

# Medicine



# Your first step to a long and rewarding career

Set yourself up for a career advancing the health and wellbeing of the community, equipped with excellent skills in person-centred health care. Deakin Medical School fosters a culture of inclusiveness, respect and social accountability, with a focus on rural and Indigenous health care.

## Acknowledgement of Country

Deakin University acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of all the unceded lands, skies and waterways on which Deakin students, staff and communities come together. As we learn and teach through virtually and physically constructed places across time, we pay our deep respect to the Ancestors and Elders of Wadawurrung Country, Eastern Maar Country and Wurundjeri Country, where our physical campuses are located. We also acknowledge the many First Nations from where students join us online and make vital contributions to our learning communities.

# Your future in medicine

## Professional accreditation

The Doctor of Medicine is accredited with the Australian Medical Council. Graduates of the Doctor of Medicine are granted provisional registration as a Medical Practitioner in Australia and New Zealand, and are eligible to undertake paid work as an intern to become eligible for full registration. Domestic graduates are guaranteed an internship position in Victoria.

## Work in rural and metropolitan settings

There is currently a medical workforce shortage throughout Australia, particularly in rural, regional and outer metropolitan locations. To help address this, our course has a rural and regional focus. All of our students complete part of their clinical practice in a rural setting, developing networks in regional areas and becoming familiar with the way medicine is practised in the country, along with a better understanding of the social and community aspects of good medical care.

## Get hands-on experience in the real world

Clinically contextualised learning is a key theme of medicine at Deakin. This means that while you're at university, you'll solve the kinds of problems that you'll encounter when you're working as a doctor.

Our course also includes placements in a range of medical environments, from hospitals and general practices to community healthcare settings in rural south-west Victoria. You'll progressively learn the skills to practise independently in a safe and supported environment, working alongside practising clinicians in differing healthcare contexts.

## Skills to get you a job

At Deakin, every course is shaped by industry experts, ensuring you'll graduate with real-world expertise and practical skills – giving you a competitive edge in the workplace. Secure your future today at Victoria's #1 university for teaching quality<sup>1</sup> and overall educational experience.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 2021 Student Experience Survey, Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT).



## Doctor of Medicine

H911 **O**<sup>1</sup> **WP** **4** S1

Apply to the Doctor of Medicine and set yourself up for a range of rewarding careers, from general practice to pathology, paediatrics to surgery. The course has a unique focus on rural and regional medicine, Indigenous health and patient-centred communication skills.

Our students develop the foundational skills essential for any career in medicine and are also given the opportunity to experience healthcare in multiple specialist areas. Our Doctor of Medicine has an emphasis on rural and regional medicine and aims to satisfy the critical shortage of doctors in regional areas – making graduates highly employable.

Start your journey with two years focusing on the foundations of medicine, encompassing medical sciences, clinical capabilities, public health, medical ethics and law, and Indigenous health.

You'll learn to solve the kinds of problems that you'll face in your future career in a supportive environment, while developing your confidence in foundational clinical skills, clinical reasoning and the high-level human capabilities necessary for excellent person-centred care.

In third and fourth year, you'll be immersed in the clinical environment at clinical schools in Ballarat, Geelong, Melbourne, Warrnambool and/or the Rural Community Clinical School, where you will complete programs that span from general medicine and surgery to specialised programs. [deakin.edu.au/med-clinical-schools](https://deakin.edu.au/med-clinical-schools)

You will also spend time in third year following patients as they transition between hospital and community care, gaining a broader appreciation of the healthcare system and the patients' healthcare journeys.

Across third and fourth year, you'll complete the Research Scholar Program, gaining foundational skills in analysing evidence and designing research programs that are important for future careers in medicine.

You will be provided extensive opportunities for feedback on your progress, with a program of assessment and self-evaluation that occurs in the clinical workplace.

There is also the opportunity to complete a rotation of your third-year studies in the Northern Territory to gain a greater understanding of rural and remote medicine and Indigenous health.

The course concludes in year four with a pre-internship hospital rotation in which you'll experience the day-to-day life of an intern.

### Course themes

Our Doctor of Medicine has four major themes that underpin your study across the four years of the course. Your study experience will allow you to advance the health and wellbeing of communities in Australia and beyond.

#### Medical science and clinical practice –

The biological and behavioural sciences underpinning the practice of medicine, along with the skills required for effective person-centred healthcare practice.

**Public health medicine** – Healthcare from a community and societal perspective, encompassing epidemiology, population health, health systems and the ways in which healthcare practitioners can support better health outcomes at both an individual and global level.

#### Ethics, law and professionalism –

The foundational and applied concepts required for the ethical basis of health, the social and legal frameworks of medicine, and the professional practice of medicine.

**Indigenous health** – The physical, mental, social and cultural aspects of health, from an Indigenous perspective.

#### Rural Community Clinical School (RCCS)

Our Rural Community Clinical School gives some third-year students the opportunity to spend an entire year of study attached to a general practice with local hospital visiting rights in one of a number of regional centres in western Victoria. These students are able to develop strong community connections and to fully experience the benefits and challenges of regional medical practice. [deakin.edu.au/rccs](https://deakin.edu.au/rccs)

#### Professional recognition

The Doctor of Medicine is accredited with the Australian Medical Council (AMC). Graduates who successfully complete pre-registration training will qualify as Registered Medical Practitioners in Australia and New Zealand.

#### Careers

Doctor of Medicine graduates are highly sought after for internship positions with healthcare providers in Australia and abroad. Deakin's MD program allows you to develop a deep understanding of the challenges and nuances of rural medicine, putting you in a strong position to address the shortfall of doctors in regional areas.

[deakin.edu.au/course/H911](https://deakin.edu.au/course/H911)

<sup>1</sup> Please note that online delivery is only available to students in the Rural Training Stream, with compulsory face-to-face learning in years one and two at either Warrnambool Campus or the East Grampians Health Service in Ararat.







'The thing that stood out to me about Deakin was the interview process. I felt it was more personal than the other medical schools I had applied to, and that made a big difference to me. I just felt like I was valued much more by Deakin as opposed to being a cog in a machine.'

**Alex Patinkin**  
Doctor of Medicine graduate

## What is a bonded medical place?

The Australian Government's Bonded Medical Program provides students with a Commonwealth Supported Place in a medical course at an Australian university in return for a commitment to work in an area of workforce shortage for one to six years. Deakin's School of Medicine offers 35 bonded medical places.<sup>1</sup> Regions covered under the Bonded Medical Program are determined by the Department of Health.

<sup>1</sup> These numbers are indicative only and may be subject to change.

### Indigenous Entry Stream

Up to 5% of domestic places in our Doctor of Medicine course are held for Indigenous Australian applicants applying through the Indigenous Entry Stream. Indigenous Australian applicants can apply with an approved bachelor, honours, graduate certificate, graduate diploma or masters by coursework, and aren't required to complete the Graduate Australian Medical Schools Admission Test (GAMSAT; see page 4).

[deakin.edu.au/ies](https://deakin.edu.au/ies)

### Rural Training Stream

The Rural Training Stream (RTS) is part of the School of Medicine's commitment to address the workforce needs and advance the health and wellbeing of regional, rural, remote, Indigenous and marginalised individuals and communities.

Around 30 existing Doctor of Medicine places will be allocated to the stream, which will help redress the shortfall of doctors in rural areas by recruiting students living in a rural area and who are committed to undertaking their clinical training in a rural area.

Students who accept a position in the Doctor of Medicine through the Rural Training Stream make a commitment to undertake the first two years of their course at either our Warrnambool Campus or the East Grampians Health Service in Ararat. Years three and four of their course will then be conducted through one of our rural clinical schools.

[deakin.edu.au/rts](https://deakin.edu.au/rts)

## #1 Victorian university for course satisfaction

Year on year, Deakin's students have the highest course satisfaction rate of all Victorian universities.<sup>1</sup> We've ranked this highly for the past 13 years, with our students being particularly happy with our:

- teaching
- learning resources
- student support
- skills development
- learner engagement.

## Why you can confidently choose Deakin

Deakin's medicine program is among the best in the world at meeting industry demands and is well respected by employers. Deakin doctors are highly sought after for internship positions with healthcare providers in Australia and abroad.

In order to qualify as registered medical practitioners with the Australian Medical Council (AMC), our graduates are currently undertaking accredited internships at a number of Victorian and interstate hospitals.

Following successful completion of their intern year, graduates will be able to apply for entry to specialty training programs for a range of medical careers.

<sup>1</sup> Australian Graduate Survey 2010–2015, Graduate Outcomes Survey 2016–2022, Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT).

# Applying to Deakin

Admission to the Doctor of Medicine is determined by a combination of grade point average (GPA) in an approved undergraduate or postgraduate degree, Graduate Australian Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT) score, eligible adjustments (bonuses) and interview performance.

## ► Step 1

### Complete an approved bachelor or postgraduate degree with the weighted GPA of at least 5.0<sup>1</sup>

A completed undergraduate degree from an Australian university or a higher education institution recognised by the Australian Qualifications Framework, or a recognised degree listed in the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR) Guide.

Deakin also recognises postgraduate degrees for entry into the Doctor of Medicine, including higher coursework degrees, honours degrees, graduate certificates, graduate diplomas and masters by coursework degrees.

No preference is given to graduates with degrees from particular study areas. Deakin encourages individuals from diverse educational backgrounds, who will bring a variety of talents and interests to the profession.

Degrees must have been completed not more than 10 years before the course commencement date. Applicants whose undergraduate degree was completed outside the 10-year period will only be considered if, at the time of application, they've completed the equivalent of one half year (0.5 full-time equivalent) of tertiary study at honours or graduate diploma level or higher at an Australian tertiary institute. The institute must be recognised by the Australian Qualifications Framework (or equivalent overseas institution determined by Deakin). An exception to this requirement is the Tier 1 Rural Training Stream applicants.

A minimum weighted GPA of 5.0; the GPA score is based on academic grades during the final three full-time equivalent years of the most recent degree. Years are progressively weighted x1, x2 and x3, to give greater weight to the most recent results.

Deakin does not recognise two-year bachelor degrees or one-year conversion degrees for the purposes of admission to our medical course. However, accelerated degrees completed over two years are accepted.

If an applicant receives credit of greater than 1FTE from a program below an AQF level 7, the award is deemed as a conversion degree and will not be accepted. Any credit from an International Baccalaureate will not be accepted.

## ► Step 2

### Register and complete the GAMSAT

The minimum entry requirement is a minimum score of 50 in each of the three sections of the Graduate Australian Medical Schools Admission Test (GAMSAT), and an overall score of 50 or greater. The GAMSAT is not required if you are applying for our Indigenous Entry Stream or are a Tier 1 applicant for our Rural Training Stream. The GAMSAT is held twice a year in March and September and may be completed in your final year of an undergraduate or postgraduate degree. The score on the GAMSAT must have been obtained no more than four years before the course commencement date. Please refer to the GAMSAT website for details of testing dates: [gamsat.acer.org](https://gamsat.acer.org).

## ► Step 3

### Apply through GEMSAS

All applications for the Doctor of Medicine, including those through the Rural Training Stream, must be made via the Graduate Entry Medical School Admissions System (GEMSAS) [gemsas.edu.au](https://gemsas.edu.au). Applications open in early May and close at the end of May.

Note: all applications via the Indigenous Entry Stream should be directed to [som-selection@deakin.edu.au](mailto:som-selection@deakin.edu.au).

## ► Step 4

### Invitations to interviews are released

In early September, invitations to interview will be sent to up to 220 applicants, based on GAMSAT + GPA score (50:50) with additional weighting for adjustments (bonuses). For more information about adjustments, please visit [deakin.edu.au/course/doctor-medicine](https://deakin.edu.au/course/doctor-medicine).

## ► Step 5

### Interviews

Deakin Medical School uses the multiple-mini interview (MMI) process. Each applicant undergoes a series of five-minute interviews at up to 10 stations, using standardised questions and scoring procedures. The stations are designed to assess an applicant's attributes and address areas such as:

- communication skills
- commitment to rural and regional practice
- effective use of resources
- evidence-based practice
- health promotion
- motivation for a career in medicine
- professionalism
- social justice
- teamwork.

## ► Step 6

### Offers into medicine are released

In November, the School of Medicine will offer 89 Commonwealth Supported Places and 35 bonded medical places to successful applicants.<sup>2</sup>

- <sup>1</sup> Please note: as a minimum requirement, applicants must hold a completed bachelor degree (with a minimum weighted GPA of 5.0) or be in the final year of a bachelor degree (scheduled for completion by 31 December in the year of application) to be considered for selection.
- <sup>2</sup> These numbers are indicative only and may be subject to change.

## Adjustments

Information about the various adjustments (bonuses) that may apply to individuals applying for entry into the Doctor of Medicine can be found on the course page at [deakin.edu.au/course/doctor-medicine](https://deakin.edu.au/course/doctor-medicine).

# Applying to Deakin

## Indigenous Entry Stream

In partnership with the National Indigenous Knowledges, Education, Research and Innovation (NIKERI) Institute, the School of Medicine offers an Indigenous Entry Stream, with up to seven Commonwealth Supported Places available to Indigenous students. The GAMSAT is not required for applicants of this entry stream.

### Minimum entry requirements

- Completion (or in the final year) of an approved bachelor degree, honours degree, graduate certificate, graduate diploma or masters by coursework from an Australian higher education institution. Degrees must have been completed in the past 10 years.
- A minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 5.0 out of 7.0 (approximately 70% grade average).
- Applicants must demonstrate Indigenous background.
- Successful interview. The interview panel may request that some applicants complete a multiple-mini interview (MMI) and/or a written reflection as additional evidence of suitability.
- Applicants must complete an Indigenous Entry Stream application form and provide a resume with the application.

Applications via the Indigenous Entry Stream should be directed to [som-selection@deakin.edu.au](mailto:som-selection@deakin.edu.au).

Visit [deakin.edu.au/ies](https://deakin.edu.au/ies) for further information.

## Rural Training Stream

Eligibility for entry into the Rural Training Stream (RTS) requires:

- completion (or in the final year) of an approved bachelor degree, honours degree, graduate certificate, graduate diploma or masters by coursework from an Australian higher education institution. Degrees must have been completed in the past 10 years unless you are a Tier 1 RTS applicant.
- a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 5.0
- submission of a written application demonstrating rural community connection and commitment
- completion of the GAMSAT (see step 2 above), noting that the GAMSAT is not a requirement for Tier 1 RTS applicants
- Deakin uses the Australian Government's Modified Monash Model to define whether a location is a city, rural, remote or very remote. RTS applicants must demonstrate 10 years cumulative or five years consecutive residency in one of three rurality tiers:
  - Tier 1: Deakin's rural footprint, as defined by location in the geographic area defined below<sup>1</sup>
  - Tier 2: MM 2–7 in Rural Victoria
  - Tier 3: MM 2–7 in other areas of Rural Australia.

Multi-mini interviews for the RTS are conducted in September.

Applications for the Rural Training Stream are submitted through GEMSAS.

Visit [deakin.edu.au/rts](https://deakin.edu.au/rts) for further information.

<sup>1</sup> The Deakin rural footprint is all locations in the Western Victorian Primary Health Network area that are classified as MM3–MM6 (Large Rural Towns, Medium Rural Towns, Small Rural Towns, Remote Communities). It includes MM2 (Regional Centres) areas surrounding Ballarat, given that Ballarat is the location of one of Deakin's rural clinical schools.

During the first two years of the course you'll study at our \$53 million purpose-built facilities at the Geelong Warrn Ponds Campus.



# Research

## Research that makes a difference

Research at Deakin feeds directly into the development and teaching of our undergraduate and postgraduate courses, which means that you'll graduate with knowledge from the cutting edge of health and medical science. Our research spans the spectrum of health and disease, with a focus on:

- ageing and chronic illness
- disability
- infant and child health
- infection and immunity
- nutrition and metabolism
- physical activity and musculoskeletal medicine
- social and mental health.

## Exceptional medical and health sciences research

Deakin has the highest ranking of 5 (well above world standard) for our medical and health sciences research, according to the latest Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) National Report.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> State of Australian University Research 2018–19.  
Volume 1 ERA National Report.

Our state-of-the-art facilities and strong external partnerships give our world-class researchers the tools and connections they need to push the boundaries of knowledge in health and disease. For example, our researchers are identifying the causes of diseases at a molecular level, identifying new strategies to combat globally important diseases such as malaria, diabetes, leukaemia and other cancers. In the mental health domain, our researchers are working to develop innovative treatments for people with psychiatric disorders, while our research into autism has led to the adoption of improved diagnostic and treatment guidelines by the international medical community.

Other research is investigating lifestyle and environmental risk factors for psychiatric disorders, including the first study showing that depression can be treated simply by improving diet. This has changed our understanding of and approach to both treatment and preventative interventions.

Deakin researchers are also overseeing Australia's longest-running longitudinal study on child development. Insights gleaned from this project will improve public health policy and potentially break inter-generational cycles of disadvantage.

For more research stories, visit [deakin.edu.au/research](https://deakin.edu.au/research).

Clinical experience is built in laboratories, hospitals and other health services.



# Research



'The Deakin School of Medicine is committed to recruiting students from diverse backgrounds to its health professional programs. We want our graduate cohorts to look as much as possible like the communities that they will serve, so we would really encourage people from a wide range of backgrounds – who might not even have thought it would be possible for them to become a health professional – to consider studying with us.'

**Professor Gary D Rogers**  
Dean of Medicine, Deakin School of Medicine

## Research groups

Deakin Medical School conducts a vibrant program of research, undertaken by more than 200 research staff and students within a number of outstanding research groupings and partnerships. This has contributed to a body of research judged well above world class that aligns with one or more of the School's research pillars:

- infection, immunity and cancer
- metabolic and musculoskeletal medicine
- neuroscience
- rural and regional health.

### The Institute for Mental and Physical Health and Clinical Translation (IMPACT)

IMPACT is Deakin's multidisciplinary medical research institute that brings together the key strengths and critical mass across the Centre for Innovation in Mental and Physical Health and Clinical Treatment and the Centre for Molecular and Medical Research. Its mission is to improve mental and physical health at the individual and population levels, using a bench-to-bedside approach to better understand relevant diseases with shared underlying biological mechanisms, utilising common platform technologies and resources. It advances cross-disciplinary, world-leading targeted biomedical research and accelerates the translation of basic research findings into new developments that have significant health benefits.

### Deakin Rural Health

Deakin Rural Health is one of 18 University Department of Rural Health (UDRH) groups around Australia supported by the Australian Rural Health Education Network (ARHEN), representing rurally based academic facilities that work with all health disciplines at both tertiary (undergraduate and postgraduate) levels and the current workforce. It also serves to coordinate rural and regional health research in the School in partnership with the National Centre for Farmer Health and the Centre for Rural Emergency Medicine.

### National Centre for Farmer Health (NCFH)

NCFH is a partnership between Deakin University and Western District Health Service, which represents a research, service delivery and education centre that provides national leadership to improve the health and wellbeing of farmers, farm workers and their families across Australia.

### Centre for Rural Emergency Medicine (CREM)

CREM is a joint initiative between the Victorian Government, Portland District Health, South West Healthcare, Alcoa of Australia and Deakin's School of Medicine. It contributes to the coordination and delivery of effective emergency medical services in south-west Victoria, and provides national leadership in emergency medicine research.

### Geelong Centre for Emerging Infectious Diseases (GCEID)

GCEID is a collaborative and multidisciplinary research partnership between Deakin University, Barwon Health and the CSIRO's Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL), which uses a 'One Health' approach to understand and mitigate the risks posed by emerging infectious diseases.

Deakin's School of Medicine also undertakes research in the areas of medical and health education, communication, professionalism and bioethics, as well as optometry, medical imaging and clinical medicine.

[deakin.edu.au/research](https://deakin.edu.au/research)

## Award-winning university career service<sup>1</sup>

DeakinTALENT will prepare you to secure the jobs of tomorrow. Our award-winning service is available to you from day one and will support you for the rest of your career. You'll have lifetime access to career coaching, industry networking opportunities and a comprehensive suite of digital resources helping you develop the most employable version of yourself.

[deakintalent.deakin.edu.au](https://deakintalent.deakin.edu.au)

<sup>1</sup> Australian Graduate Recruitment Industry Awards 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 winner for most popular career service in Australia; Employability award, 2021 Australian Financial Review Higher Education Awards.



## Clinical placement requirements

In accordance with Department of Health policy, all medicine students are required to undertake a Police Record Check and Working with Children Check at the start of their course, in accordance with the *Worker Screening Act 2020*.<sup>1</sup>

You will be asked to undergo serological testing before you commence the course. You'll also need to declare your immunisation status to satisfy the requirements of health organisations where you'll be carrying out your clinical learning experience. A health organisation may refuse to accept a student for placement if their immunisation status is not satisfactory to the health organisation.

The School of Medicine will provide commencing students with specific information on their compliance requirements.

1 Worker Screening Act 2020, (No. 34, 2020). Accessible at [legislation.vic.gov.au](https://legislation.vic.gov.au).

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Deakin University CRICOS Provider Code: 00113B

# Contact us

## We're here to help

We have staff at each of our campuses who are more than happy to answer your general queries.

### Prospective student enquiries

#### Domestic students

1800 693 888

[deakin.edu.au/help-hub](https://deakin.edu.au/help-hub)

#### International students

+61 3 9627 4877

[study@deakin.edu.au](mailto:study@deakin.edu.au)

### Applying to Deakin

[deakin.edu.au/how-to-apply](https://deakin.edu.au/how-to-apply)

## Social media at Deakin



[facebook.com/DeakinUniversity](https://facebook.com/DeakinUniversity)



[facebook.com/DeakinHealth](https://facebook.com/DeakinHealth)



[twitter.com/Deakin](https://twitter.com/Deakin)



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Visit [this.deakin.edu.au](https://this.deakin.edu.au) to uncover unique stories about Deakin and explore different perspectives on study, career and self-improvement.

# OPEN OPEN OPEN **OPEN** ALL YEAR



## ▶ **CAMPUS TOURS**

**WED 12 – THU 20 APR**  
**WED 20 – WED 27 SEP**

## ▶ **ON-DEMAND WEBINARS**

**JUN – DEC**

## ▶ **CAMPUS OPEN DAY**

Warrnambool  
**SUN 6 AUG**

Geelong – Waterfront  
and Waurin Ponds  
**SUN 20 AUG**

Burwood  
**SUN 27 AUG**

[deakin.edu.au/open-all-year](https://deakin.edu.au/open-all-year)