

Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery [MBChB]

- [University of Pretoria](#)
- [Study at UP](#)
- Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery [MBChB]

Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery

To register as a medical practitioner, a student has to obtain a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery degree, followed by a two-year internship and one year of community service. In the medical profession, the health of a patient is of vital importance. Patients are treated to restore their health. Special programmes are developed to prevent the spread of diseases and/or infections in the community. The promotion of a healthy lifestyle is also an essential function of medical doctors.

The University of Pretoria's internationally comparable, problem-oriented and outcomes-based training programme is accredited by the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA), and the high standard of training is recognised locally and internationally. Exchange agreements have been concluded between the School of Medicine and similar faculties at universities abroad.

Medicine is not only a profession—it is a calling. Prospective students, therefore, have to be prepared to serve humanity in all its facets. The medical profession demands high ethical standards in practice, and the career makes heavy physical and mental demands on practitioners. The ideal candidate should be disciplined, a problem solver, critical thinker, socially responsible, culturally competent and compassionate.

Duration of the programme:

- **Year 1 to the middle of year 5:** Theoretical, practical and clinical training in the medical disciplines
- **Second half of year 5 and year 6:** Student internship, which is patient-centered and during which clinical training takes place in hospitals and clinics. This is followed by two years of internship with clinical service under supervision in accredited hospitals throughout the country and a compulsory year of community service. These three years are not part of the university training.

The promotion of a healthy lifestyle is an essential function of medical doctors.

- **Community engagement:** The curriculum is compiled from the viewpoint that training should take place through service delivery. In this context, the Faculty provides a comprehensive service to the broader community through several outreach programmes. Students are already involved in these programmes during their undergraduate studies. The Daspoort Clinic in Pretoria is an example of a place that serves as a service training platform where the students can work.

- **Research:** Advances in medical science depend on active research in the various fields of specialisation. This is why undergraduate and postgraduate student training in a research environment promotes an inquiry-based approach to learning and skills for carrying out research.

For more information, please consult the Faculty webpage.

Career Opportunities

General medical practitioners, specialists (after postgraduate training)

Programme Code

10130003

Closing Dates

- **SA** – 30/06/2025
- **Non-SA** – 30/06/2025

Admission Requirements

Important information for all prospective students for 2026

The admission requirements apply to students who apply for admission to the University of Pretoria with a **National Senior Certificate (NSC) and Independent Examination Board (IEB)** qualifications. [Click here](#) for this Faculty Brochure.

Minimum requirements

Achievement level



English Home Language or English First Additional Language	Mathematics	Physical Sciences	APS
NSC/IEB	NSC/IEB	NSC/IEB	
5	6	5	35

For advice on a second-choice programme, please consult a Student Advisor. To make an appointment, send an email to carol.bosch@up.ac.za.

Life Orientation is excluded when calculating the APS.

Applicants currently in Grade 12 must apply with their final Grade 11 (or equivalent) results.

Applicants who have completed Grade 12 must apply with their final NSC or equivalent qualification results.

Please note that meeting the minimum academic requirements does not guarantee admission.

Successful candidates will be notified once admitted or conditionally admitted.

Applicants should check their application status regularly on the UP Student Portal at [click here](#).

Applicants with qualifications other than the abovementioned should refer to the International undergraduate prospectus 2026: Applicants with a school leaving certificate not issued by Umalusi (South Africa), available at [click here](#).

International students: [Click here](#)

A limited number of places are made available to citizens from countries other than South Africa (applicants who are not South African citizens), with those from SADC countries being given preference. Applicants who have multiple citizenships, including South African citizenship, will be considered to be South African.

Applications received from citizens of other countries (applicants who are not South African citizens) that have their own medical schools are not considered for the Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery.

Transferring students

A transferring student is a student who, at the time of applying at the University of Pretoria (UP) is/was a registered student at another tertiary institution. A transferring student will be considered for admission based on NSC or equivalent qualification and previous academic performance. Students who have been dismissed from other institutions due to poor academic performance will not be considered

for admission to UP.

Closing dates: Same as above

Returning students

A returning student is a student who, at the time of application for a degree programme is/was a registered student at UP, and wants to transfer to another degree at UP. A returning student will be considered for admission based on NSC or equivalent qualification and previous academic performance.

- Students who have been excluded/dismissed from a faculty due to poor academic performance may be considered for admission to another programme at UP, as per faculty-specific requirements.
- Only ONE transfer between UP faculties and TWO transfers within a faculty will be allowed.
- Admission of returning students will always depend on the faculty concerned and the availability of space in the programmes for which they apply.

Closing date for applications from returning students is the same as the above.

Note: Any deliberate omission of information, or false information provided by an applicant in the application may result in the immediate cancellation of the application, admission or registration.

Selection Process

Selection criteria are available on the faculty's webpage at: [click here](#).

- **Three hundred (300) first-year students are selected annually.**
 - First choice candidates will be considered and second choice candidates may be considered in certain categories.
-

Minimum duration of study

6 years, full-time

Faculty Notes

Modules will be presented only in English, which is the University's official language of tuition, communication and correspondence.

The Faculty of Health Sciences continues to exemplify and build on the University of Pretoria's vision of being a leading research-intensive university in Africa: it is recognised internationally for its quality, relevance and impact, as well as for creating knowledge, developing people and making a difference locally and globally.

The Faculty is home to 5 500 undergraduate and 1 500 postgraduate students, including medical and dental fellowship training in more than 40 disciplines.

The Faculty's research output has grown, in response to the need for research that is relevant to the improvement of health and health care and advancing medicine in South Africa, Africa and globally.

- **Disclaimer:** *This publication contains information about regulations and programmes of the University of Pretoria. Amendments to or updating of the information may be effected from time to time without prior notification. The accuracy, correctness or validity of the information contained here is therefore not guaranteed by the University at any given time and is always subject to verification. The user is kindly requested to verify the correctness of the information with the University at all times. Failure to do so will not give rise to any claim or action of any nature against the University by any party whatsoever.*
-

Enquiries about the programme

[Click Here](#)



How to apply



Online Application





Note: Also consult General Rules and Information on the Yearbook website for additional information.

Disclaimer: Due to the continuous restructuring of the Faculty and this website, some of the information displayed here may not fully reflect the most recent developments in the Faculty. Any discrepancies that are experienced may be taken up with Student Administration of the Faculty.