

# BACHELOR OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE (MEDICAL)

**GUARANTEED PATHWAY FOR RURAL  
STUDENTS TO BECOME RURAL DOCTORS<sup>1</sup>**



# MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THE HEALTH OF REGIONAL AUSTRALIANS

There is a chronic shortage of medical services in rural, regional and remote areas. La Trobe University, in partnership with the University of Melbourne, has designed its **Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Medical)** to address this crisis. The end-to-end rural medical training program combines the fields of biology, pharmacology and medicine. You'll learn about the human body, its structure and its functions. This includes how disease manifests and how drug strategies are used to treat disease.

The course is offered exclusively to 15 rural and regional students. Graduates will receive a guaranteed pathway<sup>1</sup> to the **Doctor of Medicine (Rural Pathway)** at the University of Melbourne in Shepparton.

## WHY STUDY AT LA TROBE?

- Provides a guaranteed pathway<sup>1</sup> for rural and regional students to study medicine in a rural setting.
- Learn valuable skills required to help those living in regional communities.
- New \$2m science laboratories at the Albury-Wodonga Campus.
- New high-tech simulation learning spaces designed to foster interprofessional and scenario-based learning, providing students with authentic rural healthcare experiences.

## COURSE OVERVIEW

Learn how the fields of cell and molecular biology, biochemistry, anatomy, physiology, pharmacology and immunology can be applied to understand and treat disease.

Develop the practical skills needed to explore the underlying molecular basis of acute and chronic illnesses. Investigate how to apply biomedical research and convey scientific information.

Core subjects have been designed to promote successful transition into the **Doctor of Medicine (Rural Pathway)** at the University of Melbourne in Shepparton.<sup>1</sup>

## COURSE DETAILS

**Location/course code:**  
Albury-Wodonga (SBMMW)  
Bendigo (SBMMB)

**Intake:**  
Semester 1 (March)

**Duration:**  
3 years full-time

## CAREER OUTCOMES

When you complete your **Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Medical)** at La Trobe, you'll be guaranteed<sup>1</sup> a Bonded Medical Place in the Doctor of Medicine at the University of Melbourne, Shepparton. This rural medical pathway is designed to address shortages of doctors in regional and rural areas.

You can continue to the Doctor of Medicine if you obtain the required Weighted Average Mark (WAM)<sup>1</sup>. If you don't proceed to the Doctor of Medicine, you'll graduate well-prepared for roles in biomedical, biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries as well as in hospitals and government departments. You will also be suitable for roles in medical sales and health communication.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for selection, you must meet the following requirements:

- Have lived in regional or rural areas for five years continuously or 10 years cumulatively.
- VCE Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL.
- Have a minimum unadjusted ATAR of 80.
- Have preferably completed Years 11 and 12 at a regional school.
- Submission of an online rurality form demonstrating evidence of regional living: [latrobe.edu.au/study/apply/undergrad/rurality](http://latrobe.edu.au/study/apply/undergrad/rurality)

## SELECTION PROCESS

Selected students will progress to a joint La Trobe and University of Melbourne selection process. This involves multiple mini interviews (MMIs) conducted in December and January.

For a full list of admission requirements and selection processes including details for non-year 12 entry, please visit: [latrobe.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-biomedical-science-medical](http://latrobe.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-biomedical-science-medical)

For Year 12 applicants selection for interview will be based on the applicant's Rurality Form and on their La Trobe Entrance Rank (LTER), determined using official Year 11 results and the School Endorsement Form (for December interviews) or on the applicant's ATAR (for January interviews). The number of applicants interviewed will depend on size of eligible applicant pool and interview availability.

Contact us:  
[biomed.medical@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:biomed.medical@latrobe.edu.au)

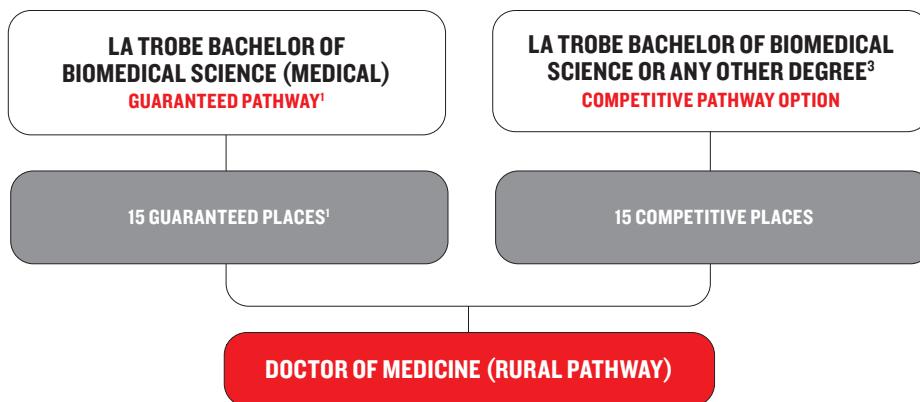
1. The University of Melbourne requires students to have a WAM (weighted average mark) of 70 or higher and a continued commitment to regional living whilst completing the course in order to guarantee a place in the Doctor of Medicine (Rural Pathway) program in Shepparton.

2. ARWU Global Ranking of Academic Subjects 2023: Clinical Medicine and Public Health, Times Higher Education World University Rankings by subject 2024: Clinical and health & Psychology

3. Of any undergraduate program for any Australian university.

4. Times Higher Education (THE), 2023, World University Rankings 2023; Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), 2023, Ranking Web of Universities.

# VICTORIA'S FIRST END-TO-END RURAL MEDICAL PATHWAY



La Trobe University and the University of Melbourne have partnered to deliver a unique rural medical pathway program across Bendigo, Albury-Wodonga and Shepparton.

The 15 students accepted into the Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Medical) program each year will be guaranteed<sup>1</sup> entry into the 4-year Doctor of Medicine (Rural Pathway) at the University of Melbourne's Shepparton Campus. Students will study and live in the recently constructed, \$6.5m student accommodation and expanded learning facilities.

Melbourne Medical School (MMS) is the oldest medical school in Australia, ranked #1 in Australia for clinical medicine, public health and psychology and 14th in the world for clinical medicine<sup>2</sup>. MMS is internationally renowned for global leadership in teaching and training, health

research, policy and practice. It also has partnerships with leading hospitals and medical research institutes and centres, both locally and internationally.

At the University of Melbourne, students will undertake the Doctor of Medicine (Rural Pathway). This pathway provides training for students interested in practising medicine in rural or regional locations. The Doctor of Medicine (Rural Pathway) comprises a group of 30 students. 15 of these will be preselected from La Trobe's Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Medical) undergraduate degree, while the remainder will be open to other regional students. Rural Pathway students spend the third year of the MD course learning specialties in a primary health care setting in regional Victoria. This includes Aged Care, Women's Health, Child and Adolescent Health, Mental Health and General Practice.



Being part of this end-to-end rural pathway is more than a dream fulfilled, it's a commitment to serving the communities that have shaped who I am. With only a small number of places offered each year, this program opens a door that many rural students have long hoped for, an opportunity to pursue medicine without needing to leave the regions we call home. This journey isn't just about becoming a doctor, it's about becoming a doctor for rural communities, helping to close the gap in healthcare access and providing consistent, compassionate care. The privilege to train locally gives me the chance to advocate for equity in a system that deeply affects those around me. And in such a close-knit cohort, I've found not only support and mentorship but also lasting friendships, each of us united in a shared passion for rural medicine and the people we hope to serve one day.

## MOHAMMAD AL MOUSAWY

**Bachelor of Biomedical  
Science (Medical)**

Home town: Cohuna, Victoria

## WE OFFER A GUARANTEED PATHWAY INTO THE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE (RURAL PATHWAY) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE, SHEPPARTON<sup>1</sup>

## WE'RE HOME TO THE LARGEST RURAL HEALTH SCHOOL IN AUSTRALIA

# MAKE A REAL IMPACT WITH LA TROBE

## YOU'VE DONE THE RESEARCH. NOW GET IN TOUCH FOR EXPERT COURSE ADVICE.

TOP 1% OF  
UNIVERSITIES  
WORLDWIDE<sup>4</sup>



### VIEW YOUR COURSE OPTIONS

[latrobe.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-biomedical-science-medical](https://latrobe.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-biomedical-science-medical)

Book a one-on-one consultation to discuss your study options.  
Available over the phone, in person, via video conference or live chat.

### TAKE THE NEXT STEP

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