Doctor of Medicine (MD)
School Leaver Pathways
The Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences has replaced the MBBS with the Doctor of Medicine (MD) which had its first intake in 2014 and will graduate doctors from 2018 onwards.

The new MD curriculum will provide a number of benefits for students and patients:

- An advanced and efficient learning environment at postgraduate level with increased use of innovative teaching and information technologies.
- Improved integration of scientific, clinical, professional and societal health issues.
- Contextualised and case-centred curriculum to improve relevancy and retention of learning.
- Graduates who are prepared and equipped for internship with appropriate knowledge, skills, and professional attributes.

We envisage continuing our tradition of graduating excellent junior doctors, with a broad educational base including well-developed scientific and clinical knowledge, skills in professional practice, and a strong appreciation of societal and individual health issues.

Through curriculum reform at The University of Western Australia, our graduate-entry professional degree course will be consistent with other leading universities across the world.

The Faculty welcomed our inaugural intake of students to the MD course in 2014 and hopes that the following information will assist you in making your decision about your future studies at UWA.

Professor Geoff Riley
Acting Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences
Doctor of Medicine (MD)

The world is changing rapidly, and so are leading universities. At UWA, we want to make sure that our graduates continue to be well prepared to contribute to society as it undergoes further transformation.

Studying medicine at postgraduate level will allow our graduates to develop exceptional communication and research skills, in addition to critical thinking skills and a level of maturity that will distinguish them as global citizens.

As part of our significant curriculum reform, the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) program has been replaced by the postgraduate qualification, Doctor of Medicine (MD).

The Changes
All applicants wishing to study medicine at UWA will have to complete an Australian undergraduate bachelor degree or equivalent before entering the postgraduate medical qualification. On completion of the MD, graduates will have both an undergraduate and a postgraduate degree ensuring they have a well-rounded education as well as the specialist skills needed in their professional career.

The MD
The MD commenced in 2014 and will provide doctors from 2018.

Number of places available
There are 209 places for domestic applicants and 30 places for international applicants in the MD. Approximately half of these places will be available for School Leaver Pathways and half for Graduate entry. Pathways and quotas will form part of these places.

Pathways
Applicants can apply as a school leaver for one of the school leaver pathways:
- Assured Pathway (High Academic Achievement)
- Choose Medicine Broadway Pathway
- Choose Medicine Rural Pathway or as a graduate through one of the Graduate Pathways.

An applicant is deemed ineligible for a school leaver pathway if they have commenced tertiary studies and have results for those studies, prior to their commencement at UWA. Applicants offered a place in one of the School Leaver Pathways will have to complete their undergraduate degree at UWA.

There will be a number of places available for Indigenous and Rural applicants applying for the Graduate Pathway. For more information contact the Faculty Admissions Office.

Indigenous applicants
The Faculty encourages Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to consider applying for entry into Medicine. In addition to the School Leaver Pathways and the Graduate Pathways there are alternative pathways available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants. These are available through the Centre for Aboriginal Medical and Dental Health (CAMDH) at camdh.uwa.edu.au

Prerequisites
All applicants must meet the University’s requirement for English language competence (ELC). One way that applicants can meet this requirement is by obtaining a scaled mark of 50 or above, in stage 2 or stage 3 of WACE English, English Literature or English as an Additional Language/Dialect. See studyat.uwa.edu.au/els for details.

Applicants should check what the prerequisites are for the undergraduate degree they wish to study first.

Application Process
School Leaver Applicants for the School Leaver Pathways should apply through TISC by the last working day in September.

Graduate applicants for direct entry into the MD should contact the Faculty Admissions Office for further information.

Length of study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
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<th>Year 7</th>
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<tr>
<td>UNDERGRADUATE: Bachelor degree</td>
<td>POSTGRADUATE: Doctor of Medicine (MD)</td>
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Notes:
- Bachelor degree in any discipline.
- First intake 2014.
- Graduates of the BPhil(Hons) will study for a total of 8 years.
Assured Pathway – High Academic Achievement

The Faculty understands the importance of recognising the achievement of students with a high Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR). Packaged offers of a place are available to applicants who are successful in obtaining a place in the Assured Pathway (High Academic Achievement). There will be conditions attached to these places.

Admission requirements

- Valid UMAT score
- Minimum ATAR of 99
- Interview

Applicants will be short-listed for interview based on UMAT performance and their predicted ATAR.

Final ranking for a place in the Assured Pathway will be based on UMAT, ATAR and Interview.

Conditions applying to packaged offers

1. Students will complete one of the following undergraduate degrees from UWA:
   - Bachelor of Arts (BA)
   - Bachelor of Commerce (BCom)
   - Bachelor of Design (BDes)
   - Bachelor of Science (BSc)
   - Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) (BPhil(Hons))

   All bachelor degrees are of three years duration except for the BPhil(Hons) which is a four year degree. For more information on the undergraduate degrees visit studyat.uwa.edu.au

2. With a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 5.5 in the UWA bachelor degree (approximately a weighted average of 65%).

   Having met this condition students on this pathway will automatically proceed into the Doctor of Medicine (MD).

Number of places available

There are approximately 40 places available for the Assured Pathway (High Academic Achievement).

Recommended subjects

It is recommended that applicants have basic knowledge of biology/human biology, chemistry and physics; therefore it may be useful for applicants to consider this when selecting units (Year 12 physics, first year university level biology/human biology and chemistry).

Selection process

Applicants will be short listed for interview based on UMAT performance and their predicted ATAR.

UMAT

Please see information regarding UMAT on page 6 of this brochure.
Choose Medicine Broadway Pathway

The Faculty acknowledges the importance of having students from diverse backgrounds. Packaged offers of a place are available for school leavers who are successful in obtaining a place in the Broadway Pathway. There will be conditions attached to these places.

Eligibility

Broadway eligibility
An applicant is eligible for consideration as a Broadway applicant if they have completed Year 12 at one of the schools listed as one of the Broadway UWA schools. For information on the schools refer to meddent.uwa.edu.au/courses/postgraduate/apply-professional/broadway

Applicants should refer to the Faculty Admissions website for supplementary forms regarding Broadway eligibility.

Admission requirements

- Broadway eligibility
- Valid UMAT score
- Minimum ATAR of 96
- Interview

Conditions applying to packaged offers

1
Students will complete one of the following undergraduate degrees from UWA:
- Bachelor of Arts [BA]
- Bachelor of Commerce [BCom]
- Bachelor of Design [BDes]
- Bachelor of Science [BSc]
- Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) [BPhil(Hons)]

All bachelor degrees are of three years duration except for the BPhil(Hons) which is a four year degree. For more information on the undergraduate degrees visit studyat.uwa.edu.au

2
With a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 5.5 in the UWA bachelor degree (approximately a weighted average of 65%).

Having met this condition students on this pathway will automatically proceed into the Doctor of Medicine (MD).

Number of places available
There are approximately twenty places available for applicants who meet the Broadway Pathway eligibility criteria. For more information contact the Faculty Admissions Office.

Recommended subjects
It is recommended that applicants have basic knowledge of biology/human biology, chemistry and physics; therefore it may be useful for applicants to consider this when selecting units (Year 12 physics, first year university level biology/human biology and chemistry).

Selection Process
Applicants will be short-listed for interview based on UMAT performance and their predicted ATAR.

UMAT
Please see information regarding UMAT on page 6 of this brochure.
Choose Medicine
Rural Pathway

The Faculty acknowledges the importance of having students from diverse backgrounds including those from a rural background. Packaged offers of a place are available for school leavers who are successful in obtaining a place in the Rural Pathway. There will be conditions attached to these places.

Eligibility
An applicant is eligible for consideration as a rural applicant if their principal home address has been in a defined rural area of Australia (ASGC-RA 2-5) for a minimum of 5 years (consecutive or cumulative) from commencement of primary school. Please refer to [www.doctorconnect.gov.au/internet/otd/publishing.nsf/contentlocator](http://www.doctorconnect.gov.au/internet/otd/publishing.nsf/contentlocator) to determine your Australian Standard Geographical Classification – Remoteness Area (ASGC-RA).

Applicants should refer to the Faculty Admissions website for supplementary forms regarding rural eligibility.

Admission requirements
» Rural eligibility
» Valid UMAT score
» Minimum ATAR of 96
» Interview

Selection process
Applicants will be short listed for interview based on UMAT performance and their predicted ATAR.

Conditions applying to packaged offers
1. Students will complete one of the following undergraduate degrees from UWA:
   » Bachelor of Arts [BA]
   » Bachelor of Commerce [BCom]
   » Bachelor of Design [BDes]
   » Bachelor of Science [BSc]
   » Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) [BPhil(Hons)]

All bachelor degrees are of three years duration except for the BPhil(Hons) which is a four year degree.

For more information on the undergraduate degrees visit [studyatuwa.edu.au](http://studyatuwa.edu.au)

2. With a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 5.5 in the UWA bachelor degree (approximately a weighted average of 65%).

Having met this condition students on this pathway will automatically proceed into the Doctor of Medicine (MD).

Number of places available
There are approximately thirty places available for applicants from rural areas. For more information contact the Faculty Admissions Office.

Application process
School Leaver Applicants for the School Leaver Pathways should apply through TISC by the last working day in September.

Recommended subjects
It is recommended that applicants have basic knowledge of biology/human biology, chemistry and physics; therefore it may be useful for applicants to consider this when selecting units (Year 12 physics, first year university level biology/human biology and chemistry).

UMAT
Please see information regarding UMAT on page 6 of this brochure.
Graduate Pathways

The Graduate Pathways are for those applicants who have already completed a bachelor degree or for those who will complete their bachelor degree in the application year. There are no restrictions placed on the length of time since the bachelor degree was completed.

Pathways
- Choose Medicine Rural Pathway
- Indigenous Pathway
- Standard Pathway

Initial Degree Selection
As there are no specific subject prerequisites for entry to the MD, an applicant’s undergraduate degree can be in any chosen field of study. However all applicants must meet the university’s English language requirement.

There are some issues worth considering when deciding upon a degree with the ultimate goal of studying medicine. The four most relevant considerations for most applicants are as follows:

Length of degree
Regardless of an applicant’s undergraduate study, the length of the MD will be four years. A student with a three year bachelor degree will study for a total period of seven years to obtain a qualification in medicine. A student with a bachelor degree of four or five years’ duration will study for a total of eight or nine years respectively (on the basis of proceeding straight from one degree to the other).

Degree and University
The Faculty Admissions Office considers all recognised Australian bachelor degrees equally and does not give preference or apply scaling to any particular degree or university.

Relevance/usefulness of degree to studying medicine
It is recommended that applicants have basic knowledge of biology/human biology, chemistry and physics; therefore it may be useful to consider this when selecting units (Year 12 physics, first year university level biology/human biology and chemistry).

Relevance/usefulness of degree for a career other than medicine
It is also important for applicants to consider the ramifications of their undergraduate degree choice in case they are not successful in gaining a place in medicine.

Admission requirements
- Australian Bachelor degree or equivalent with minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 5.5 (weighted average of approx 65% at an Australian university)
- Suitable GAMSAT score
- Interview

Application process
Applications are handled through the Graduate Entry Medical School Admissions System (GEMSAS).

Selection Process
- Applicants will be short-listed for interview based equally on GAMSAT performance and GPA
- Final ranking for a place for non-rural applicants will be based equally on GAMSAT, GPA and Interview.
- For rural applicants, a rural rating will be included in the ranking. Rural applicants will be ranked for a place based equally on GAMSAT, GPA, Interview and Rural rating.

The Graduate Australian Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT) is held once a year in March and registration for the test usually opens in the preceding October and closes in late January/early February of the application year. GAMSAT scores are valid for two years; therefore if an applicant sits the test two years in a row, they can choose which score to use. Applicants can sit the test from their penultimate year (second last year) of bachelor study. The GAMSAT has three sections: Reasoning in Humanities and Social Sciences, Written Communication and Reasoning in Biological and Physical Sciences. The third section is double weighted in the overall score and tests biology and chemistry to about first year university level and physics to about Australian year 12 level. For further information on the GAMSAT please see gamsat.acer.edu.au.
**General information**

**Applying for school leaver pathways**
- Applicants apply through TISC.
- Applicants should use their own email address that they can access from home (this is also clearly stated in the TISC guide). School email addresses should not be used.
- Applicants should put their own mobile number on the TISC application and not that of a family member. Admissions staff can only discuss an application with the applicant and not with family members or friends.
- If contact details change it is important to update TISC and the Faculty Admissions Office straight away as the University uses the contact details on TISC to communicate with applicants.
- There will be no bonded places available for school leaver applicants applying for the Assured Pathway (High Academic Achievement).
- School leaver applicants applying for the Broadway and Rural Pathways are strongly recommended to put a bonded place as a second preference (unbonded should be the higher preference) as this preference can be removed at any time but cannot be added after the last working day of September.

**The Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admissions Test (UMAT)**

All applicants applying for a school leaver pathway must sit the UMAT. Anyone who has not sat the UMAT will not be considered.

UMAT is approximately a three hour multiple choice test designed to measure skills and qualities necessary for success as a doctor that might not necessarily be reflected in purely academic tests. It tests three criteria: Logical Reasoning and Problem Solving, Understanding People and Non-verbal Reasoning.

The Faculty does not consider percentiles or the overall UMAT score. Instead the sum of the three section scores is used. All three sections of the test are weighted equally. Applicants with a section 1 score below the 20th percentile will not be considered.

A UMAT score is only valid for one year.

UWA is a member of the UMAT consortium and therefore does NOT endorse any UMAT preparation courses, even if a preparation course is held on the UWA campus. We strongly recommend candidates use the UMAT practice question booklets and undertake the tutorials on the UMAT website.

**Interviews**
- Interviews for the School Leaver Pathways are held in December for applicants who have met the UMAT threshold and have been predicted to meet the required minimum ATAR.
- Interviews for the School Leaver Pathways for applicants who are on academic reserve (have met the UMAT threshold, but were not predicted to meet the minimum ATAR requirement) will be held in January.
- Interviews for successful interstate applicants will also be held in January.
- Unless there are extenuating circumstances a January interview will not be available for applicants offered a December interview.
- Check with the Faculty for the actual interview dates well in advance if intending to travel during this time period.
- Interview invites are sent out via email and it is the applicants’ responsibility to check their emails for interview invites and follow the interview booking instructions.
- Interviews will not be granted outside of the published interview range.
- Applicants must attend their interview in person, in Perth within the given interview period.

**TISC codes**

**Assured Pathway (High Academic Achievement)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TISC Codes</th>
<th>UWMED (for non-bonded MD via BA, BCom, BDes, BSc)</th>
<th>UWPHM (for non-bonded MD via BPhil)</th>
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**Rural and Broadway Pathways TISC Codes**

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>UWPHM (for non-bonded MD via BPhil)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UWBMF (for bonded MD via BA, BCom, BDes, BSc)</td>
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<tr>
<td>UWPHB (for bonded MD via BPhil)</td>
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</table>
Purpose of the interview
The interview process allows the applicant the opportunity to provide additional information to that already provided during other stages of the selection process. The interview is one of three components used to rank applicants – the others being the UMAT score and academic achievement. The interview can help to improve an applicant’s overall ranking.

The purpose of the interview is to encourage an applicant to share information about themselves and their views, on a selection of topics that fall within the wide range of attributes that are often seen as desirable in medical practitioners.

The interview
The interview is structured and therefore there is no opportunity for applicants to talk about their achievements and skills outside the scope of the actual questions asked; i.e. there are no generic questions at the end that enable applicants to list their accomplishments and so on.

The questions are read out as they are written down, so that every applicant is asked the same question in exactly the same way.

There are no trick questions and no one right answer. The questions are designed to encourage interviewees to think and to explain their reasoning. The questions can be scenario based, awareness based, or experientially based, but the assessment is evidence based, – that is interviewers can only rate interviewees on what they say.

This is why it is important for the interviewers to take notes and for the interviewees to give more than one sentence answers.

Length of interview
Applicants are asked to arrive an hour before the interview time. This is for registration (including the signing of a confidentiality agreement) and for pre-reading. The interview itself usually lasts up to 45 minutes.

Attire
The Faculty Admissions Team works to ensure that each component of the selection process is fair to all applicants. Applicants should not wear any uniform, accessories or badges, which identify membership of a particular organisation. This is to avoid the perception that bias has entered the selection process.

Applicants must dress appropriately for their interview i.e. as if attending a professional job interview. This is preparation for being a future health professional. Applicants should be smart, comfortable, but not too casual and to have layers in case they become too warm or cold.

For example, knee length skirt or dress, smart office pants, collared shirt (but tie is not necessary).

No short skirts or dresses, low cut tops, jeans, shorts, thongs or sandals should be worn

Admissions staff have the right to turn away an applicant who is not dressed appropriately and they could miss out on another interview time slot.

Applicants can contact the Faculty Admissions staff if they have concerns.

What to bring
Applicants are asked to bring along (embedded) photographic ID – this can be a passport or driver’s licence or school card.

Interview topics
There are seven criteria assessed each year. The list of possible criteria for the interview has been consolidated into nine topics, three of which will be constant across the years:

- Communication skills
- Explaining skills
- Motivation/commitment to a career in medicine

The remaining four criteria will be selected each year from the following six:

- Awareness of social diversity
- Provision of assistance
- Self-awareness
- Trust and trustworthiness
- Values and ethics
- Working with others
Interview notification
Applicants are notified a week to two weeks prior to the interview by email. It is therefore imperative to provide an email address that can be accessed at all times and to inform the Faculty Admissions Office of any change to an email address and to change it on TISC.

Applicants will be sent further information about the interview upon accepting the interview. This information is general information about preparing for the interview and also contains the topics that will be covered in the interview for that year.

Interview preparation
The best preparation is, having received the interview topics, to research them and practice one-to-one interview situations.

It is not recommended that applicants seek coaching regarding the possible questions that have been used in previous years, or that they attend the various medical and dental interview preparation courses. Each year, after the completion of the interview process, all criteria and questions are evaluated and all questions are rewritten for the following round. Studies have shown that receiving specific “training” for the interview is counter-productive. “Trained” versus “natural” responses may conflict with each other, which may lessen an applicant’s overall performance.

Rankings
The Assured Pathway (High Academic Achievement) and Broadway Pathway applicants will be ranked using their achieved academic score, interview score and UMAT score. These are weighted 40:40:20 for the Academic, Interview and UMAT respectively.

Rural applicants will be ranked using ATAR, UMAT, Interview and Rurality score in the ratio 30:15:30:25 respectively.

Bonded Places
- In accordance with the Department of Health and Ageing, 25% of all Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP) in medicine have been designated as Bonded Medical Places (BMP).
- There are no financial incentives provided in the BMP scheme.
- Applicants are encouraged to visit health.gov.au/bmpscheme to thoroughly research the BMP scheme.
- Having a bonded place requires applicants to work in a “district of workforce shortage” for a specified period of time after completion of their medical degree and specialist training.
- The length of the term of service is equal to the length of the medical course, less any credit achieved through scaling.
- “Districts of workforce shortage” are areas experiencing doctor shortages and currently include a variety of regional, rural, remote and outer metropolitan areas.
- No bonded medical places will be available for applicants of the Assured Pathway (High Academic Achievement).
- Applicants for the Choose Medicine Broadway and Choose Medicine Rural Pathways are recommended to put bonded as the second preference and unbonded as the first preference on their TISC application.

Transfers
Having commenced studies on one of the School Leaver Pathways for the Doctor of Medicine (MD), a student cannot transfer into the Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) and vice versa at any stage of their studies (i.e. during the undergraduate degree at UWA or during the postgraduate degree at UWA).

Instead applicants would need to lodge a fresh application as a graduate and apply competitively with all other graduate applicants for first year entry of the professional course. Selection criteria will apply.