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.

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Professional accreditation

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

Work in metropolitan and regional settings

There is currently a significant 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

Problem-based 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 the Geelong region, even from the earliest stages of the course. Students 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

Gain a competitive edge in the workplace with real-world expertise and practical skills. Deakin is ranked the #1 university for both generic skills and good teaching in Victoria.¹

¹ Graduate Outcomes Survey 2019.

Students develop their clinical skills through a safe and supported process.
Our students develop the foundational skills essential for any career in medicine, but 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. During the first two years of the course you’ll study at our $53 million purpose-built facilities at the Geelong Waurn Ponds Campus. This allows you to learn and engage through problem-based sessions, workshops and hands-on learning sessions. Your clinical experience will take place in laboratories, and hands-on learning sessions. Your clinical experience will take place in laboratories, and hands-on learning sessions. Your clinical experience will take place in laboratories, and hands-on learning sessions.

In third and fourth year, students are immersed in the clinical environment, at clinical schools in Ballarat, Geelong, Warrnambool and/or the Rural Community Clinical School, where they complete programs that span from general medicine and surgery to specialised programs. Students 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, students complete the Research Scholar Program, gaining foundational skills in analysing evidence and designing research programs that are important for future careers in medicine.

Students are provided extensive opportunities for feedback on their progress throughout the year, with a program of assessment and self-evaluation, which occurs in the clinical workplace.

Students are also provided the opportunity to complete a rotation of their 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 two five-week rotations – an elective that can be taken in Australia or overseas, and a pre-internship hospital rotation in which you’ll experience the day-to-day life of an intern.

Rural Community Clinical School (RCCS): Our Rural Community Clinical School (RCCS) 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.

Indigenous Health: The course has a particular focus on exploring Indigenous Health, with students undertaking a cultural immersion program, and developing culturally appropriate clinical and communication skills. All staff and students at Deakin’s School of Medicine undertake cultural awareness training.

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 applicants can apply with an undergraduate degree, and aren’t required to complete the Graduate Australian Medical Schools’ Admission Test (GAMSAT) (see page 4).

Careers: 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.

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

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 regional, rural or remote areas for three years. Deakin’s School of Medicine offers 37 Bonded Medical Places. Regions covered under the Bonded Medical Program are determined by the Department of Health.

Course themes

Our Doctor of Medicine has four major themes that underpin your study across the four years of the course.

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 from the individual to the global scale.

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.
Applying to Deakin

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

**Step 1**
Complete bachelor degree with the weighted GPA of at least 5.0
A completed undergraduate degree from an Australian university or a higher education institution recognised by the Australian Qualifications Framework, or a recognised bachelor degree qualification listed in the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOSOR) Guide. No preference is given to graduates with particular bachelor degrees. Deakin encourages individuals from diverse educational backgrounds, who will bring a variety of talents and interests to the profession.

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 undergraduate degree (including an honours year if applicable). Years are progressively weighted x1, x2 and x3, to give greater weight to the most recent results.

Undergraduate degrees must have been completed in the last 10 years. 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 year 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).

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 an overall GAMSAT score of 50, with a minimum score of 50 in each of the three sections: The GAMSAT is held twice a year in March and September and may be completed in your last year of study. Please refer to the GAMSAT website for details of testing dates: gamsat.acer.org.

**Step 3**
Apply through GEAMSAS
All applications for the Doctor of Medicine must be made via the Graduate Entry Medical School Admissions System (GEAMSAS) 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.

**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/courses/doctor-medicine.

**Step 5**
Interviews at Geelong Waurn Ponds Campus
Deakin Medical School uses the multiple-mini interview (MMI) process. Each applicant undergoes a series of five-minute interviews at 10 stations, using standardised questions and scoring procedures. The stations are designed to assess applicant attributes, such as:

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

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

**Step 6**
Offers into medicine are released
In November, the School of Medicine will offer 93 Commonwealth Supported Places and 37 Bonded Medical Places to successful applicants.

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.

**Minimum entry requirements**
- Completion (or in the final year) of an undergraduate (bachelor) degree from an Australian higher education institution. Undergraduate degrees must have been completed in the last 10 years.
- A 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.
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.

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, leukemia and other cancers. In the mental health domain, our researchers are working to develop innovative treatments for those who suffer from 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.

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.¹


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 and immunity
- metabolic and musculoskeletal medicine
- neuroscience
- rural and regional health.

The Institute for Mental and Physical Health and Clinical Treatment (IMPACT)

IMPACT is Deakin’s new 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, utilizing common platform technologies and resources. It will advance cross disciplinary, world-leading targeted biomedical research and accelerate the translation of basic research findings into new developments that will have significant health benefits.

Deakin Rural Health

Deakin Rural Health is one of 15 University Department of Rural Health (UDRH) groups around Australia supported by the Australian Rural Health Education Network (ARHEN), representing a Warrnambool-based academic facility that works 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 NCFH and CREM.

National Centre for Farmer Health (NCFH)

NCFH is a partnership between Deakin University and Western District Health Service based in Hamilton that 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, Alcoa in Australia and Deakin Medical School based at Portland and Warrnambool, which contributes to the coordination and delivery of effective emergency medical management in Western 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), the GCEID uses a “One Health” approach to understand and mitigate the risks posed by emerging infectious diseases. Deakin Medical School also undertakes research in the areas of medical and health education, communication, professionalism and bioethics, as well as optometry, medical imaging and clinical medicine.

‘One of the School’s key visions is social accountability and we provide opportunities for students to join us from all walks of life to learn how to become excellent doctors. Deakin students learn about the benefits of Indigenous health education and the advantages that cultural training and education can bring.’

Candice McKenzie
Academic Coordinator for Indigenous Medical Education
Work placement requirements

In accordance with Department of Health and Human Services Policy, all medicine students are required to undertake a Police Record Check before clinical placements in each calendar year of their course.

Students are also required to undertake a Working with Children Check at the start of their course (in accordance with the Working with Children Act 2005). If you fail to obtain a Police Record Check and Working with Children Check before starting your clinical placement, you won’t be able to do the clinical placement.

You will be asked to undergo serological testing before you enrol. 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.

1 Department of Health and Human Services Policy on Working with Children Check and Police Record Check can be found at: dhhs.vic.gov.au.
OPEN DAY
A DAY THAT’S ALL ABOUT TOMORROW

SUN 02 AUG
Geelong Waterfront Campus
9am–3pm
Geelong Waurn Ponds Campus
9am–3pm

deakin.edu.au/openday
1800 693 888
deakin.edu.au

SUN 09 AUG
Warrnambool Campus
10am–2pm

SUN 23 AUG
Melbourne Burwood Campus
9am–3pm