



Bachelor of Medical Science

www.med.monash.edu.au/bmedsc



The Bachelor of Medical Science program aims to provide a structured biomedical research program in any field of medicine or biomedical science.

Students will be introduced to the principles and practice of research and will learn skills relating to data analysis and communication of scientific ideas in oral presentations and a written thesis.

Is the Bachelor of Medical Science for me?

The faculty encourages students to bear in mind the following facts, experience and guidance when making a decision about whether or not to undertake the Bachelor of Medical Science:

1. The experience of the faculty is very much that the students that intermit their MBBS studies to undertake their Bachelor of Medical Science invariably return to the course achieving a higher level than before they left. This occurs for a number of reasons, and almost certainly reflects the dramatic development in study and in intellectual skills that occurs during the Bachelor of Medical Science process.
2. Selection of intern places occurs via a number of mechanisms, which are under constant revision and refinement. The role of individual interviews by hospitals to select their interns is becoming increasingly important, and that of a simple ranking of medical students, less so. It is important to remember that over 80 per cent of medical students get their first preference for intern placements. It is anticipated that in the interview process, a student who has undertaken a Bachelor of Medical Science, would have the opportunity to highlight this distinguishing feature of their experience.
3. It is expected that professional specialist colleges would rank the undertaking of a Bachelor of Medical Science as a positive aspect of a candidate's application to undertake advanced training to become a specialist.
4. The Bachelor of Medical Science degree is an honours degree of the university, and as such acts as a qualifying degree for doctoral studies (including PhD).
5. The Bachelor of Medical Science offers an almost unique opportunity for students to delve in-depth into a particular subject. It is well suited to intelligent, enquiring and self-motivated students and can be undertaken in a wide variety of clinical and lab settings, both nationally or internationally.



Criteria for admission

The overall performance of the applicant will be considered. A credit average is required, but a candidate may occasionally be admitted with a lower grade under special circumstances approved by the committee.

Supervision

The Bachelor of Medical Science degree must be undertaken under the supervision of a member of the faculty's academic staff, however students may have a co-supervisor who is not affiliated with the university.

Locations

Students may choose to carry out an interstate or overseas project for their Bachelor of Medical Science. The project must have a Monash co-supervisor, and it is via the department of this co-supervisor where funding will be directed.

Assessment

The essential elements of assessment for the Bachelor of Medical Science are as follows:

Oral presentation 1	5%
Literature review	15%
Thesis	65%
Oral presentation 2	5%
Faculty oral presentation	10%

Project synopsis and program outline

All new Bachelor of Medical Science candidates are required to complete the project synopsis form together with their supervisor and head of department. The form should be submitted to Jacqui Tonks, MBBS Student Services and Administration, at the time of enrolment.

Mid-year progress report

A progress report will be required by the end of June. The outline of this report will be sent to candidates and their supervisors in May. Both the candidate and the supervisor have responsibilities for the completion of the report.

Timetable

Bachelor of Medical Science candidates will be given a timetable of events and due dates for the year when they commence their Bachelor of Medical Science.

Final grading

The grading for the Bachelor of Medical Science results is the same as for other university undergraduate courses:

- H1 80% or higher
- H2A 70-79%
- H2B 60-69%
- H3 50-59%

Graduation

Bachelor of Medical Science candidates are awarded the degree at a ceremony when they graduate MBBS.



Research topics

There are hundreds of projects that are offered from a wide variety of departments. For more information about the course and available projects please go to the Bachelor of Medical Science website:

www.med.monash.edu.au/bmedsc.

Alternatively students can also find their own project to research on the condition that they can organise the appropriate people to be their supervisors, and get approval from the Bachelor of Medical Science committee.

Important dates

- Applications should be submitted by early October in the year prior to study.
- The thesis should be submitted in early October in the Bachelor of Medical Science year.
- Please check the Bachelor of Medical Science website for actual dates:

www.med.monash.edu.au/bmedsc.

Coordinators

The coordination of the Bachelor of Medical Science program is through the Bachelor of Medical Science Committee.

Chair

Professor Suzanne Crowe

Active members

Professor Franklin Rosenfeldt
Professor Ewan Wallace
Associate Professor Ben Canny
Dr Simon Kitto
Dr Danny Liew

Administration

Administrative queries should be directed to:

Jacqui Tonks

Manager

MBBS Student Services and Administration
Faculty of Medicine, Nursing
and Health Sciences
Building 15
Monash University, Clayton campus
Clayton VIC 3800

Phone: 9905 2048

Email: bmedsc@med.monash.edu.au

Past students' comments

"It's exciting and dynamic to be in a research institute that is on the cutting edge."

"Every consultant I have worked under so far has been really impressed and interested in what I had to say about my research (BMedSc) year."

"I wouldn't have missed it for the world."

"It has been a really good experience to work with people who love what they do and are really excited about creating new research."

"It was too great an opportunity to pass up."

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