MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE

University courses

FMAY 2023

CAREERS DEPARTMENT

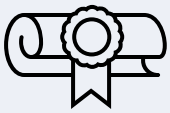
Catholic College Wodonga Life in Jesus

Introduction

This document has been developed to assist domestic Year 12 students and their families in researching undergraduate medical laboratory courses in Victoria and New South Wales. Please use entry requirements and indicative ATARs listed in this document as a guide only and check university websites for updates.

Disclaimer: Information has been taken from university websites and the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC). Universities featured in this guide reserve the right to change course information, admissions, and entry requirements at any time and without notice. Written by Sandie McKoy, May 2023.

Note: photos in this document are stock images and aren't representative of students at the universities.



Indicative ATAR

Please use indicative ATARs as a guide as they may change for future intakes.

English prerequisite

EAL = English as an Additional Language. 'Any other English' includes English, English Language and Literature.

Undergraduate

This is usually your first course at university. For example - bachelor's degree.

Graduate

This is study you do once you have graduated from a bachelor's degree. For example – Master's degree.

Course Summary

LA (Lowest ATAR) = lowest ATAR to receive entry into the course excluding any adjustment factors for the 2023 January intake (TAC applicants).
LSR (Lowest Selection Rank) = lowest ATAR inclusive of adjustment factors to receive entry into the course for the 2023 January (TAC applicants).

VICTORIA

University	Course	Campus	LA	LSR
RMIT University	Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Laboratory Medicine)	Bundoora	55.85	75.85
	Master of Laboratory Medicine	Bundoora		

NSW

University	Course	Campus	LSR
Charles Sturt University	Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science (Pathology)	Wagga Wagga	65.0
		Online	65.0

ONLINE

University	Course	Campus	LA
Central Queensland University	Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science (Honours)	Online	69.0
	Master of Laboratory Medicine		

WHAT IS A MEDICAL SCIENTIST?

Medical scientists perform medical laboratory tests on blood, other body fluids and tissues to assist clinicians in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease. Medical scientists get results!

WHERE DO MEDICAL SCIENTISTS WORK?

Medical scientists work in hospital laboratories, private pathology laboratories, State Health laboratories and Universities. In larger hospitals and private laboratories, medical scientists usually specialise in the disciplines below.

DISCIPLINES

Medical Laboratory Science in Australia comprises nine distinct professional disciplines:

Anatomical pathology
Cytology
Immunology
Clinical biochemistry
Microbiology
Blood transfusion
Haematology
Virology
Genetics and Molecular pathology

For information on each discipline, visit www.aims.org.au/about/about-medical-science

Employment prospects

There were 26,900 Medical Laboratory Scientists in 2021. Numbers are likely to reach 28,400 by 2026.

Information taken from Australian Institute of Medical and Clinical Scientists and Labour Market Insights.

HOW TO BECOME A MEDICAL SCIENTIST

STEP 1
Complete an accredited medical laboratory medicine degree – either at the undergraduate (bachelor's) or graduate level (master's).

You will need to meet English language requirements, inherent requirements (e.g., communication skills), get certain vaccinations and immunisations and get a Police Record Check and Working with Children Check.

STEP 2
Join the Australian Institute of Medical and Clinical Scientists

STEP 3
Undertake professional development and consider post graduate study options to specialise in a discipline area.

Excellent website

https://www.aims.org.au/

RMIT UNIVERSITY

Study at the award-winning $32-million biosciences building at the Bundoora campus.

Only Victorian degree accredited by the Australian Institute of Medical and Clinical Scientists (AIMS).

You'll be eligible for membership of the New Zealand Institute of Medical Laboratory Science and the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science.

You may have the opportunity to travel overseas and undertake 10 to 13 weeks of professional practice in an approved laboratory. Destination countries include the UK, the US, Ireland, Singapore, Korea and Sweden.

In your final year, you'll have the opportunity to study a discipline-focused laboratory medicine project to develop your research skills.

Examples of major Victorian hospitals that employ laboratory medicine graduates are Monash Medical Centre, St Vincent's, Royal Melbourne, Royal Children's, the Alfred, Box Hill, the Northern, and Austin hospitals.

Medical laboratory scientists play a critical role in the diagnosis and treatment of disease, working as part of a team with doctors, pathologists, scientists, technicians, and laboratory assistants. When you graduate with a Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Laboratory Medicine) from RMIT you will be qualified to practise as a medical laboratory scientist in the diagnostic pathology industry.

UNDERGRADUATE ENTRY

Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Laboratory Medicine)
This 4-year AIMS accredited program provides you with the knowledge, skills and experience to specialise in two of the following clinical specialty streams:

Anatomical Pathology
Clinical biochemistry
Haematology
Medical microbiology
Transfusion & transplant science.

You'll undertake two semesters of supervised professional practice clinical placement across your third and fourth years to give you work-ready skills and experience in a diagnostic pathway.

EARLY ENTRY PROGRAM

SNAP (Schools Network Access Program): for selected schools,
https://tinyurl.com/bdd5tmas

ADMISSION PATHWAYS

TAFE/VET
Higher Education (at least 4 subjects)
Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT)
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
https://bit.ly/3cumYZx

INFORMATION

www.rmit.edu.au

GRADUATE ENTRY

Master of Laboratory Medicine
RMIT also offers an accredited laboratory medicine qualification at the graduate level. Below is an example entry pathway:

Step 1
Complete an Australian bachelor's degree or equivalent in a cognate discipline (laboratory medicine, biomedical or biological sciences or medicine) with a minimum Grade Point Average of 2.0 out of 4.0, and which includes studies of molecular biology or molecular pathology with a practical component at or above second year undergraduate level.

Step 2
Apply for the 2-year Master of Laboratory Medicine.

Course	Prerequisites	Campus	LA	LSR
Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Laboratory Medicine)	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL; Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 20 in one of Biology or Chemistry; Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 20 in one of any Mathematics or Physics. Subject adjustments: A study score of 25 in any Information Technology, any Mathematics, or any Science equals 2 aggregate points per study. Overall maximum of 8 points.	Bundoora	55.85	75.85
Master of Laboratory Medicine	Entry requirements, https://bit.ly/3rOVVCz			

CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY

Wagga Wagga campus or online.

Learn in modern facilities, including our state-of-the-art National Life Sciences Hub.

When you graduate from your pathology degree you'll be qualified for accreditation and eligible for membership with the Australian Institute of Medical Scientists (AIMS).

Through AIMS' links to the Institute of Biomedical Sciences, UK, and the New Zealand Institute of Medical Laboratory Science, you'll be ready to take the next step and join a worldwide network of health professionals.

Flexible course delivery.

Are you a doer and a thinker who wants to have an impact? Someone who's ready to make the world a safer place, help develop cures or improve humankind's quality of life? With the Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science (Pathology) from Charles Sturt University you can be an essential part of the healthcare process.

BACHELOR OF MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE (PATHOLOGY)

In this pathology course you'll investigate current conditions as a medical scientist or discover new possibilities through research. You'll work at the forefront of healthcare, and explore dynamic fields including molecular diagnostics, genetics and immunology.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Experience real-world scenarios through extensive clinical workplace learning. You'll get hands-on experience across many different areas, including clinical biochemistry, haematology, histology, immuno-haematology, microbiology, molecular diagnostics, cytogenetics and immunology.

FLEXIBLE STUDY

We offer micro sessions (six eight-week blocks across the year) so you can complete a degree that normally takes three and a half years full-time in just three years (or part-time equivalent). You can choose to study full-time or part-time, on campus or online.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Pursue medical science on the frontline

Work in private and public sector hospitals to help clinicians prevent, diagnose and treat a range of diseases. Choose to work in microbiology, haematology, immunology, clinical biochemistry, histology, genetics or molecular diagnostics.

Work wonders in the lab

Take up a role in a health laboratory, where you'll perform a range of medical tests. Modern techniques in medical laboratory science are increasingly focused on the molecular pathology – the DNA – so you can help personalise medicine – meaning people get the treatment that suits their body, not the disease!

Push the research boundaries

Take your pathology career into research with further study in medical research programs or a postgraduate degree.

EARLY ENTRY PROGRAMS

Charles Sturt Advantage
Schools Recommendation Schemes
https://bit.ly/2UoUlAb

ACCESS SCHEMES

First Nations Direct Entry Program
TAFE/VET
Higher Education (at least 2 subjects).
Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT)
Charles Sturt Pathway Course
Diploma of General Studies
https://bit.ly/2UoUlAb

INFORMATION

www.csu.edu.au

Course	Assumed knowledge	Campus	LSR
Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science (Pathology)	Any 2 units of science. Recommended knowledge: Biology, Mathematical Methods, Chemistry.	Wagga Wagga Online	65.0 65.0

CQUNIVERSITY

Online.

This course is accredited by the Australian Institute of Medical Scientists and you can apply for professional membership upon completion.

Whilst completing the Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science (Honours), you will build technical and evaluative skills to assess and implement recommendations for best practice in patient testing, monitoring and education. Through opportunities in professional practice, case-based studies and research projects, you will develop clinical decision-making and problem-solving abilities to enable you to successfully perform your duties as a medical laboratory scientist upon graduation.

UNDERGRADUATE ENTRY

Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science (Honours)

This course prepares you for an important role in the diagnostic process where you will provide advice to medical practitioners on the interpretation of tests, methods for use in the diagnosis and treatment of disease. Your final year incorporates two research units that develop your ability to undertake research and prepare scientific papers and reports. These units prepare you for further research if you are interested in undertaking a research higher degree.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Throughout your studies, you will have opportunities to learn in a safe and simulated environment in purpose-built medical science laboratories. You will complete three six-week block work placements, in an accredited pathology laboratory throughout your course. You will complete your placements in your second, third and fourth year of study.

Your placements provide you with opportunities to apply your discipline knowledge to authentic scenarios, allowing you to develop your professional skills and valuable industry connections and networks. Placements are located throughout Queensland, and while we aim to keep you close to home, your placements may require you to travel, and any travel required is at your own cost.

EARLY ENTRY PROGRAM

Principal's Recommendation Scheme
https://tiny.one/45uhbf4d

INFORMATION

www.cqu.edu.au

GRADUATE ENTRY

Master of Laboratory Medicine

CQUniversity also offers an accredited laboratory medicine qualification at the graduate level. Below is the entry pathway:

Step 1

Complete 3-year Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) equivalent Bachelor degree in a Health, Medical or Biomedical discipline which demonstrates a minimum of two Chemistry and two Human Biology units.

Step 2

Apply for the 2-year Master of Laboratory Medicine.

Course	Recommended knowledge	Campus	LA
Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science (Honours)	Units 3+4: English, Mathematical Methods, Biology, Chemistry.	Online	69.0
Master of Laboratory Medicine	Entry requirements, https://bit.ly/37FFXUk	Online	