



16 December 2014

The Directors of the Australian Medical Council confirm the accreditation of the University of Queensland, School of Medicine's medical programs to 31 March 2017.

The Australian Medical Council is the national accreditation body for the medical profession. It has recently completed an assessment of the University of Queensland, School of Medicine's medical programs.

The School offers a four-year graduate entry Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) program. From 2015, it will offer a four-year masters-extended program which will lead to the award of Doctor of Medicine (MD). The 2014 assessment included consideration of the MD program.

The University of Queensland has the largest medical school in Australia, with 550 students per cohort each year. The School's programs are delivered across its Brisbane campuses, and at eleven clinical schools, two of which are located offshore. The integrated, problem/case-based program provides students with experiences in a diverse range of clinical and research settings.

In 2010, the AMC assessed major changes to the School's medical program, including a sizeable increase of students, and the addition of a new clinical teaching site in Louisiana USA, through a partnership with the Ochsner Health System in New Orleans. The AMC accredited the medical program for the maximum period, until 31 December 2016. Accreditation was subject to conditions, including a follow-up assessment in 2014 to review the School's progress in implementation of the major changes, and the submission of satisfactory progress reports to the AMC. The AMC's 2010 report executive summary is available online [here](#).

The 2014 follow-up AMC assessment team considered written material from the School and the Medical Student Society, and in June 2014 visited the School and associated clinical teaching sites in Queensland and New Orleans. The team met University representatives and School staff, students and clinicians, and prepared its report against the accreditation standards.

The AMC accreditation report finds that the medical program is supported by impressive physical facilities and excellent clinical learning experiences. In areas made challenging by the size of the student cohort, such as governance, consistency of student experience, and assessment practises, the report found the School had made considerable progress. It commends the School's successful partnership with the Ochsner Health System.

The report indicates the AMC will seek progress reports in 2014 and 2015 on a range of planned initiatives including educational design, eLearning, assessment and evaluation. The AMC will monitor the School's continued capacity for the large cohort, and the MD program beginning in 2015, that includes the addition of further research content and refinement of clinical sciences content.

On the basis of the team's report, the AMC Directors at their 20 October 2014 meeting found that the medical programs of the University of Queensland, School of Medicine meet the approved accreditation standards. These programs are:

- Bachelor of Medicine / Bachelor of Surgery - four-year degree (final cohort enrolled 2014)
- Doctor of Medicine - four-year degree (for cohorts commencing from 2015)

Accreditation is confirmed to 31 March 2017 subject to conditions, as outlined in the 2014 Executive summary (available [here](#)).

The AMC will continue to monitor the School's progress through reports on conditions and annual progress reports.

The AMC presents accreditation decisions and reports to the Medical Board of Australia to make a decision on the approval of the programs of study for registration purposes. The Medical Board of Australia details its decisions about accredited programs of study in communiqués published on its [website](#) following each meeting.

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