

Applying for Credit Information International Students

2026 Entry

BACHELOR OF DENTAL SURGERY

Please read this in conjunction with the information available on JCU's website about credit for previous study.

Dentistry course-specific information

Students who have been offered a place in the JCU Bachelor of Dental Surgery may be eligible for credit on study already completed in another university degree.

For prior study to be recognised, it needs to have fully covered the appropriate integrated subject material. Each application is carefully reviewed before a decision about credit is made.

Apply for credit

You'll need to complete the [Application for Credit](#) form online, including the required documentation.

Applications received less than 4 weeks prior to the commencement of Study Period 1 may not be assessed in time.

Please attach a certified copy of your academic record, including subject titles studied, subject outlines and academic results achieved. Subject outlines must be as specified by the university that awarded the degree and must list information presented at each session or lecture. A memorandum of results is not valid.

All documents **MUST** be in English and clearly readable. JCU may request additional information in order to reach a decision regarding study credits.

Credit for medicine graduates

JCU is committed to supporting graduates of the Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery who wish to pursue a career in maxillofacial medicine. Interested graduates will need to apply for a place in the Bachelor of Dental Surgery and if successful, submit a request for study credit after they have accepted their offer.



Course structure

The structure of subjects in the Bachelor of Dental Surgery is different to most other courses at JCU. In each year of the degree, there are integrated subjects ranging from 6 to 12 credit points, with some 3 credit point subjects in most years. In order to gain credit for eligible subjects, students need to have covered the course material to the standards required.

Successful applicants

If you are successful in your application for credit, we will notify you by email. You'll then be required to complete additional activities normally covered in the initial years of the degree, including clinical skills training and assessment and cultural immersion.

You must complete these activities to a satisfactory standard within the specified timeframes. Students who are unable to meet these requirements may experience delays in progressing through the degree. Those who are awarded credit will be given access to previous years study to support their course comprehension.

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 socioemotional 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 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 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, including research and statistical hypotheses, study design, data collection and measurement, data analysis, interpretation, and linking back to statistical and research hypotheses. As statistics is an integral part of quantitative research methodology, students learn 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.

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.

Year 3

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.