Explanatory Notes

OUTLINE

There are an estimated 204 doctors in Australia who are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, with another 310 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 life-long 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

Applicants may be requested to attend an interview if the selection panel require further information. These will be held in October 2015. 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 three and a half-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 Wednesday 25th November to Thursday 17th December 2015. Applicants will be invited to participate on the basis of three criteria: outstanding application and/or 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.

**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.

**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.

**APPLICATION and SELECTION PROCESS**

1. Send the attached application form along with a passport sized photo and certified copies of all documents to Rebekah Torrens at Nura Gili Indigenous Programs by **30th September 2015**.
2. Apply through the NSW University Admission Centre (UAC) by **30th September 2015**. 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. You may be selected for interview if the selection panel would like to learn more about you in addition to your application. You will be notified of this in **early October 2015**
4. If required for an interview, they will be conducted **mid October 2015**
5. Applicants will be advised by Nura Gili in **late October 2015** of progression to UNSW Pre-Medicine Program.
6. Pre Medicine Program held **Wednesday 25th November to Thursday 17th December 2015**

**CONTACTS**

For further information on Nura Gili and it’s student support programs contact:

Rebekah Torrens  
Student Support Officer  
Nura Gili Indigenous Programs  
UNSW SYDNEY NSW 2052  
Telephone: 02 9385 1642  
Fax: 02 9385 3534  
Email: r.torrens@unsw.edu.au  
Website: [http://www.nuragili.unsw.edu.au](http://www.nuragili.unsw.edu.au)

For specific information about studying Medicine at UNSW, contact:

Genevieve McKay  
Rural Clinical School - Sydney Campus  
Faculty of Medicine  
UNSW SYDNEY NSW 2052  
Telephone: 02 9385 3210  
Fax: 02 9385 1970  
Email: g.mckay@unsw.edu.au  
Website: [http://indigenous.med.unsw.edu.au](http://indigenous.med.unsw.edu.au)
INDIGENOUS ENTRY
INTO MEDICINE 2016

Application Form for 2015 Pre-Medicine Program

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS
The details we ask you to provide assist us with selection, 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 certified 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: ____ (2015 HSC Students only)

3. EDUCATIONAL HISTORY (LAST 10 YEARS ONLY)

<table>
<thead>
<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

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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>One short essay: (no more than 500 words) that:</td>
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<td>• Outlines your reasons for wanting to do Medicine</td>
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<td>• Describes any health or community related experience you have undertaken and, if relevant, describe how this experience has influenced your decision to study Medicine.</td>
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<td>• Outlines what area of Medicine you are interested in</td>
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<td>Included (please tick)</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Certified 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 2015).</td>
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<td>For non-High School Applicants</td>
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<td>Certified copies of HSC ATAR (or equivalent) and subject results/academic results from university course(s) or any other evidence of academic achievement.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Certified copy of 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.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>One passport sized photo attached to the front page of your application.</td>
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### 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: ___/___/15

**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: Rebekah Torrens

**CLOSING DATE:** 30th SEPTEMBER 2015