

INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS APPLYING TO ENTER THE UNSW MEDICINE PROGRAM VIA THE PILOT YEAR OF THE GRADUATE ENTRY STREAM

5 March 2007

This information is only relevant to you if you are a student enrolled in year 2 of the Bachelor of Medical Science at UNSW in 2007. Information about the entry pathway for students currently in year 1 of this program is available at:

http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/medweb.nsf/page/Selection_local

In December 2006, the Australian Medical Council approved the introduction of a Graduate Entry Stream for UNSW Medicine. This will allow students enrolled in the revised BMedSc program at UNSW to enter the Medicine program with advanced standing. A pilot intake from your class of BMedSc students – those currently enrolled in year 2 of the existing program – will select students to enter year 4 of the Medicine program in 2010.

There will be up to 12 Commonwealth-supported places available in the pilot intake. Of these, 9 will be unbonded and 3 will be Bonded Medical Places (for further information see <http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/medweb.nsf/page/Categories>). Not all places will necessarily be filled – the Faculty of Medicine reserves the right not to offer places if there is not a sufficient number of applicants who meet all of the minimum selection criteria.

Selection via the process described below will lead to the offer of a **provisional** place in the Medicine program. Offers will be made at the beginning of 2008 i.e. when you will be about to commence year 3 of your BMedSc program. The offer of entry into Medicine will be contingent on subsequent completion of all of the academic requirements of the BMedSc in 2008, as well as completion of Honours at a satisfactory level (at least class II division 1) in 2009. Note that if you decide to defer your Honours year, you will be required to give up your provisional place. Also note that if individuals who have been offered a place withdraw or fail to maintain the required level of academic performance, no additional offers will be made i.e. there is no "reserve list" of offers for the pilot intake.

Selection process

There are three stages (i) submission of an application (ii) selection for an interview (iii) selection for a provisional place.

Submission of an application includes

- submission of a "Registration of Interest" form via the Faculty of Medicine website (www.med.unsw.edu.au)
- submission of a "Medicine Application Form" (download form from Faculty of Medicine website)
- application to UNSW Medicine through the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC – www.uac.edu.au).

Selection for an interview will be on the basis of your weighted average mark (WAM) to the end of session 1, 2007, and your UMAT score. These will be weighted equally.

Selection for a provisional place will be on the basis of your WAM to the end of session 2, 2007, your UMAT score and your interview results. All three selection criteria will be weighted equally and scores will be combined according to the standard selection algorithm for UNSW Medicine.

WAM

For the pilot year, this will be calculated on the basis of compulsory courses and Science electives **only**. It will not include results of any General Education courses or SCIF courses,

nor will it include results of studies undertaken outside the BMedSc program at UNSW. HSC (or equivalent) results will not be taken into consideration.

In the revised version of the BMedSc there is a new core Anatomy course in year 1 and eight core courses in year 2 – details of all of these courses are available at <http://www.handbook.unsw.edu.au/undergraduate/programs/2007/3991.html>. We recognise that for those of you enrolled in the current version of the program, it is not possible to complete an equivalent range of courses by the end of year 2. Therefore as previously advised, to be eligible for selection for the pilot intake, the Faculty of Medicine requires you to complete ANAT2111 Introductory Anatomy plus at least 6 of the core courses by the end of this year. Additionally, we are aware that timetabling and class availability have made it very difficult for some students to enrol in their preferred courses in session 1, 2007. Therefore, the core course requirements have been amended so that students are permitted to enrol in MICR2201 Fundamentals of Microbiology and Immunology (in session 1) instead of MICR2011 Microbiology 1 (in session 2). These courses will be treated as equivalent for the purposes of the Graduate Entry Stream. Other requests for substitution are unlikely to be approved, but if your situation might require special consideration, please contact me.

UMAT

The UMAT is designed to assess general attributes and skills gained through prior experience and learning. The three sections in UMAT assess logical reasoning and problem solving, understanding people, and non-verbal reasoning. The sections are equally weighted. UNSW Medicine uses the actual scores for the three test components, not the percentile rank.

For the Graduate Entry Stream, the UMAT result used will be the highest total score (not less than 150 to be eligible for consideration) from any UMAT test undertaken in the 3 years preceding selection i.e. 2005, 2006 or 2007 for applicants for the pilot intake.

Interview

Initial selection for interviews in the main round in late September 2007 will be on the basis of available WAM and UMAT scores. When end-of-year results become available, a limited number of additional applicants may be selected for interview in the final round held in early January 2008. The interview will be semi-structured and will cover a wide range of relevant issues. There will be two interviewers drawn from academic staff, medical practitioners and community representatives. Note that the interview will differ from that undertaken by applicants in other categories of entry to UNSW Medicine.

Progression

If you are offered a provisional place, you will be required to complete your remaining core courses in year 3, together with an additional 24 units of credit of level 2 or level 3 courses in Anatomy, Pathology, Microbiology and Pharmacology, before undertaking Honours. Academic advice will be provided to those who are selected.

You will need to maintain a minimum WAM of 65 to remain in the BMedSc program and to be eligible to undertake Honours. During the Honours year, you will be required to undertake a modest amount of bridging coursework in public health and in clinical & communication skills. You must complete Honours at a satisfactory level (at least class II division 1).

On successful completion of all of these requirements, you will undertake an intensive 8-week bridging course at the point of entry to the Medicine program, in January 2010.

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