals.

## Scope

Staff-Academic; excludes honorary appointment staff

Staff-professional

Students-coursework

## Policy statement

1. The award of university medals at ANU is:
  - Based upon merit, as demonstrated through a transparent and rigorous process;
  - Consistent with the recognition of equal opportunity; and
  - Focused on the holistic recognition of exceptional academic achievement in all areas of study provided by ANU, as demonstrated through the consideration of the academic track record of students who attain first class honours or equivalent.

# Procedure: University Medal

## Purpose

To set out the procedures which underpin the award of university medals at ANU.

## Procedure

### Eligibility

1. Consideration for the award of a university medal at ANU is available to individuals who:
  - a. Have met the requirements for the award of first class honours and a GPA of 6.5 in their studies for a bachelor honours Australian Qualifications Framework level 8 qualification at ANU; or
  - b. Have a GPA of 6.5 in their their studies for a masters Australian Qualifications Framework level 9 or 9E qualification of at least 96 units at ANU; or
  - c. Have received a Higher Level Pass grade in all courses for the Doctor of Medicine and Surgery program; and
  - d. Have not been found guilty of general or academic misconduct, including plagiarism; and
  - e. Have not been awarded a fail in two or more courses in the program for which consideration for a medal is given.

### Nomination

2. The Division of Student Administration or honours convenors nominate candidates for the consideration of the award of a university medal;
3. College education committees or an equivalent committee approved by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor recommend; the University medals committee endorses and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor approves the award of university medals;
4. In exceptional cases where two candidates from the same discipline or more than 3% of the bachelor honours or 3% of the masters graduating cohort from a college are endorsed for a university medal by the University medals committee, approval from a committee constituted by the two Deputy Vice-Chancellors and four E2/E3 distinguished professors is required.

### Determination of the Award of a university medal

5. The award of a university medal is determined on the basis of the holistic assessment of the academic track record of the candidate, which for bachelor honours candidates includes all courses taken as part of a double degree and any bachelor degree

studies at another university, and for masters students includes all courses taken as part of a double masters degree;

6. Grades obtained in the first 48 units for a bachelor honours degree will be excluded from the calculation of GPA where a case for serious and unavoidable disruption is approved by the chair of the College education committee;

7. In the case of candidates undertaking a discrete one year full time equivalent Honours program, 50% of weighting is given for the 48 units comprising the Honours program; and the remaining 50% is given for all other courses within the undergraduate program (144 or more units of credit);

8. Candidates undertaking integrated honours programs are evaluated using the same weighting as applied in the discipline awarding the honours degree;

9. All deliberations concerning the assessment of candidates for university medals are confidential.

#### **Communication of Outcomes**

10. Candidates will receive written notification of the award of a university medal;

11. Feedback from the committees considering nominations for university medals is not provided; and

12. The decision of the committees considering nominations for university medals is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

#### **Monitoring University Medal Outcomes**

13. The University Medal Committee provides an annual report to Academic Board on the medals awarded in the previous year, including the distribution by gender and by College.