

Associate Degree of Health (AHEA) - AssocDeg Health

QTAC code (Australian and New Zealand applicants): Distance education: 906915

	On-campus	Distance education^{^*}
Semester intake:		Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July)
Campus:	Toowoomba	-
Fees:		Commonwealth supported place Domestic full fee paying place
Standard duration:	2 years full-time, 6 years part-time maximum	
Program articulation:	To: Bachelor of Health	

Footnotes

[^] Only part-time candidates with approved relevant prior learning or industrial experience may commence study in Semester 2.
A number of courses are offered in dual mode.

Program objectives

Graduates from the Associate Degree of Health will:

- demonstrate a sound knowledge and practical skills to function as a medical technician in a general pathology laboratory
- demonstrate a sound knowledge and practical skills to function as a medical technician in the disciplines of haematology, transfusion science, histology, clinical biochemistry and microbiology within a pathology laboratory
- be able to demonstrate a sound grounding in biological sciences with a major emphasis on human health and disease
- have a working knowledge of the fundamentals of Chemistry
- be capable of applying these principles to problem-solving
- possess skill in drawing upon the growing content of knowledge in these disciplines
- have demonstrated competence in laboratory techniques and the use of instrumentation relevant to the pathology laboratory services
- have an awareness of the principles of laboratory safety as applicable in the areas studied in the program
- be able to use computers to assist them to obtain and analyse data and solve problems in the areas studied in the program
- be motivated to sustain life-long learning
- be aware of the social, moral, and legal responsibilities of professional medical technicians
- possess skills and knowledge that allow successful career diversification on graduation.

Admission requirements

For entry into the Associate Degree of Health (Laboratory Medicine) program, applicants will require Queensland Senior School Certificate (Year 12) or equivalent with the following:

- English (four semesters Sound Achievement) or equivalent. International applicants must have met the [University's English language requirements](#) or have completed the University's [ELICOS/EAP](#).
- Study in one of Biological Science, Chemistry, Physics or Multi-strand Science or equivalent.

Students must be willing to undertake and submit the requirements of the University of Southern Queensland and Queensland Health for clinical placement. These include:

- (1) evidence of Hepatitis B immunity
- (2) a signed Qld Health Student Orientation Checklist, Qld Health Placement Deed and a Qld Health Placement Privacy and Consent Deed
- (3) a signed USQ Student Clinical Placement Policy Declaration

Candidates for admission to this program must satisfy the normal USQ entry requirements for undergraduate programs. Please refer to [Section 2.2 of the Admissions Policy](#), Section 2.2.1 (for Australian students) and Section 2.2.3 (for international students).

How to apply

Domestic students

[Application for undergraduate programs](#) may be made through the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC). The same procedure applies whether you plan to study on-campus or by distance education.

If you completed Year 12 at a Queensland secondary school you will be assessed for entry on the basis of your Overall Position (OP) or equivalent score. Year 12 students from other states or territories are considered for entry on the basis of their UAI, ENTER or TER and the subject prerequisites indicated. Other applicants will be based on their overall Rank.

Program fees

Commonwealth supported place

A Commonwealth supported place is where the Australian Government makes a contribution towards the cost of your higher education and you as a student pay a student contribution towards the cost of the courses undertaken. You are able to calculate the fee for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#). Commonwealth Supported students may be eligible to apply for a Government loan called [HECS-HELP](#).

Domestic full fee paying place

Domestic full fee paying places are funded entirely by the student. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken. You are able to calculate the fee for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

Permanent Humanitarian Visa holders, Permanent Resident Visa holders and New Zealand citizens who reside outside Australia pay full tuition fees.

Domestic full fee paying students may be eligible to apply for a Government loan called [FEE-HELP](#).

Program structure

To qualify for the award of Associate Degree of Health Services, a candidate must complete or be exempted from courses with a total value of at least 120 credit points over the following recommended enrolment pattern.

Required time limits

Students have a maximum of 6 years to complete this program.

Clinical requirements

Clinical experience is an integral component of the program. Students must satisfactorily complete 39 days of clinical experience.

IT requirements

Students should visit the USQ [minimum computing standards](#) page to ensure their computers are capable of running the appropriate software and versions of Internet Explorer. Please refer to the recommended standards for software.

Recommended enrolment pattern

Year	Semester 1	Semester 2	Total
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Major study: Laboratory Medicine									
Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Residential school (compulsory /optional)	Enrolment requirements	
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (WEB)				
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem			
Year 2									
BIO2105 Pathology Clinical Placement 2[^]			2	1				Pre-requisite: BIO1205	
BIO2106 Medical Microbiology and Immunology 2			2	1				Pre-requisite: BIO1104	
BIO2107 Cell and Molecular Biology 1			2	1				Pre-requisite: CHE2120	
BIO2108 Haematology 1			2	1				Pre-requisite: BIO1103 and BIO1104	
BIO2214 Pathology Clinical Placement 3[^]			2	2				Pre-requisite: BIO2105	
BIO2215 Clinical Biochemistry 1			2	2				Pre-requisite: BIO1103	
BIO2216 Histopathology 1			2	2				Pre-requisite: BIO1103	
BIO2217 Transfusion Science			2	2				Pre-requisite: BIO1103	

Footnotes

- * Each of these courses has a 2-day residential school. Candidates with evidence of Recognised Prior Learning (RPL) may seek exemption from some courses and/or residential schools in the 1st year of the program.
- [^] Current employees of pathology service providers with a minimum of 2 years full-time or equivalent relevant technical experience may seek exemption from Pathology Clinical Placements courses 1 to 4 on the basis of approved industrial experience. This requires attendance at a Pathology Clinic. However, for candidates to be eligible for the award of Bachelor of Health (Laboratory Medicine) (BHEA) and who are seeking course credits by exemption must satisfactorily complete a minimum of 8 courses of the BHEA.