Explanatory Notes

OUTLINE

There are an estimated 175 doctors in Australia who are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, with another 226 in training. To provide the Indigenous population with access to an Indigenous medical practitioner, at a similar level of availability as non-Indigenous doctors to the non-Indigenous population, would require around 1,000 doctors. The Indigenous Entry into Medicine Scheme at the University of New South Wales (UNSW) aims to play a significant part in redressing the existing imbalance by offering suitable students an alternate entry scheme who best meets the selection criteria (outlined below). The scheme is designed for high school students, current undergraduate and postgraduate students or mature age students.

A career in medicine is a challenging and ambitious choice. The challenges include providing comprehensive care to patients and those who support them, and staying abreast of clinical and scientific advances. UNSW Faculty of Medicine is dedicated to helping you gain the knowledge and skills that will equip you to be an effective doctor for the 21st Century, and assisting you to establish a pattern of lifelong learning. We believe that your experiences and learning to date are very important: they have influenced your consideration, for example, of Medicine as a career. We ask you to take some time to reflect and write about yourself as part of the application process. If you are called for an interview, we will look forward to talking with you about yourself and your experiences, and your interviewers will have read your application before they meet with you, as an introduction to getting to know you.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR APPLICATION

1. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. The definition is as follows; Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander parentage self-identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person and are accepted by an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person.
2. Evidence of Academic Capability
   Please note: A number of measures may be used to assess this criterion, for example:
   - Secondary education records
   - Tertiary education records
   - Examples of educational attainment
   - Other evidence of the applicant’s ability to succeed in studying Medicine at UNSW
3. Sound communication and interpersonal skills
4. Commitment to and knowledge of community concerns relating to Indigenous health issues

SELECTION OF APPLICANTS FOR INTERVIEW

Students will be selected for interview using the following criteria:
1. Demonstrated motivation to practice medicine
2. Academic capability, including, the capacity to achieve within the UNSW Medical Program
3. Demonstrated ability to relate to Indigenous Health issues

Please note: All three of the above criteria will be taken into account in selection for interview

THE INTERVIEW

Interviews will be held in October 2013, in Sydney at UNSW. The interview lasts approximately 40 minutes. The interview panel will consist of interviewers drawn from:

- The Rural Clinical School, Faculty of Medicine, UNSW
- Nura Gili, Indigenous Programs at UNSW

PARTICIPATION IN THE PRE-MEDICINE PROGRAM (PMP)

Suitable applicants will be asked to participate in a four-week Pre-Medicine Program (PMP) which helps UNSW assess a person’s readiness for studying Medicine at UNSW. The PMP will be held in Sydney at UNSW from Monday 25th November to Thursday 19th December 2013. Applicants will be invited to participate on the basis of three criteria: performance at interview; academic capability/capacity to achieve within the UNSW Medicine Program; and identification with an Indigenous community. In exceptional circumstances, exemption from the PMP may be granted.

ACCEPTANCE INTO MEDICINE

Students who complete the Pre-Medicine Program (PMP) must do so at a level deemed satisfactory by the UNSW Faculty of Medicine. Acceptance into Medicine at UNSW is based on a combination of criteria and includes overall performance and motivation, academic capability and a commitment to Indigenous health and community issues. Final selection for UNSW Indigenous Entry into the Medical Scheme will be made once the program has been completed. Please note: Satisfactory performance in the Pre Medicine Program does not guarantee a place in the UNSW Medicine Program.
**ASSUMED KNOWLEDGE**

There are no prerequisites for entry into Medicine at UNSW, however, it is preferred that you have completed some Sciences (Biology/Chemistry) in your HSC (or equivalent). There is also an assumed knowledge in English. Assumed knowledge is a level of achievement in the HSC (or equivalent) considered desirable for successful study in a University Program or first year course. Students who have not completed chemistry in their high school or undergraduate studies may be advised during the Pre Medicine Program that they will need to complete bridging courses before they enter into the UNSW Medical Program.

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**SUPPORT**

1. A number of scholarships are available. For more information, refer to the UNSW website [http://www.scholarships.unsw.edu.au](http://www.scholarships.unsw.edu.au)

2. The Rural Clinical School and Nura Gili, Indigenous Programs at UNSW will coordinate and provide ongoing academic and personal support to all Indigenous medical students at UNSW. The Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ITAS) is available at UNSW.

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**STUDENT OBLIGATION**

1. Accept the support of Nura Gili, ITAS tutoring, the Faculty of Medicine and the Australian Indigenous Doctors Association (AIDA).

2. Support the activities of the Rural Clinical School in the UNSW Faculty of Medicine where the student feels able, such as promotion of the Indigenous Entry into Medicine Scheme to high school students, during their studies at the UNSW.

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**APPLICATION and SELECTION PROCESS**

1. Send the attached application form to Cheryl Ah-See at Nura Gili Indigenous Programs by **30th September 2013**.

2. Apply through the NSW University Admission Centre (UAC) by **30th September 2013**. For more information please telephone UAC directly on (02) 9752 0200 or visit their website: [http://www.uac.edu.au](http://www.uac.edu.au)

3. Applicants selected for interview notified **early October 2013**

4. Interviews conducted **mid October 2013**

5. Applicants successful at interview will be advised in **late October 2013** of progression to UNSW Pre-Medicine Program

6. Pre-Medicine Program held **Monday 25th November to Thursday 19th December 2013**

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**CONTACTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For further information on Nura Gili and its student support programs contact:</th>
<th>For specific information about studying Medicine at UNSW, contact:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cheryl Ah-See</td>
<td>Genevieve McKay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Support Officer</td>
<td>Rural Clinical School - Sydney Campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nura Gili Indigenous Programs</td>
<td>Faculty of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNSW SYDNEY NSW 2052</td>
<td>UNSW SYDNEY NSW 2052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone: 02 9385 3532</td>
<td>Telephone: 02 9385 3210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 02 9385 3534</td>
<td>Fax: 02 9385 1970</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:c.ah-see@unsw.edu.au">c.ah-see@unsw.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:g.mckay@unsw.edu.au">g.mckay@unsw.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website: <a href="http://www.nuragili.unsw.edu.au">http://www.nuragili.unsw.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Website: <a href="http://indigenous.med.unsw.edu.au">http://indigenous.med.unsw.edu.au</a></td>
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INDIGENOUS ENTRY INTO MEDICINE 2014

Application Form for 2013 Pre-Medicine Program

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS
The details we ask you to provide assist us to select applicants for interview, to contact you and to link the application with other parts of the selection process. No information will be passed on to any third party.
- Limit your application to 20 pages.
- Pages must be securely fastened (no presentation folders or bound documents please).
- Send photocopies of documents only.
- No additional information is to be sent after the closing date (unless requested).
- Faxed applications are not accepted.
- Late applications will not be accepted. Please use Express Post if sending an application from a rural area.

1. PERSONAL DETAILS

Family Name: ________________________ First Name: ________________________

Date of Birth: ________________________ Male ☐ Female ☐ (please tick)

Postal Address: ________________________

State:_______ Postcode:_________

Telephone: (___) _____________ Mobile:__________________ Fax: (___)

Email: ____________________________

2. APPLICATION DETAILS

UAC Number: _____________ Predicted ATAR Score: ______ (2013 HSC Students only)

3. EDUCATIONAL HISTORY (LAST 10 YEARS ONLY)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Years of Study</th>
<th>Name of School/University/College</th>
<th>Course(s) undertaken</th>
<th>Completed? (Y/N)</th>
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4. WORK EXPERIENCE Include any experience that may be relevant to Medicine

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<tr>
<th>Year/s</th>
<th>Name of Employer</th>
<th>Main Duties</th>
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5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED

1. One short essay: (no more than 500 words) that:
   • Outlines your reasons for wanting to do Medicine
   • Describes any health or community related experience you have undertaken and, if relevant, describe how this experience has influenced your decision to study Medicine.
   • Outlines what area of Medicine you are interested in

2. Copies of Year 11 School reports and the half-yearly report of Year 12 (if completing the Higher School Certificate, or equivalent in other states, in 2013).

For non-High School Applicants
Copies of HSCATAR (or equivalent) and subject results/academic results from university course(s) or any other evidence of academic achievement.

3. Proof of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander background in the form of a signed letter from an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander organisation, including the organisation’s common seal.

6. DECLARATION

• I am of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander background.
• I believe I have provided truthful answers to all these questions, in my own words.
• I have included all necessary documentation as indicated in section 5.

I am / am not* aware of any reason that might potentially restrict my ability to obtain registered medical student status with the NSW Medical Board** or practise as a doctor in future. (*Delete one option)

Signature: ____________________________ Date: ___ / ___ / 13

** Please Note:
Working as a doctor may be both physically and emotionally demanding. You may be exposed to stresses and diseases that could make your life difficult. If you have any concerns about these issues or if you are aware of any reason (such as a chronic illness, a disability or a criminal conviction) or any impairment that might make it difficult for you to gain medical student registration with the NSW Medical Board, or to practise as a doctor after graduating from UNSW, we urge you to ask to speak about this in confidence with one of our independent Faculty advisers. This person will play no part in the selection process. Please Contact Ute Vollmer-Conna on 9385 2945 or ute@unsw.edu.au

Such confidential matters might, for example, include a previous illness (especially chronic illness or potential infectious illness), disability or criminal conviction. It is preferable that you consider these matters as a part of your thinking through the decision of applying to enter into the study of Medicine.

POST APPLICATION TO:

Nura Gili Indigenous Programs
University of New South Wales
Sydney, NSW 2052
Attention: Cheryl Ah-See

CLOSING DATE: 30th SEPTEMBER 2013