



The Doctor of Medicine & Master of Public Health (MD/MPH) Program



ABOUT THE MD/MPH PROGRAM

The Melbourne Medical School, in conjunction with the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne, is pleased to offer enrolled MD students the opportunity to pursue an intercalated MD/MPH (Master of Public Health) degree. This five-year program offers students the opportunity to develop public health skills at the beginning of their professional careers, and provides the foundation for future leadership in the prevention of disease and injury and the promotion of health and wellbeing.

WHO IS IT FOR?

The MD/MPH program is designed for those students who wish to combine future medical practice with work that protects and improves the health of communities through education, primary prevention, health policy and research. This recognises the need to produce outstanding graduates that have the ability to address growing disparities in health care and the global burden of disease. The MD/MPH is fully integrated, allowing students to undertake the MPH between the third and fourth year of the MD degree so that they might develop public health interests as an integral part of their medical training.

COURSE STRUCTURE

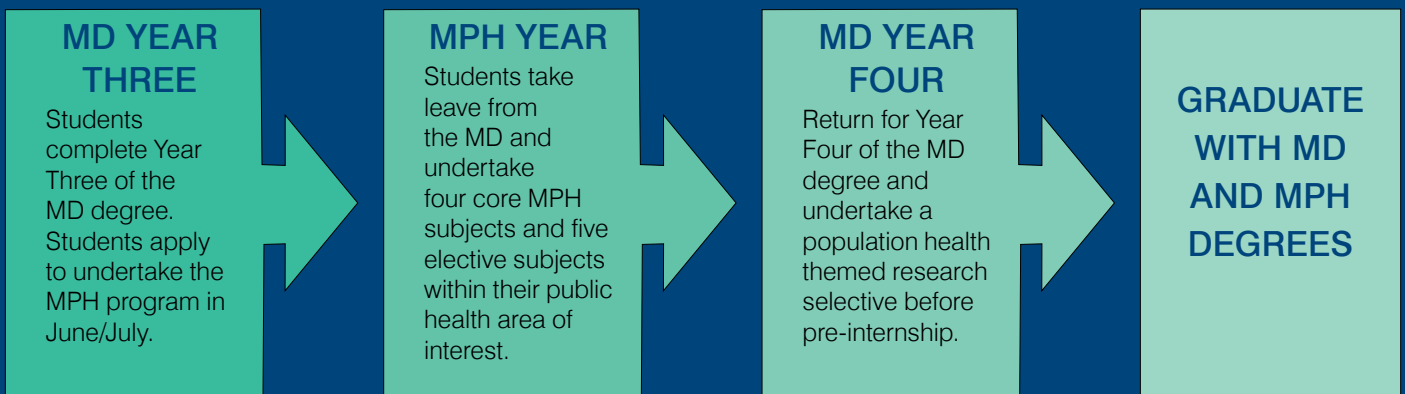
Students apply to undertake the MPH component of the MD/MPH in the middle of MD Year Three. After being accepted, students take a leave of absence from the MD program at the end of third year, complete their MPH coursework and return for the final year of the MD degree one year later. The overarching aims of the MPH are to develop a student's capability and passion for improving population health through integrated training in critical analysis, evaluation, research and implementation. The MPH year is comprised of:

- FOUR compulsory 'Core Subjects' in epidemiology; biostatistics; surveys & qualitative methods; and public health leadership and management
- FIVE elective subjects (from >60 subjects) in any of the following specialisations: epidemiology and biostatistics; gender and women's health; global health; health economics; health social sciences; Indigenous health; program evaluation; primary care; or sexual health.

Year four of the MD degree is comprised of a scholarly selective research project and pre-clinical work. It is expected that MD/MPH students will undertake research that has an emphasis on population health.



The inaugural MD/MPH student cohort



FEES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Successful Australian students will be offered either a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) or a full-fee place, and successful international students a full-fee place. Australian students are entitled to obtain financial assistance through HECS-HELP and FEE-HELP. Scholarship support may be available to eligible MD/MPH students.

WHY DO THE MD/MPH?

The MD/MPH is designed for those people who have a deep interest in medicine, and also those factors that impact health beyond the hospital or clinic walls. In this way, the MD/MPH program will instill in its graduates:

- The ability to synthesize clinical and population-based approaches to disease prevention and health promotion
- The ability to view health issues on a broad continuum from local and international perspectives
- The skills needed to discover and apply knowledge toward the protection of the public's health
- The management and epidemiologic skills needed to address the overall health needs of underserved populations
- The skills needed to assess the systems in which healthcare is delivered and to make change

Undertaken separately the MD would usually take four years

to complete and the MPH would usually take another two years to complete. Through this program, both degrees are completed in five years.

APPLICATION & SELECTION CRITERIA

Interested students must be in good academic standing within the Faculty of Medicine. A call for applications will be made in June/July, and the application will be limited to a series of short answer questions that assess past experience, career goals and interest in pursuing an MPH. Interested students will also be asked to create a planned course of study which requires a familiarity with the MPH course handbook.

The selection committee will pay particular attention to those applicants who have a demonstrated commitment to population and/or global health, as well as to those students who have a well-articulated desire to improve population outcomes. It is possible that some students may be asked to undertake an interview for the program to clarify their application.

For further information on the MPH structure and subjects, please visit the faculty website at: www.pgh.unimelb.edu.au/

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