

Bachelor of Medicine

Joint Medical Program 2012



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Checklist

- I have read this booklet carefully and understand its contents.
- I have entered my seven digit UMAT identification number on the UAC application form. This number is the same UMAT number as appears on my JMP direct university application.
- I have a valid UMAT score – achieved in either 2010 or 2011.
- I understand that failure to correctly complete the on-line JMP direct university application will jeopardise my application and may result in the JMP being unable to consider my application.
- I have lodged or intend to lodge my JMP direct university application by 30 September 2011.
- I have applied under the RRAS scheme and have sent the required support documentation to the School of Medicine and Public Health at the University of Newcastle.
- I understand that late applications are not accepted.
- I have lodged, or intend to lodge, an application with UAC by 30 November 2011 including Bachelor of Medicine - JMP at Newcastle/New England amongst my preferences.

The Joint Medical Program (JMP)

The University of Newcastle and the University of New England jointly offer the Bachelor of Medicine (BMed) as a five-year undergraduate degree.

The JMP is an expansion of the highly successful University of Newcastle Bachelor of Medicine program in partnership with the University of New England, Hunter New England Local Health Network and Central Coast Local Health Network. The JMP is a great opportunity to study a program of international standing offering early and broad clinical experience through this unique partnership.

The JMP recognises that the best type of learning is practical and so your clinical experience begins in the first semester and increases throughout the program. This means you will begin to meet with patients, visit hospital wards and outpatient clinics, and spend time with doctors in practice right from the start. Some of this experience will take place in community settings which helps you to see the patient as a whole person and in a manner consistent with his/her social or physical environment.

Your learning will be self-directed and problem-based which reflects a doctor's encounter with a patient's health problem. You will work in small tutorial groups, learning from each other through discussion and teamwork under a facilitator's guidance. The working problems encourage you to learn by experience and to recognise and resolve gaps in your knowledge. This style of learning will teach you vital skills for the lifelong commitment to learning your medical career will require.

The JMP's partnerships enable you to access a greater range of tutors, electronic resources, library facilities and clinical experiences. You will learn from practising doctors with a variety of backgrounds in metropolitan and rural health care as well as health professionals and tutors in related health and scientific fields.

Each year the JMP dedicates up to 16 places for Indigenous Australians as part of its commitment to training Indigenous doctors. The University of Newcastle has graduated almost half of Australia's national total of Indigenous doctors. There have been 61 graduates since its Indigenous Support Program began in 1985 and numbers continue to increase. Currently there are 20 Indigenous students studying medicine in Newcastle and four in Armidale. The University of Newcastle's renowned support program is offered to JMP students studying at either campus.

While your medical program will be the same, you can choose where you would like to study your degree. Newcastle is a busy metropolitan centre and Armidale a vibrant regional city and each will leave you with lifelong memories and friendships. The real difference is you and how you take advantage of your surroundings and use them to enrich your university experience.

The JMP's partnerships enable you to access a greater range of tutors, electronic resources, library facilities and clinical experiences.



About the universities

The University of Newcastle

Over its 40 year history, the University of Newcastle has been characterised as a university of distinction. Its reputation is shaped by internationally recognised strength in research and an enduring commitment to quality teaching and learning, environmental sustainability, equity and diversity.

The University builds its degrees to give people real work experience in the field in which they wish to work. It's an approach that continues to deliver strong employment prospects and starting salaries for graduates.

Newcastle is located just two hours north of Sydney and has major road, rail and air links. The main campus of the University of Newcastle is in the suburb of Callaghan, 12km from the centre of Newcastle.

Callaghan has a reputation for being one of the most naturally beautiful campuses in Australia.



University of New England (UNE)

Choosing a university is not just about what course you will study. It's also about the lifelong friendships you will make, the vibrant living and learning lifestyle, a sense of belonging in a community and the fun you will have along the way. UNE graduates consistently rate their experience highly, regularly earning the maximum five stars in The Good Universities Guide, a reflection of the University's commitment to student support.

UNE's residential college system is one of the most extensive in Australia, with lots of cultural, sporting and social activities, as well as academic support, to help you succeed. College residents get the most out of their UNE experience, usually making good friends for life with their fellow residents.

Over half a century ago, UNE was Australia's first university based outside a capital city. Since then, the University has been providing the broad range of high-quality offerings expected from any university, as well as building significant strength and expertise through attention to a range of regional issues.

UNE's academic staff have well-earned international reputations for cutting edge, high impact research and the University attracts top postgraduate students from around the world.

The campus is situated on 74 hectares of heritage parklands, overlooking the beautiful city of Armidale in the northern tablelands of NSW.

About the schools



School of Rural Medicine (Armidale)

The School of Rural Medicine at the University of New England was established as a response to a demonstrated and recognised need to address rural health workforce issues. It also creates the opportunity for medical students to become aware of the advantages of training, living and working in a rural and regional community.

UNE students' medical experience will include a range of settings but will offer students the opportunity for greater immersion in rural medical practice. The small class sizes and brand new state-of-the-art teaching facilities at UNE, as well as the great atmosphere among students and staff, are just some of the highlights current medical students enjoy. The School of Rural Medicine at UNE also ensures that students have access to a broad range of scholarships, extra-curricular clinical opportunities and learning experiences, designed to enhance your medical training. The School of Rural Medicine has a growing number of postgraduate awards and strategic alliances with international rural medical schools.

School of Medicine and Public Health (Newcastle)

Since the inception of the Bachelor of Medicine in 1978, the School of Medicine and Public Health has consistently delivered education programs and research outcomes that are internationally recognised for their innovation and excellence. The School was the first in Australia to offer problem-based learning in its medical degree and initiated a new selection process which involved a combination of attributes rather than assessment of high school academic performance only. These innovations continue with the School's partnership in the JMP.

The School's educational strengths are the Bachelor of Medicine – Joint Medical Program and postgraduate programs in public health. It has a strong research focus and works closely with the Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI) which has pioneered the integration of multi-campus university and hospital based research. The University of Newcastle has graduated almost half of Australia's Indigenous doctors and is renowned for its support of Indigenous medical students.



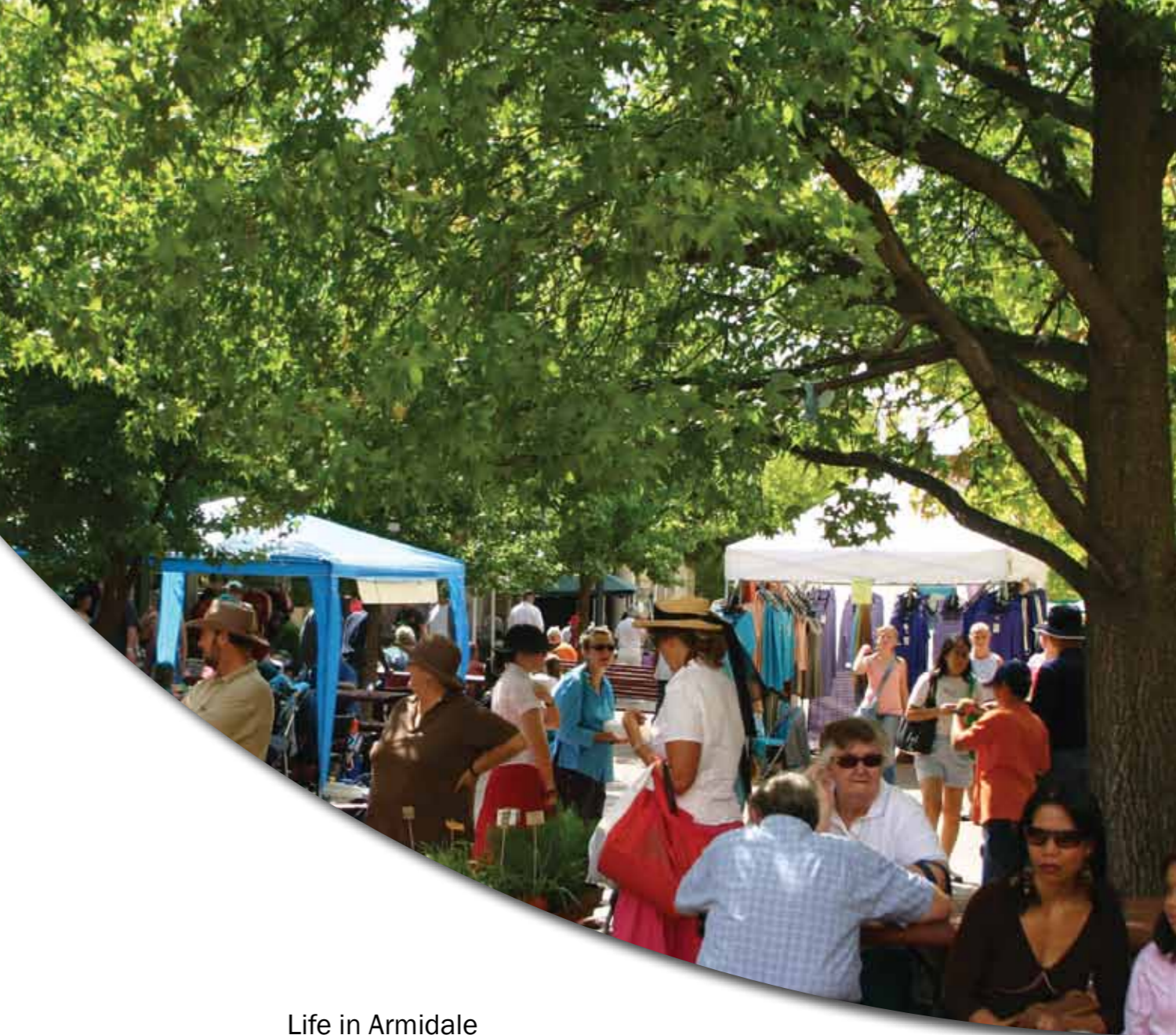
About the cities

Life in Newcastle

Newcastle is home to some of Australia's most beautiful beaches. It is also one of the only cities that combines inner city life, beaches and a working harbour, all within walking distance of each other. With popular café and restaurant strips, a thriving local music and art scene, affordable accommodation, and good transport links, Newcastle is great for students.

Newcastle offers many unique precincts with great street scapes and waterfronts providing their own feel and character. For a diverse, friendly, relaxed bohemian atmosphere with shopping, cafes and restaurants, head to Darby Street in Cooks Hill. Or visit the harbour, home to the Honeysuckle Precinct with foreshore promenades and open squares offering waterfront cafes and restaurants – all with glorious views. For a bit of culture, enjoy a live performance at the Civic Theatre or take in an exhibition at the Hunter Regional Art Gallery.

With a population of 350,000, the city supports a thriving business and commercial sector and an excellent network of leading health and education facilities. Newcastle offers something for everyone. Whether you want to dance the night away, enjoy your favourite food or drink, or find a place where you can simply relax with friends, you will find it in Newcastle.



Life in Armidale

Armidale lies in the beautiful heart of the NSW Northern Tablelands, halfway between Sydney and Brisbane on the New England Highway, and just two and a half hours from the coast. As a popular tourist and “tree change” destination, Armidale is famous for its awe-inspiring scenery, crystal clear skies, clean air, incredible climate and breath-taking seasonal beauty.

As a regional university city with all the benefits and services of a larger city, Armidale pulses with a unique blend of cosmopolitan vitality, cultural diversity and easy-going hospitality, which sets it apart from other regional centres. There is a wide range of cultural and other groups in Armidale for you to get involved in. There are always lots of shows and events on for you to enjoy from small gigs in pubs or art shows through to major events like the Sustainable Living Expo (SLEX) and the Women's Comedy Festival.

Sport is a big part of UNE and the wider Armidale community. The area boasts 34 hectares of sporting ovals and playing fields, and a vast array of indoor/outdoor sporting and recreation facilities. All four football codes, basketball, netball, volleyball, cricket, archery, rowing, kayaking, bowling, squash, tennis, gymnastics, martial arts, equestrian events and many other sports are available here.

Surrounded by national parks, Armidale is also a fantastic destination for nature lovers and mountaineers. There are abseiling, mountaineering and bushwalking clubs as well as nature lover clubs that go to the various falls and parks regularly.

Anywhere on campus, you're only a 5-10 minute bus/bike ride from Armidale's city centre. Being the best of the city and country combined makes Armidale a great place to live.

Accommodation



Making the move to Armidale

Living on campus puts you in the best spot to enjoy the living and learning experience to the full. Both socially and academically, you are right at the heart of the action. The majority of first year students choose to live on campus. That's because living on campus makes it easy to get around, get involved and get ahead.

UNE's college system offers personal and academic support, giving you the best chance of success, combined with friendships and memories that will stay with you for life.

The residential calendar is packed full of great activities. There is always something happening, from dress-up trivia nights to barbecues, camps and fundraisers, formal dinners and college balls. Classes, labs and the Dixon library are all just a 10 minute walk away.

You will have your own single, fully furnished, centrally heated accommodation and each room has a phone and internet connection. With all your cleaning and cooking done for you in fully-catered accommodation (Flexi-choice and self-catered options are also available) – you can spend more time enjoying the UNE experience. For more information about living on campus visit: www.une.edu.au/about/living

Outside of UNE's residential college system there are plenty of other accommodation options. You will find it is much easier to get rental accommodation in Armidale than if you were looking in a metropolitan area. Visit www.une.edu.au/for/future-students for more information.

Making the move to Newcastle

Living on-campus is not only about making new friends and having loads of fun. It also provides easy access to the health, counselling, sporting, library and academic facilities that the University has to offer. Best of all, it will take you only a few minutes to roll out of bed and get to class.

There are four residential colleges on the Newcastle campus to choose from. You will need to do some research and pick the one that's right for you, with each providing different food and living options. As well as the social activities, there is plenty of academic and personal support if you need it.

The demand for on-campus accommodation is high, but first year students are given a priority. You need to apply between 1 September, 2011 and 8 January, 2012. Make sure you apply within the specified time as late applications are given a lower priority.

If you want to live off-campus or have a few friends going to the same campus the accommodation service has a database of current accommodation options to help you get started. You can also contact the Accommodation Hub on 02 49241444 or email AccommodationEnquiry@newcastle.edu.au for more information or advice on any housing problems.

For information about the colleges, costs involved and the off campus accommodation database visit: www.newcastle.edu.au/service/accommodation



Our health service partners

Hunter New England Health

Hunter New England Local Health Network (LHN) is unique, in that it is the only Local Health Network with a major metropolitan centre (Newcastle/ Lake Macquarie), as well as a mix of several large regional centres and many smaller rural centres and remote communities within its borders. It stretches over 130,000 square kilometres, from Morisset and Newcastle in the south, to the northern border of NSW and as far west as Pilliga and Mungindi.

Its public health facilities include two tertiary referral hospitals (John Hunter Hospital incorporating John Hunter Children's Hospital and the Royal Newcastle Centre; and Calvary Mater Newcastle), and four major rural referral hospitals (Armidale, Maitland, Tamworth and Taree). In addition, there are 34 community hospitals/multi purpose services and 55 community health centres, together with a number of mental health and aged care facilities. Hunter New England Health employs approximately 1,500 medical officers and 15,500 staff. This provides a broad range of opportunity for JMP students in conjunction with the four JMP clinical schools located within the Local Health Network.

The population is estimated at 840,000 with almost 33,000 of these being Aboriginal and Torres Islanders and a higher proportion of older people than the state average.

Central Coast Health

Central Coast Local Health Network (LHN) hosts JMP students in facilities based in Gosford, Wyong and Woy Woy hospitals as part of the Central Coast JMP Clinical School. Central Coast Health also provides health services in nine community health centres and one health care centre on the Central Coast.

Plans and preliminary work are currently underway for the establishment of a Central Coast Regional Cancer Centre that includes radiotherapy services at Gosford Hospital, as well as a new Integrated Training Centre at Wyong Hospital.

The Central Coast is a growing area with a population in excess of 300,000. Its Emergency Departments at Gosford and Wyong Hospitals are among the ten busiest in the state with presentations of over 50,000 annually at each of them.

The region is an interesting mix of dense urban areas and regional, rural and semi-rural areas. The Central Coast is a popular tourist destination and its population swells during school holiday periods.



About the program

The Bachelor of Medicine – JMP has an integrated problem-based curriculum with early clinical exposure and substantial community involvement.

Emphasis is placed on understanding clinical, diagnostic and therapeutic approaches, learned in the context of the relevant basic science concepts and mechanisms. The integrated program requires students to make connections between the different areas in medicine and the basic sciences in order to apply them to specific medical problems. The curriculum integrates basic and clinical sciences and has an early orientation towards clinical practice in medicine. The curriculum centres on problem-based, self-directed learning where students work in small tutorial groups to analyse clinical problems, and to gain an understanding of relevant scientific data.

Early clinical exposure (i.e. visiting hospital wards, outpatient clinics and private practices, contact with patients, and spending time with doctors in practice) begins in first semester and continues throughout the program. Many hospitals and general practices in the Hunter New England and Central Coast regions and elsewhere throughout New South Wales are involved in the JMP's education program, as are various community health units operated by the New South Wales Department of Health.

The program's community orientation places an expectation on students to understand and respect the community as a living entity and to identify their roles in serving the needs of the community. The program emphasises the promotion and maintenance of health, both of individuals and of communities. Preventive care is pursued as the most effective approach to complement treatment of the individual patient. Students are encouraged to see the individual in context, treating the patient as a whole person and in a manner consistent with his/her social or physical environment.

Students admitted to the program must possess not only the intellectual ability needed for success in university education; they must also have certain personal qualities considered important for the practice of medicine. As a result, the admission procedures are designed to select applicants who have not only reached a high academic standard, but who also have the necessary personal qualities.

Program structure

The Bachelor of Medicine curriculum is based on a series of program objectives that represents the JMP's expectations of students at the time of graduation. These were reviewed and approved by the Australian Medical Council in 2007 and describe the knowledge, skills and attitudes that are necessary for a graduate of the program to achieve in order to practice medicine. Broadly, they specify that graduates of the JMP will:

1. practice medicine based on an integrated body of knowledge and guided by evidence
2. respect the primacy of patient interests
3. demonstrate ethical and socially responsible practice
4. be committed to life-long continuous educational development.

In addition, there are specific objectives relating to the systematic development of "process skills" such as the skills of critical appraisal and weighing of information, clinical reasoning and decision-making, and taking responsibility for and pursuing learning both independently and collaboratively.

Within the Bachelor of Medicine basic medical sciences and clinical disciplines are integrated throughout the program, although the proportion of basic to clinical science varies as the program progresses. The individual years of the program are outlined on the following page.

Program structure

Throughout Year 1 and Year 2, there are integrated themes that include public health, clinical ethics and health law and Indigenous health. Students are allocated to a student group at the start of each semester and remain in that group for the semester. Each group contains eight to 10 students and is carefully balanced to incorporate a mix of gender, ages and experiences.

Year 1

In Semester 1, students enrol in three courses/units introducing the major causes and effects of disease that occur during different stages of the life cycle of humans. They are presented with an overview of the breadth of medicine, and begin working and learning in small task-oriented groups. Students also enrol in an elective unit. In Semester 2, students enrol in two courses/units which explore the musculoskeletal, gastrointestinal and renal systems and begin a systematic progression through the body systems.

Year 2

Students enrol in four courses/units covering problems associated with the Cardiovascular and Respiratory systems, Haematology, Neurology, Psychiatry and Endocrinology. The pattern of learning is similar to Year 1 in that students work through the paper cases in small group working problem tutorials, and develop professional skills in the relevant areas in parallel through professional skills tutorials.

Year 3

For Semester 1 and the first half of Semester 2, students study chronic disease and subspecialty clinical practice in a problem-based learning environment which is interwoven with clinical placements in rural and urban general practice. Students are equipped with the knowledge, clinical skills and attitudes required for these clinical placements and have the opportunity to reflect on and discuss their experiences. In the second half of Semester 2, students enrol in Health Equity Selective involving completion of a project while on placement in various locations in Australia or overseas.

Year 4

Students enrol in two courses/units: Medicine and Surgery, Women and Children's Health. These are clinical attachments with additional tutorials, scheduled teaching and opportunities for students to select an area in each course they would like to study in more depth.

The first two weeks of each semester requires attendance at the Hunter Clinical School in Newcastle for an intensive Clinical Skills Training program after which students begin their placement at one of the five JMP Clinical Schools.

Year 5

Students enrol in two courses covering the disciplines of Medicine, Psychiatry, Palliative Care, Primary Health Care, Anaesthesia, Intensive Care, Emergency Medicine, Oncology and Surgery. Year 5 is designed to ease the transition from medical student to intern and onwards.

Assessment

Assessments are conducted during each year with major assessments at the end of each semester and major progression hurdles at the end of each year. Students must satisfy all assessment requirements for all courses/units in their current year of study before being permitted to progress to the next year (e.g. students must successfully complete all Year 1 courses/units before being permitted to progress to Year 2). Assessment uses a variety of written and clinical instruments including, but not limited to, short answer questions, multiple choice questions, objective structured clinical examinations and clinical cases, log books, reflective diaries and portfolios.

Clinical placements

Most courses/units within the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP involve clinical placements which vary in length. Applicants should be aware that Bachelor of Medicine – JMP students will be required to undertake placements at Clinical Schools and/or General Practice locations away from their university of enrolment.

Students should be aware of the following principles for clinical placement allocations:

- during Years 4 and 5, all students are required to complete at least one year (two semesters) at a metropolitan clinical school (Hunter/Central Coast)
- to the greatest extent possible students will be allocated to their Clinical School of choice; however the JMP will allocate both University of Newcastle and University of New England students by ballot in instances where clinical placements remain unfilled
- students are responsible for the costs associated with travel and accommodation for clinical placements.

The five JMP Clinical Schools are the:

Urban

- Hunter Clinical School including John Hunter, Calvary Mater, Belmont, Maitland and Hunter Valley hospitals
- Central Coast Clinical School based around Gosford and Wyong Hospitals.

Rural

- Manning Clinical School based around Taree Rural Referral Hospital
- Peel Clinical School based around Tamworth Rural Referral Hospital
- Tablelands Clinical School based around Armidale Rural Referral Hospital.

Note: Students undertaking placements in Years 3-5 will require their own laptop. Minimum specifications and other requirements will apply.

Exchange programs

There are also opportunities for students to study Women and Children's Health in Year 4 as part of six month exchange program with other medical schools in England or Norway. Other limited opportunities for overseas study may also be available.

Professional recognition

The Bachelor of Medicine degree provides initial training for a career in medicine. Graduates of the program who wish to enter medical practice must complete a postgraduate internship year as a salaried Junior Medical Officer (JMO) in an approved training facility. For more information on the allocation process and a list of Prevocational Training Networks, please visit the Institution of Medical Education and Training (IMET) website www.imet.health.nsw.gov.au. Prevocational trainees are offered a two year contract, once allocated to a training network, and may be eligible for registration at the end of the first year.

Following internship most graduates continue to work in the public hospital system for a period of time. Many graduates use this period to undertake specialist training. Specialty training takes a minimum of four to five years after graduation depending on the area of specialisation.

The degree is also recognised for the purposes of full or provisional registration in the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland by the General Medical Council (UK), in Singapore by the Singapore Medical Council and in New Zealand. Registration is possible in other countries after passing examinations set by their registration bodies.



Gateways to admission

Admission to the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP is highly competitive. For admissions in 2011 there were 3207 applicant registrations received for the 170 positions available in the JMP. Applicants are encouraged to consider the following when applying for the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP.

Medical Rural Bonded Scholarship (MRBS) Scheme

Scholarship recipients agree to work for six continuous years (less any credit obtained through scaling) in a rural or remote area of Australia after completing their medical training as a specialist. The JMP is allocated six of these scholarships. Each scholarship is worth over \$24,000 a year, is tax free and is indexed annually. A scaling system will reward those willing to work in the most remote locations of Australia. Visit www.health.gov.au/mrbscholarships for more information.

Applicants will be able to lodge an MRBS Expression of Interest when they lodge their direct on-line university application. Only applicants who are eligible for final selection and who lodge the Expression of Interest by the designated closing date will be considered.

Bonded Medical Places (BMP) Scheme

Bonded Medical Place recipients agree to work in a District of Workforce Shortage for a period of time equal to the length of their medical degree following attainment of fellowship of a specialist college including General Practice. The JMP receives 43 of these scholarships each year.

Scaling is a new incentive being applied to a range of Australian Government programs that have a return of service obligation, including the BMP Scheme. Scaling increases the attractiveness of working in rural areas by fast tracking your return of service obligation based on the Remoteness Area (RA) category you are working in. The greatest reward will be for those willing to work in the most remote locations of Australia.

Visit www.health.gov.au/bmpscheme for more information.

Applicants will be able to lodge an online BMP Expression of Interest when they lodge their direct on-line university application. Only applicants who are eligible for final selection and who lodge the Expression of Interest by the designated closing date will be considered.

Rural and Remote Admissions Scheme (RRAS)

RRAS is aimed at increasing the number of rural/remote origin students selected for entry to the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP.

To be eligible for consideration under RRAS an applicant must be able to demonstrate that they have resided for at least five years (consecutive or cumulative) from commencement of primary school in a rural/remote location. Only Australian citizens and Australian permanent residents may apply for entry under RRAS (New Zealand citizens are ineligible to apply). Applicants who are assessed as not satisfying the rural/remote criteria will be advised by mail and their application will be automatically transferred to the standard applicant pool. Note: applicants must apply either as standard or RRAS category applicants – they may not apply for both categories.

RRAS applicants are required to provide documentation in support of their rural status claim. Applicants must follow the instructions provided with the rural application regarding the submission of this documentation. Failure to provide the documentation within the allocated time will result in the candidate's application being ineligible to be considered under the RRAS.

Selection criteria and application details are available at:
www.newcastle.edu.au/jmp/enrolments/rras.html

Prospective RRAS students are advised to read the information provided on this website carefully. In particular, taking note of the following:

- RRAS applicants are required to lodge the rural option of the JMP direct university application
- applicants applying under RRAS are not permitted to also lodge a standard non-rural application
- the JMP will have particular expectations of RRAS students with respect to participation in rural attachments/placements.

International students

Direct admission applications for full fee paying places in the Bachelor of Medicine - JMP from international applicants will not be considered. A candidate is considered international if they are not citizens or permanent residents of Australia or not citizens of New Zealand. The international student quota will be filled through negotiated contractual agreements between specific overseas educational institutions, governments or through the University of Newcastle International Foundation program.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

There is a separate admission process for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants. In 2012 there will be up to 16 places available in Year 1 of the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students (up to 10 at the University of Newcastle and up to six at the University of New England). Currently there are 24 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students enrolled in the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP. To date there have been 61 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander doctors graduate from the University of Newcastle.

Application

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants wishing to be considered for entry to the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP must lodge an application with the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) including the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP (CSP - 780000) as a preference by Friday 28 October 2011. Instructions on how to apply to UAC may be obtained from www.uac.edu.au

Please note that Indigenous applicants are not required to lodge an online JMP direct university application and are not required to sit the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Test (UMAT).

Academic eligibility

The JMP will check each applicant's academic eligibility. Academic eligibility may be based on Year 12 results, partial completion or completion of studies at a university or other tertiary institution. This academic requirement differs from mainstream applicant academic requirements.

Applicants currently sitting the HSC, or equivalent, will be treated as if they provisionally satisfy the academic requirement. Applicants who provisionally satisfy or satisfy the minimum academic requirement will be considered for interview.

Applicants required to attend for interview will be invited by email, by letter or by telephone.

Interviews

Eligible applicants will be required to undertake:

- confirmation of Aboriginality interview
- personal qualities interviews.

Interviews for eligible applicants will be conducted in November/December during the standard interview period. All Indigenous interviews will be conducted at the University of Newcastle.

Selection

Academically eligible applicants will be ranked for selection based on their personal qualities assessment. Academic eligibility will be assessed prior to the UAC offer rounds once all available results have been received by UAC. All offers will be made in the UAC main round.

Tertiary preparation programs

Both universities offer tertiary preparation programs to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to develop academic skills required for undergraduate study. These programs are for school leavers and mature age students who want to build on their current knowledge base and prepare themselves for further studies at university. On completion of the program, students will be eligible to apply for entry to the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP. Visit www.newcastle.edu.au/students/foundation-studies/yapug or www.une.edu.au/oorala/tracks.htm for more information.

More information

For more information about the Indigenous Medical Entry Program and the social, cultural and academic support available for Indigenous medical students, please contact:

Discipline of Indigenous Health

Ph: 02 4921 8705

E: deadlydocs@newcastle.edu.au



Admission 2012

Application for admission

Applicants (except Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students – see previous page) are to follow the process outlined below.

To apply for admission all applicants must:

- register with the UMAT Office; and
- apply direct to the JMP (either standard non-rural or RRAS); and
- apply through the Universities Admissions Centre (NSW & ACT) Pty Ltd (UAC).

New Zealand citizens intending to apply for admission to the Bachelor of Medicine - JMP at the University of Newcastle/University of New England are strongly encouraged to refer to the Department of Health and Ageing's website Doctorconnect at www.doctorconnect.gov.au regarding information about their ability to practise medicine in Australia following graduation.

1. Register with the UMAT office

You must register online at umat.acer.edu.au to sit the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT). The registration deadline is 5.00pm AEST on Friday 3 June 2011. A standard fee of \$200 will apply. Late registrations will be accepted up to 5.00pm AEST on Friday 17 June 2011 – a late fee of \$65 will apply.

NOTE: If you intend to use your UMAT 2010 scores in connection with university admission in 2012 you are NOT required to register for UMAT in 2011. However, you are required to lodge the JMP direct university application and register with UAC by the relevant closing dates. You will need to enter your UMAT 2010 number on the JMP direct university application and on the UAC application.

All enquiries concerning UMAT should be directed to the UMAT Office
Ph: 03 8508 7643
E: umat@acer.edu.au
umat.acer.edu.au

2. Apply directly to the JMP

You must complete either the standard or rural (RRAS) online JMP direct university application. The application can be found at: www.newcastle.edu.au/jmp or www.une.edu.au/jmp. Applicants are not permitted to lodge both a standard and a rural application. If applicants do not meet the criteria for RRAS their application will be automatically transferred to a standard application. The closing date for the online submission of the JMP direct university application is 5.00pm AEST on Friday 30 September 2011.

When lodging an application, all applicants will receive a transaction number to confirm that they have lodged their application successfully. It is strongly recommended that you print and keep a copy of your application form, including your transaction number, for your records as the system does not generate an automatic confirmation email.

Students who are unable to lodge their application electronically (on-line) are required to contact:

Enquiry Centre

The University of Newcastle
Callaghan NSW 2308

Ph: 02 4921 5000
Fx: 02 4921 2020
E: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au

OR

School of Rural Medicine

University of New England
Armidale NSW 2350

Ph: 02 6773 3877
Fx: 02 6773 2388
E: ruralmed@une.edu.au

It is your responsibility to ensure that your application is submitted by the closing date on Friday 30 September 2011. The closing date is strictly enforced and late applications WILL NOT be accepted under any circumstances.

Preferred enrolment location

Applicants will be required to nominate either the University of Newcastle or University of New England as their preferred University of enrolment on their JMP direct university application.

Applicants will also be asked to indicate if they would be willing to attend the alternate University in the instance that they do not gain selection at their preferred location. Applicants will be allocated to universities based on their stated enrolment preference.

Preferences can be changed on-line up until Friday 30 September 2011. After this date requests to change preferred enrolment location must be made in writing to the Dean – JMP.

These requests can be submitted via email through Tracey. Bristow@newcastle.edu.au or ruralmed@une.edu.au and will be accepted up until Friday 2 December 2011.

3. Apply through the Universities Admissions Centre (NSW & ACT) Pty Ltd

You must submit an online application for admission through the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) website at www.uac.edu.au. You must ensure that you include Bachelor of Medicine – JMP at the University of Newcastle/University of New England (UAC code 780000 CSP) among your preferences. **The closing date for on-time applications is Friday 30 September 2011.** Upon payment of the appropriate fee, late applications will be accepted by UAC. Applicants need to visit the UAC website to for late application dates.

It is essential that you submit a UAC application and that Bachelor of Medicine – JMP at the University of Newcastle/University of New England is included as one of your preferences by Wednesday 30 November 2011.

Further information regarding applications is available in the UAC 2012 Guide. This Guide will be available from high schools or can be purchased from UAC, from major NSW/ACT newsagents or University bookshops from August 2011. The guide will also be available online at www.uac.edu.au

To contact UAC:

Universities Admissions Centre (NSW & ACT) Pty Ltd

Quad 2
8 Parkview Drive
Homebush Bay NSW 2127

Ph: 02 9752 0200
www.uac.edu.au

Postal address:
Locked Bag 112
Silverwater NSW 2128

To be eligible to be considered for a position in the Bachelor of Medicine - JMP at the University of Newcastle/University of New England applicants must lodge all THREE of the applications described above.

Requirements for applicants



There is no age barrier for admission to the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP.

Residential requirements

Applications will only be accepted from Australian citizens, New Zealand citizens and permanent residents of Australia. Applicants who do not have Australian citizenship must be able to demonstrate that they have permanent residence status.

English proficiency

Applicants whose previous educational qualifications were undertaken in a language other than English and who have become permanent residents and/or Australian citizens since completing those educational qualifications, are required to provide proof of English proficiency as prescribed by University policy. The appropriate documentation should be provided to UAC with your UAC application. Details are contained in the UAC 2012 Guide.

Educational requirements

General

All applicants must:

- meet the Universities general admission requirements
- attain a specified level of achievement in their studies (see below *Applications based on Year 12 results and Applications based on university results*).

NOTE: The JMP does not accept hospital-based nursing qualifications (i.e. Nurses Registration) as meeting the entry requirements for admission to the Bachelor of Medicine. Applicants who are registered nurses, and who have not completed the HSC examination and are not eligible for an ATAR, or equivalent, or who have not undertaken recognised study at a higher education institution (i.e. a public or private university) and achieved results at the level required, are not eligible for admission to the program.

Academic eligibility

The JMP will treat all applicants as being provisionally academically eligible for consideration. The following sections outline the JMP's minimum academic requirements for entry to the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP.

Please ensure that you read the following sections carefully.

Academic eligibility will be assessed prior to the offer rounds once all available results have been received by UAC. You will not be advised of the outcome of your application until the official UAC offer rounds.

Applications based on Year 12 results

Applicants who, at the end of 2011, will have completed at least one year of full-time study or its part-time equivalent, at a university, will not be considered on the basis of Year 12 results.

Level of achievement

Current Year 12 applicants must attain an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 94.30 or better (which places them in approximately the top 10 per cent of Year 12 students eligible for an ATAR). Current Year 12 applicants educated in rural or remote areas must achieve an ATAR of 91.40 or better (which places them approximately in the top 15 per cent of Year 12 students eligible for an ATAR).

See below *Studies undertaken at a rural/remote high school and Interstate applicants* for further information.

Applicants who completed a Year 12 examination in a previous year and who are eligible to be considered in this category must have achieved a result which placed them in the top 10 per cent (or 15 per cent for rural students) of Year 12 students eligible for an ATAR in that year.

Eligibility for an ATAR

More detailed information about the ATAR is included in the UAC 2012 Guide. Note: A limited ATAR is not recognised for the purpose of admission to the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP.

Subject prerequisites

There are no subject prerequisites for admission to the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP. However, students who have completed Chemistry and a high level of English in Year 12 may encounter less difficulty during the program.

Studies undertaken at a rural/remote high school

Applicants who have completed the HSC, or its equivalent, while attending a school in a designated rural or remote location will be considered for entry under the Bachelor of Medicine Rural/Remote Bonus Scheme. To be eligible for consideration under this scheme a candidate must achieve an ATAR of 91.40 or better. Applicants whose home address is in a rural or remote location, but who complete Year 12 in a non-rural/remote location are not eligible to be considered under this scheme, and must achieve an ATAR of 94.30.

The JMP Committee is responsible for determining eligibility for consideration under the Rural/Remote Bonus Scheme. The Committee's decision is final.

Applications based on university results

Applicants who, at the end of 2011, will have completed at least one year of full-time study or its part-time equivalent at a university will be considered in this category.

For the purposes of admission to the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP, the University of Newcastle/University of New England recognise only certain courses/units/awards obtained at higher education institutions in Australia, or overseas qualifications deemed comparable by the JMP. These courses/units/awards include:

- Higher Doctorate
- Doctor of Philosophy
- Master by research
- Master by coursework
- Graduate Diploma
- Bachelor degree
- Associate degree
- Diploma.

To be eligible for admission in this category an applicant must satisfy a minimum academic requirement. This requirement differs, depending on the course undertaken and the number of years completed. The academic requirement for applicants with completed studies is slightly lower than for those with incomplete studies. The table below gives an indication of the academic requirements for each course level.

Note: this information is provided as a guide only.

Course of study	Completed studies	Incomplete studies *
Bachelor degree	better than Pass average	close to Credit average
Associate degree	close to Credit average	close to Credit average
Diploma	Credit average	Distinction average
Master by coursework	Pass average	Credit average
Graduate Diploma	Credit average	

* must have completed at least one year of full-time study (or its part-time equivalent)

Determination of academic eligibility will be based on the applicant's most recent studies. Applicants who have been awarded Honours at bachelor degree level, a research master degree and/or a PhD will satisfy the minimum academic requirement for admission.

The University of Newcastle/University of New England do not recognise TAFE qualifications or graduate certificates for the purpose of admission to the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP.

Documentary evidence

Applicants must read the UAC instructions concerning provision of documentary evidence of tertiary studies given in the UAC 2011 Guide. Applicants are NOT required to provide copies of their academic transcripts to the University of Newcastle/University of New England.

Assessment of personal qualities

As the JMP considers personal qualities to be just as important and influential to the learning and practice of medicine as academic ability, applicants are required to complete tests that measure a range of non-academic qualities, traits and abilities.

Assessment of these personal qualities requires applicants to complete the UMAT written test and to attend a day of interviews and psychometric testing held in either Newcastle or Armidale.

Note: There are two external tests currently used in selection processes for admission to medical schools in Australia: UMAT (for selection to undergraduate-entry medicine, dental and health sciences programs) and GAMSAT (for selection to graduate-entry medicine and dental programs). The two tests are different and applicants cannot claim an exemption from sitting one test by citing a score in the other.

Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT)

UMAT comprises a series of questions developed each year by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) on behalf of the UMAT Consortium Universities.

Applicants do not require any specific preparation or knowledge to undertake the test. Details of the format and content of UMAT are provided in the UMAT 2011 Information Booklet, available as a PDF file on the UMAT website from April 2011. Applicants should ensure that they read this booklet carefully.

Applicants should note that neither ACER nor the UMAT Consortium Universities recommend or endorse any commercially available courses offering UMAT preparation. It is possible that some commercial preparation courses might provide misleading information to applicants. Neither ACER nor the Consortium conduct UMAT preparation courses.

The UMAT Office will not assess the academic ability of applicants. Applicants should refer in this booklet to the section entitled *Requirements for applicants – Educational requirements* for guidelines of the minimum academic requirements.

An applicant's UMAT score is valid for two consecutive years. Therefore a score obtained in 2011 can be used for admission in 2012 or 2013 but not 2014. Where a candidate has more than one valid UMAT score (i.e. they take UMAT two years in a row) the highest score will be used, however it is not possible to combine scores from different UMAT test years.

UMAT Centres and testing date

In 2011 the UMAT test date is Wednesday 27 July. The test will be offered at centres around Australia including Newcastle and Armidale and at some overseas centres. Visit umat.acer.edu.au for a full list.

Applicants will be asked to nominate on the UMAT on-line registration form the centre at which they wish to undertake the test. Applicants will receive their UMAT admission ticket approximately two weeks before the test date. The admission ticket must be presented to supervisors at the test centre.

Proof of identity

On the day of the test you will be required to show one form of photo-bearing identification. It must be either a current passport (issued within two years), current driver's licence or learners permit (photo-bearing) or current (photo-bearing) Keypass, Proof of Age Card or 18+ card. Further details are available at umat.acer.edu.au. If you do not present correct identification you will NOT be permitted to sit UMAT. Please note that expired documents, photocopies of documents and student ID cards are NOT accepted under any circumstances.

The interviews

The second stage of the assessment of personal qualities requires applicants to attend a day of interviews and online testing.

The interviews consist of a multi mini interview (MMI) series where the candidate rotates through a circuit of eight stations discussing various scenarios with an interviewer. In addition applicants will undertake a non-academic selection test.

Applicants from NSW or Queensland who score the required level in UMAT will be invited to attend the interviews within the period November and December 2011. Limited interviews will be conducted in January 2012 for other interstate applicants ONLY.

Applicants required to attend interviews will be invited by email, letter or by telephone. Only those applicants who are required for interview will be contacted.

Applicants who have not been contacted by the end of October should assume that they are not required for interviews.

Applicants who are invited to attend for interviews and who fail to attend on the specified date/location, will be regarded as having withdrawn their application unless an adequate explanation for non-attendance is provided in writing. Although no guarantee is given, every effort will be made to reschedule applicants who provide an adequate explanation to an alternative interview day within the same interview period. Applicants are not permitted to move between the interview periods. Applicants who are scheduled to attend during November/December must undertake their interview during this period, they will not be permitted to change to a January/February interview.

Interviews will NOT be held outside the set interview periods.

Only those applicants who have attended an interview will be considered for final selection.

Preferred interview location

Applicants are requested to indicate in the on-line JMP direct university application their preferred interview location. In 2011 the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP interviews will be conducted on set dates at either the University of Newcastle (Newcastle campus – Callaghan) or the University of New England (Armidale). Although every effort will be made there is no guarantee that an individual will be allocated to their highest ranked interview location preference. The interview location allocated to a candidate has no bearing on the final enrolment location that may be offered. This is a good opportunity to visit a campus and may help you decide at which campus you wish to enrol.

The interview for admission to the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP will only be conducted at the locations listed above. It is NOT possible for interviews to be conducted at an alternative location, via telephone or via teleconference.

Qualities to be considered at interview

The interview will seek information about the following:

- the capacity of the candidate to thrive within a learning environment that is student, rather than teacher centred, which encourages teamwork and collaboration in the educational process, emphasises the commitment to lifelong learning and provides opportunities for substantial and continuing patient contact early in the program
- decision-making ability focusing on how the candidate makes everyday and important decisions that affect both themselves and others, often without certainty about the outcome
- interpersonal and communication skills focusing on the ability of the candidate to relate conversationally and empathetically with others in both everyday matters and under sometimes testing circumstances
- the degree of personal desire and driving force to be a doctor.

Proof of identity

As with UMAT, applicants are required to provide photographic proof of identity when they attend for interview (see UMAT information above). Applicants who fail to present acceptable photographic identification will not be interviewed.

The University of Newcastle/University of New England do not accept responsibility for the costs incurred by applicants in connection with the assessment of personal qualities. However, applicants being interviewed in Armidale may receive some free accommodation, meals and transfers as well as the opportunity to meet with current medical students.

Result of application

Offers

Applicants must have completed all stages of the assessment of personal qualities to be eligible for an offer. Offers will be made to applicants to fill the various quotas at each university including standard Commonwealth Supported places, Rural/Remote Admissions Scheme, Bonded Medical Places and Medical Rural Bonded Scholarship positions. Places will not be offered on the basis of academic achievement alone.

Offers for admission and unsuccessful notices will be mailed by the UAC in January 2012. UAC will offer to applicants the highest listed preference for which they are eligible. Information concerning the offer rounds, including the release dates for each offer round, will be listed in the UAC 2012 Guide and on the UAC web site www.uac.edu.au

Offers of admission to the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP will include a notice to applicants stating the university (The University of Newcastle or University of New England) to which they have been successful in gaining entry.

Applicants who accept a place in the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP will be required to provide a Personal Health Declaration. Information relating to this will be provided to applicants at the time of interview.

Transfers between the University of Newcastle and the University of New England will only be considered under compassionate circumstances that have arisen after acceptance of admission and commencement of study at the initial medical school.

Enrolment

Instructions on how to enrol in the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP at either the University of Newcastle or University of New England will be provided with the UAC offer. New students will be required to enrol in early February 2012.

Charges

Commonwealth Supported Students pay a student contribution (HECS) for courses undertaken as part of their program of study. Eligible students can either pay their contribution (HECS) upfront or defer all or part of the debt using the HECS-HELP scheme.

New Zealand citizens and permanent residents in Commonwealth Supported Places must pay their HECS contribution in full by the term census date.

To receive a Commonwealth Supported Place, you need to be:

- an Australian citizen
- an Australian permanent humanitarian visa holder
- a New Zealand citizen residing in Australia for a degree
- a holder of an Australian permanent visa residing in Australia for a degree.

For more information on charging and entitlements for Commonwealth Supported students visit the following websites: www.goingtouni.gov.au or www.newcastle.edu.au/service/fees/undergraduate-domestic or www.une.edu.au/for/current-students/costs/stufees.php

Scholarships

The University of Newcastle offers a range of scholarships, for example, the David Beer Scholarship assists students from a financially disadvantaged, rural background entering a health program. Visit www.newcastle.edu.au/scholarships for more information.

The University of New England is committed to its rural and remote communities and will offer around 40 scholarships across the University each year to assist commencing students from these areas. Visit www.une.edu.au/scholarships/undergraduate/index.php for more information.

Students interested in obtaining rural experience may also be eligible for a range of scholarships offered by the NSW Rural Doctors Network. Visit www.nswrdn.com.au for more information.

Students on Youth Allowance, Austudy and Abstudy income support are automatically eligible for Government scholarships including Startup and Relocation Scholarship. For more information visit www.centrelink.gov.au

Deferred admission

Applicants offered admission to the program in 2012 may apply to defer their admission. The maximum period of deferment is one year and, except in the case of applicants undertaking postgraduate studies, cannot be extended. Deferments are granted to:

- allow school leavers an opportunity to gain broader experience through travel or work
- afford applicants sufficient time to make necessary arrangements with financial, domestic or employment commitments
- allow applicants currently enrolled in university postgraduate programs time to complete the program.

Instructions on how to apply for deferred admission will be included with the UAC offer. The number of applicants permitted to defer admission to the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP in any one year is limited to 32 (20 at the University of Newcastle and 12 at the University of New England). If the number of applications for deferred admission exceeds 32, it may be necessary for the JMP Committee to refuse a number of applications.



Commencing the BMed – JMP

Medical Board of Australia

The Medical Board of Australia (the Board) requires all medical students to be registered. Students will be registered from the first year of the medical course. The registration process will be automatic, to the extent that the names and particulars of students will be provided by the JMP to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA), the agency which supports the Board.

This information will be entered on the register of medical students. This register is not publicly available and registration is free. Further details can be obtained from the Board's website at www.medicalboard.gov.au

Fitness to practise

Medical students are subject to the same standards of behaviour and practise required of qualified medical practitioners. From the outset of the program, JMP students are assessed not only on the development of skills and knowledge but also their suitability to practise medicine as demonstrated by attitudes and behaviour.

Requirements for practical components

Students must satisfy a number of requirements in order to participate in the practical components of the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP.

National Criminal Record Check

All JMP students must obtain an Australian National Police Certificate. International students must also obtain the equivalent certificate from each country in which they have resided.

Commission for Children and Young People Student Declaration

You are required to sign the Commission for Children and Young People Student Declaration and provide this to your placement facility. Failure to do so will result in the cancellation of your placement.

Adult Vaccination Record Card

JMP students must consult with their doctor to obtain proof of their immunity status and/or be vaccinated against a number of infectious diseases in order to minimise the risk of acquiring infection diseases.

Health Records and Information Privacy Act (HRIPA) 2002

All medical students are required by law to read a summary of the Health Records and Information Privacy Act legislation and to sign an undertaking that they will comply with the legislation.

Senior First Aid Certificate

Students commencing the JMP in 2012 are required to provide a current WorkCover approved Senior First Aid Certificate prior to the completion of Semester 1, 2012. The currency of First Aid certificates, including CPR, must be maintained throughout the program.

More information about each of these requirements can be found on the JMP website under www.newcastle.edu.au/jmp/potential-students/practical-requirements or www.une.edu.au/medicineforms

Important dates

2011

3 June	On-time closing date for UMAT registration.
17 June	Late closing date for UMAT registration
27 July	UMAT test session.
30 September	Closing date for direct university applications to the JMP for selection to the Bachelor of Medicine in 2012.
	Closing date for UAC "on-time" applications.
28 October	First closing date for late applications to UAC (payment of a late fee is required).
	Closing date for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applications to UAC.
November to December	University of Newcastle/University of New England interviews.
12 December	Last date to submit a request to the Dean – JMP to change preferred enrolment location.
30 November	Second closing date for late applications to UAC (payment of a late fee is required).
	Final date for the inclusion of Bachelor of Medicine – JMP at the University of Newcastle/University of New England among UAC preferences.

2012

Mid January	Main Round offer information released by UAC.
Late January	University of Newcastle/University of New England interviews for interstate applicants only.
Early February	New students enrol and pay fees and charges.
February	University of Newcastle Orientation.
13 February	University of New England Orientation.
20 February	UNE elective subjects commence (please note electives may have different commencement dates).
Late February	BMed – JMP Semester 1 commences.

FAQ's

For a comprehensive list of FAQ's please visit our website www.newcastle.edu.au/jmp or www.une.edu.au/jmp

Does the title 'Bachelor of Medicine' mean there is no surgery in the program?

No, it does not. 'Medicine' refers to all of the specialty areas within medical practice, such as, Obstetrics, Paediatrics, Psychiatry, Surgery and General Practice. Comprehensive training for all 'medical' specialist fields is undertaken once a student has graduated from the program.

How do groups work in the program?

Most scheduled educational activity occurs in small tutorial groups. These are usually groups of up to 10 students, who stay together for one semester. Each group contains a cross-section of students, who contribute collaboratively, helping each other to acquire knowledge and skills.

Is this a program for general practitioners?

Not in an immediate sense, although we anticipate many graduates will make this a career choice. The program is designed to provide basic medical training as a prelude to any form of specialist training, including that for general practice. The program does aim to give primary medical care (which is the major role of the general practitioner) a considerably greater emphasis, in keeping with its important role in the current pattern of medical care.

Further information

Enquiries concerning the Bachelor
of Medicine – JMP:

Enquiry Centre

The University of Newcastle
Callaghan NSW 2308

Ph: 02 4921 5000

Fx: 02 4921 2020

E: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au

W: www.newcastle.edu.au/jmp
www.une.edu.au/jmp

OR

School of Rural Medicine

University of New England
Armidale NSW 2350

Ph: 02 6773 3877

Fx: 02 6773 2388

AskUNE: www.une.edu.au/askune

E: ruralmed@une.edu.au

W: www.une.edu.au/rural-medicine

Enquiries concerning UMAT:

UMAT Office

Australian Council for Educational Research
Private Bag 55
Camberwell Vic 3124

Ph: 03 8508 7643

E: umat@acer.edu.au

W: umat.acer.edu.au

Enquiries concerning UAC applications:

UAC

Locked Bag 112
Silverwater NSW 2128

Ph: 02 9752 0200

W: www.uac.edu.au

UoN CRICOS Provider 00109J | UoN 2011/1021

UNE CRICOS Provider 00003G

The University of Newcastle/University of New England have made every effort to ensure that the information provided in this booklet is accurate as at February 2011. The Universities reserve the right to alter or amend program details and/or the selection procedure described in this booklet. Prospective students disadvantaged by any such change may seek advice on their options from the Assistant Academic Registrar, Faculty of Health, The University of Newcastle.