

2023

Applying for Credit Information

Bachelor of Dental Surgery

Students are referred to the University's information about credit for previous study [Applying for Credit](#).



Dentistry course specific information

Students who have been offered a place in the JCU Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) program and have completed a university degree/s or have started an accredited Bachelor of Dental Surgery at another university may apply for credit.

Please do not submit an application for credit unless you have been offered AND accepted a place in the BDS program.

In order to be eligible for credit, a student needs to demonstrate that s/he has covered the appropriate integrated subject material for the first year/s of the BDS course. Each application is carefully reviewed by a panel before a decision about advanced standing is made.

To apply for credit, a student needs to complete the Application for Credit form, along with the required documentation to the JCU Student Centre. Information on the requirements to apply for credit can be found at [Apply for Credit for Previous Study](#)

By Email

enrolments@jcu.edu.au

By Post

Student Centre
1 James Cook Drive
Douglas QLD 4811 Australia

In Person

Student Centre
Ground Floor, Education Central Building 134
JCU Townsville, Bebegu Yumba Campus, Douglas.
Applications received less than 4 weeks prior to the commencement of Study Period 1 may not be assessed in time.

Please attach documentary evidence of previous studies, including certified copies of academic transcripts (Memorandum of Results is not acceptable), titles of subjects studied, results awarded and subject outlines. The subject

outlines must be the ones provided by the University that awarded the degree and must list information presented at each session or lecture. All documents MUST be in ENGLISH and be clearly legible. The College of Medicine and Dentistry (CMD) may require further information to be supplied by the student before a decision is made.

Information for MBBS graduates

The CMD is committed to facilitating MBBS graduates who wish to pursue a career in maxillofacial medicine. MBBS graduates who wish to apply to JCU Bachelor of Dental Surgery are advised to follow the usual application process in the first instance. If the application is successful, the student will then be eligible to apply for credit as per the process outlined above.

Information about the first years of the BDS course

The BDS course is structured differently from traditional courses. In each year of the program, there are integrated subjects ranging from 6 – 12 credit points. Most year levels also include one or more 3 credit point subjects. In order to gain credit for any of these subjects, a student needs to be able to demonstrate that s/he has covered the material of these modules in the depth (and focus) required by the BDS course. The modules for the first years of the program are outlined on the next page.

Successful Applicants

If a student is successful in her/his application for credit, s/he will be informed of this via email. Credit will only be issued for the subjects listed and the student will be informed of any additional course work that s/he may have to undertake e.g. clinical placements, clinical skills and directed study, as well as the time line for these to be completed. The student must be aware that if this additional work is not satisfactorily completed in the required time, his/her progression through the course will be delayed.

APPLYING FOR CREDIT INFORMATION BACHELOR OF DENTAL SURGERY

Year 1

COMMUNICATION SKILLS FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Communication Skills for Health Professionals covers health professional/client communication, professional communication with other health professionals and the public in addition to an in depth interview.

LIFESPAN DEVELOPMENT FOR HEALTH

Lifespan Development for Health examines physical, cognitive and socio-emotional development in relation to major theorists and stages of human development from birth through to death, including socio-cultural aspects in relation to multi-culturalism and health and well-being. Major topics include: biological beginnings, infancy, early childhood, middle and late childhood, adolescence, early adulthood, middle and late adulthood, death and dying.

HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE IN AUSTRALIA

Health and Health Care in Australia introduces the broad concepts surrounding demographic characteristics of the Australian population; location, age, ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status and education. Epidemiological patterns of the Australian population with a particular focus on rural, remote and tropical Australia. The influence on health service delivery in rural, remote and metropolitan localities. Methods for accessing health and demographic data will also be introduced as well as the interpretation of this data. This subject explores the future of health care in Australia and its impact on the practice of health professionals.

Year 2

HEALTH PROMOTION IN DENTISTRY

This subject introduces students to the principles of health promotion in the context of dentistry. Students will analyse the social determinants of health that impact oral health, and explore barriers to behaviour change at an individual and population level. Students will examine frameworks and models that can be used to address oral health issues and will gain experience applying these frameworks through a primary school visit practicum.

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH 1

This subject introduces undergraduate students to practical and theoretical issues arising in qualitative and quantitative research in Health Sciences. The students will become familiar with basic methods of biostatistics and concepts of research methods. Topics covered include univariate and bivariate statistical analysis, design of a questionnaire, the structure of health research, descriptive and analytical epidemiology, bias and aspects of validity, interviewing techniques, focus group work, reading and writing of health publications.

The first two days of the subject will provide students with an introduction to the basics of qualitative health research. This introduction will include design methodology, data collection and analysis. Ethical research practice with human participants will also be introduced. The remaining eight days will focus on research methods and statistics. Standard methods of



quantitative research in the health sciences will be introduced in these eight days during lectures and tutorials.

The subject covers all aspects of the research cycle - that is, research and statistical hypotheses, study design, data collection (including measurement), data analyses, interpretation, and linking back to statistical and research hypotheses. Statistics is an integral part of quantitative research methodology. Therefore, this subject introduces students to the theory and application of descriptive (univariate) and bivariate statistical methods. A statistical software package will be used in tutorials. Students will also gain experience with applying the theories and concepts covered in lectures and tutorials via a group assignment in which understanding of all aspects of the research cycle must be demonstrated.

RURAL AND REMOTE PRIMARY AND PUBLIC HEALTH CARE

This subject introduces students to the principles and practices of primary health care and public health in the rural and remote Australian context. The student will gain an understanding of the nature of rural society and how these societies have changed over time, including the influences of economy, environment, geography and cultural diversity.

Demography and demographic change and its impact on rural society and life will be discussed and the health status and the factors that influence the health of rural and remote Australians will be presented, including the health of Indigenous Australian peoples. The impact of Australian history upon Indigenous peoples will be introduced. Students will be introduced to the concept of cultural safety which includes basic communication principles for effective engagement with Indigenous Australian clients.

Different models of primary health care service planning and delivery will be presented. Concepts for inter-professional teamwork practice will be introduced. Students will gain an understanding of policies affecting rural health as well as learning about the role of health professionals in work in rural and remote areas and the issues that they face.

The content is applicable for health practice with rural and remote clients in urban or rural settings and contributes to fieldwork placement preparation.