



THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME AUSTRALIA

Program Code: 5142

CRICOS Code: 095688K

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

Doctor of Medicine

MD

Responsible Owner: National Head of School, School of Medicine
Responsible Office: Faculty of Medicine, Nursing, Midwifery and Health Sciences
Contact Officer: National Manager, Enrolments, Fees & Student Administration
Effective Date: 1 January 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME
A U S T R A L I A

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2 AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these requirements will be made in accordance with the General Regulations.

Version	Date Amended	Amendment Details	Approved by
1	January 2017	New Course Regulations	Dean
2	December 2018	Regulations transferred to new template	Dean
3	January 2021	Program description added	PCAC EO
4	January 2023	Amended minimum candidature periods Amended from regulations to requirements	RDSC
5	April 2023	Updated Specific Entry Requirements	Academic Council
6	December 2023	Amendment to 4.4. Duration & 4.7 Professional Accreditation	NHOS

3 PURPOSE

These Program Requirements set out the approved requirements for the Doctor of Medicine Award at the University of Notre Dame Australia, School of Medicine, Sydney and apply to all students enrolled in that program.

These Requirements should be read in conjunction with the University's General Regulations and the Regulations of the Schools of Medicine.

4 OVERVIEW

4.1 Campus Availability

The Requirements for the Doctor of Medicine are applicable to the Sydney Campus only.

4.2 Student Availability

The Doctor of Medicine is available for enrolment to domestic Students and international Students with a student visa.

4.3 Australian Qualifications Framework

The Doctor of Medicine Award is a Level 9 Masters Degree (Extended) AQF qualification.

4.4 Duration

(a) The Volume of Learning for the Doctor of Medicine is four years of equivalent full-time study.

(b) A student is not able to enrol in the Award on a part-time basis.

(c) An accelerated option to complete the program is not available.

4.5 Maximum Duration

The maximum period of time within which a student is permitted to complete the Doctor of Medicine Award is 6 years (including any periods of approved leave of absence) from the date on which they were first enrolled into the program by the University.

4.6 Study Mode

The Doctor of Medicine is offered in Internal Study mode.

4.7 Professional Accreditation

The Doctor of Medicine is accredited by the Australian Medical Council and is an approved program of study for general registration with the Medical Board of Australia.

5 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5.1 University Admission Requirements

To be eligible for admission to The University of Notre Dame Australia, all applicants must meet the [University's minimum requirements for admission](#). The requirements for admission are detailed in the University's Policy: *Admissions*.

5.2 Academic Requirements

This Award is a four-year graduate entry program.

Applicants must have completed a minimum of a Bachelor's Award (recognised by the Australian Qualifications Framework or the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition Guide) within the last 10 years or be in the final years of a Bachelor's Award in any discipline.

Applicants whose undergraduate degree was completed outside the ten- year period may still be considered for admission if within ten years of the application closing date they have successfully

completed the equivalent of one year's full time tertiary studies at a recognised Bachelor level or higher.

5.3 Specific Program Requirements for Admission

5.3.1 General Pathway entry: To be eligible for admission to the general pathway applicants must meet the above academic requirements in addition to criteria that will be advertised annually by the University and typically require students to meet a prescribed minimum GPA, a minimum GAMSAT score, CASPER testing and an interview.

5.3.2 Assured Pathway entry: Where students receive admission via an assured pathway, a place in the Doctor of Medicine (Sydney) is conditional on the successful completion of the University's Bachelor of Biomedical Science or Bachelor of Advanced Biomedical Science (Honours), meeting a prescribed minimum GPA. Refer to Bachelor of Biomedical Science and Bachelor of Advanced Biomedical Science (Hons) Program Requirements sections 5.2 and 7.7 for details.

5.3.3 Priority Pathway entry: Priority pathway requirement specifics for students who have successfully completed the Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences program at the University of Notre Dame Australia (entry to completion). Criteria will be advertised annually by the University, and typically require students to meet a prescribed minimum requirement GPA, a minimum GAMSAT score, Casper (online situational judgement test) testing, and an interview.

5.3.4 Alternate Pathway entry: An alternative pathway for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants is in place.

6 PRACTICUM OR INTERNSHIP REQUIREMENTS

6.1 Attendance

Students are to complete all clinical placements including after-hours work and attend all rural experiences.

6.2 Special Requirements

- (a) Students are to acknowledge and comply with the School of Medicine, Sydney Fitness to Practice Policy.
- (b) A student must disclose to the National Head of School any criminal conviction, physical or mental health issue that has the potential to impact upon the student's capacity to undertake a clinical placement, to complete that placement, or to complete it at the assigned agency. Failure to disclose may result in cancellation of enrolment or disciplinary action being taken against the student.
- (c) Upon receipt of such information, the National Head of School will determine what (if any) steps need to be taken to appropriately balance the rights, interests, and obligations of all affected parties, including (but not limited to) the student concerned, the University and the agency.
- (d) The National Head of School will notify the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency where required to do so by law.

7 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

7.1 Program Description

The Doctor of Medicine (MD) course at the School of Medicine, Sydney, is a four-year graduate entry primary medical degree, open to students from a wide range of undergraduate degrees.

Accredited by the Medical Board of Australia, graduates are eligible for provisional registration as medical practitioners. Graduates are guaranteed intern (junior doctor) positions in NSW and/ or Victoria and can apply for such positions throughout Australia.

The first and second years of the program provide the foundations of knowledge and clinical practice for a medical vocation. The third and fourth years of the program are clinical apprenticeship years comprising a series of clinical placements in the Sydney, Melbourne, and Rural Clinical Schools.

Over the course, students will complete a research-based or professionally focused project to extend and apply their knowledge and skills.

7.2 Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the Doctor of Medicine graduates will be able to:

Clinical Practice: the medical graduate as practitioner

- 1 Listen and respond effectively and acceptably to patients, their family/carers, doctors, and other health professionals.
- 2 Elicit, and record legibly, an accurate, organised and problem-focussed medical history, including family and social occupational and lifestyle features, from the patient, and other sources.
- 3 Perform a full and accurate physical examination, including a mental state examination, or an organ/system/problem-focussed examination, as indicated, and record the findings legibly and unambiguously.
- 4 Integrate and interpret findings from the history and examination, to arrive at an initial assessment including relevant differential diagnoses.
- 5 Discriminate between possible differential diagnoses, justify the decisions taken, and evaluate their outcomes.
- 6 Select and justify common investigations, with regard to the pathological basis of disease, utility, safety and cost effectiveness.
- 7 Interpret the results and confirm or modify clinical decisions and actions appropriately.
- 8 Select, justify, and perform safely a defined range of procedures.
- 9 Make clinical judgments and decisions based on the available evidence.
- 10 Alone or in conjunction with colleagues, according to level of training and experience, identify and justify relevant management options.
- 11 Elicit patients' questions and their views, concerns, and preferences, promote rapport, and ensure patients' full understanding of their problem(s).
- 12 Involve patients in decision-making and planning their treatment, including communicating risks and benefits of management options.
- 13 Provide information to patients, and family/carers where relevant, (and confirm their understanding) to enable them to make a fully informed choice among various diagnostic, therapeutic and management options.
- 14 Undertake clinical practice which integrates prevention, early detection, health maintenance and chronic disease management wherever relevant.
- 15 Prescribe medications safely, effectively, and economically, based on objective evidence.
- 16 Safely administer other therapeutic agents including fluid, electrolytes, blood products and selected inhalational agents.
- 17 Recognise and assess deteriorating and critically unwell patients who require immediate care and initiate that care.
- 18 Perform common emergency and life support procedures safely, including caring for the unconscious patient and performing CPR to an accepted standard.
- 19 Care compassionately for patients at the end of life, avoiding unnecessary investigations or treatment, and ensuring physical comfort including pain relief, psychosocial support, and other components of palliative care.
- 20 Undertake care which places the safety of patients and their needs at its centre.
- 21 Practise safety skills including infection control, graded assertiveness, adverse event reporting and effective clinical handover.

22 Retrieve, interpret and record information accurately and effectively in health data systems, and in conducting and reporting research (both paper and electronic).

Professionalism and Leadership: the medical graduate as a professional and a leader

- 1 Provide care to all patients according to the guidelines: "Good Medical Practice: A Code of Conduct for Doctors in Australia".
- 2 Behave in ways which demonstrate professional values including commitment to high quality clinical standards, compassion, empathy, and respect for all patients.
- 3 Show integrity, honesty, leadership, initiative, professionalism and partnership to patients, the profession and society.
- 4 Conduct clinical practice according to the principles of ethical practice.
- 5 Communicate effectively about ethical issues with patients, family, and other healthcare professionals.
- 6 Identify the risks posed to patients by the graduate's own health.
- 7 Mitigate the health risks of professional practice by taking effective action on factors that affect the graduate's own personal health and wellbeing, including fatigue, stress management and infection control.
- 8 Recognise their own health needs, and when to consult and follow the advice of a health professional.
- 9 Practise in ways that demonstrate respect for the boundaries that define professional and therapeutic relationships.
- 10 Identify and act appropriately on the options available when personal values or beliefs may influence patient care, including the obligation to refer to another practitioner.
- 11 Respect the roles and expertise of other healthcare professionals.
- 12 Learn and work effectively as a member of a multi-professional team.
- 13 Self-evaluate their own professional practice through reflection and demonstrate lifelong learning behaviours.
- 14 Demonstrate fundamental skills in educating colleagues.
- 15 Recognise the limits of their own expertise and involve other professionals as needed to contribute to patient care.
- 16 Fulfil the fundamental legal responsibilities of health professionals, especially those relating to ability to complete relevant certificates and documents, informed consent, duty of care to patients and colleagues, privacy, confidentiality, mandatory reporting, and notification.
- 17 Act ethically and openly where there may be financial and / or other conflicts of interest.
- 18 Understand the specific issues associated with ethical practice associated with research, in particular with vulnerable and/or specific groups or minorities.
- 19 Conduct a research and/ or professionally focused project according to established ethical principles and justify those principles.

Science and Scholarship: the medical graduate as scientist and scholar

- 1 Justify clinical decisions and actions by reference to established and evolving biological, clinical, epidemiological, social, and behavioural sciences.
- 2 Justify decisions and actions in respect of individual patients, populations, and health systems by reference to core medical and scientific knowledge.
- 3 Make diagnostic and management decisions based on accurate knowledge of the aetiology, pathology, clinical features, natural history, and prognosis of common and important presentations at all stages of life.
- 4 Access, critically appraise, interpret, and apply evidence from the medical and scientific literature to clinical decisions and actions, and in the practice of research.

- 5 Formulate relevant research questions and select appropriate study designs based on knowledge of common scientific methods.
- 6 Undertake evidence-based practice and the generation of new scientific knowledge, striving to achieve a level of excellence.
- 7 Summarise, document, report and reflect on the progress of a project in a team setting.
- 8 Conduct a research and/ or professionally focused project under supervision with a degree of independence that shows self-reliance, the exercise of project planning skills, judgment, and flexibility.

Health and Society: the medical graduate as a health advocate

- 1 Protect and improve the health and wellbeing of individuals, communities, and populations.
- 2 Act on, and explain how issues such as health inequalities, diversity of cultural, spiritual and community values, and socio-economic and physical environment factors, influence the health, illness, disease, and success of treatment of populations.
- 3 Communicate effectively in wider roles including leadership, advocacy, teaching, assessing, appraising and research
- 4 Act in ways which acknowledge the factors that contribute to the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including history, spirituality and relationship to land, diversity of cultures and communities, epidemiology, social and political determinants of health and health experiences.
- 5 Communicate effectively and in a culturally competent fashion with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- 6 Explain and justify common population health screening and prevention approaches, and the use of technology for surveillance and monitoring the health status of populations.
- 7 Advocate for healthy lifestyle choices, based on explanations of environmental and lifestyle health risks.
- 8 Implement a systems approach to improving the quality and safety of health care.
- 9 Critically appraise the extent to which individual, community and national health needs are met by the existing roles and relationships between health agencies and services.
- 10 Evaluate the extent to which the principles of efficient, equitable and sustainable allocation of finite resources are applied in meeting individual, community, and national health needs.
- 11 Understand the organisation of the national systems of health care, including the Aboriginal community-controlled health sector, in order to be an effective professional.
- 12 Advocate for equitable health care for all Australians, and in particular for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- 13 Explain how global health issues and determinants of health and disease impact on health care delivery in other countries, and in particular in Australia and the broader Western Pacific Region.

7.3 Required Courses

To be eligible for the award of the Doctor of Medicine students must complete 800 Units of Credit comprising the courses listed in Appendix A.

Students are required to undertake studies in bioethics (Core Curriculum) in order to be eligible to graduate. These studies are offered to students as part of the Doctor of Medicine within the first year of the program.

7.4 Elective Courses

There are no elective courses in the Doctor of Medicine

7.5 Course substitutions

There are no approved course substitutions permitted in this Award.

8 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of these Requirements, the following definitions are available in the General Regulations.

- Leave of Absence
- Major
- Units of Credit
- Pre-requisite Course
- Minor
- Elective
- Co-requisite Course
- Specialisation
- General Elective

APPENDIX A: Doctor of Medicine, School of Medicine, Sydney Campus

YEAR ONE		
Course Code	Course Title	Units of Credit
MEDI6001	Foundations of a Medical Vocation	200
Total Units of Credit Year One		200

YEAR TWO		
Course Code	Course Title	Units of Credit
MEDI6002	Foundations for Clinical Practice	200
Total Units of Credit Year Two		200

YEAR THREE		
Course Code	Course Title	Units of Credit
MEDI6003	Apprenticeship in Clinical Practice	200
Total Units of Credit		200

YEAR FOUR		
Course Code	Course Title	Units of Credit
MEDI6004	Preparation for Internship	200
MEDI6005	Applied Research Project	0
Total Units of Credit		200
TOTAL PROGRAM UNITS		800

APPENDIX B: LIST OF PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES

COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	PRE-REQUISITE	CO-REQUISITE
MEDI6001	Foundations of a Medical Vocation	Nil	N/A
MEDI6002	Foundations for Clinical Practice	MEDI6001 Foundations of a Medical Vocation	N/A
MEDI6003	Apprenticeship in Clinical Practice	MEDI6001 Foundations of a Medical Vocation MEDI6002: Foundations for Clinical Practice	N/A
MEDI6004	Preparation for Internship	MEDI6001 Foundations of a Medical Vocation MEDI6002: Foundations for Clinical Practice MEDI6003 Apprenticeship in Clinical Practice	MEDI6005 Applied Research Project
MEDI6005	Applied Research Project	MEDI6001 Foundations of a Medical Vocation MEDI6002: Foundations for Clinical Practice MEDI6003 Apprenticeship in Clinical Practice	