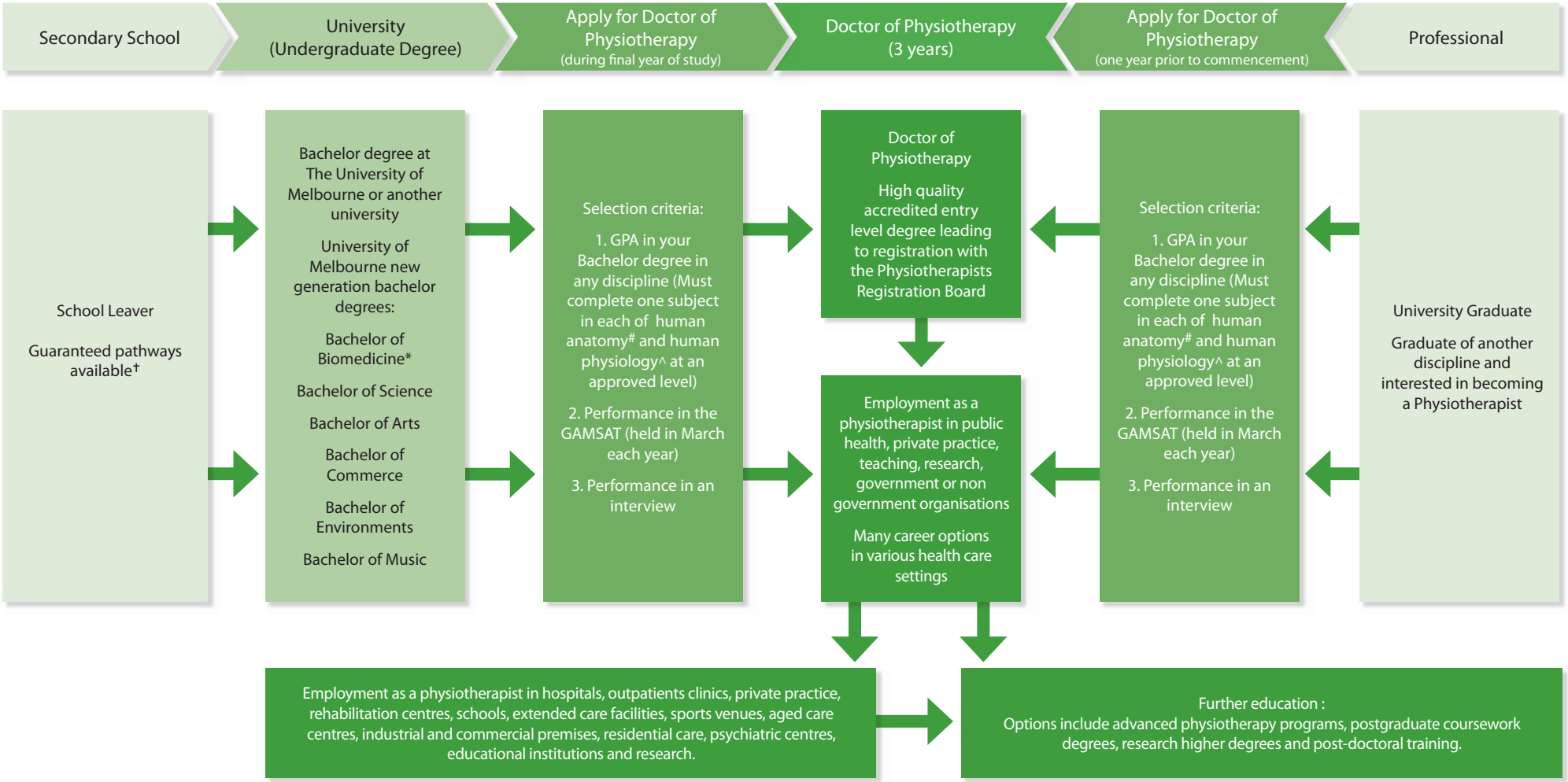
THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

FACULTY OF MEDICINE DENTISTRY & HEALTH SCIENCES

Pathways to Physiotherapy

Doctor of Physiotherapy



* The Bachelor of Biomedicine is the tailored undergraduate pathway at the University of Melbourne into the Doctor of Physiotherapy. The pre-requisite subjects are compulsory within this degree. They are:
# Human anatomy; offered at the University of Melbourne as "Principles of Human Structure." This subject requires pre-requisites of 2 semesters of 1st year Biology or 1st year of the Biomedicine course
^Human physiology; offered at the University of Melbourne as "Integrative Human Physiology." This subject requires pre-requisites of 2 semesters of 1st year Biology and 1 semester of any 1st year quantitative science subject eg. Chemistry, Physics, Maths
†Achieve an ENTER of 99.9 for CSP and 99.0 for Full-fee and complete a new generation undergraduate degree at the University of Melbourne with a H2A (75%) weighted average. Note that students must still meet entry requirements. More information: http://www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/ugrad/apply/scores/guaranteed-entry.html

www.physioth.unimelb.edu.au

Pathways to Physiotherapy – Doctor of Physiotherapy

The Melbourne Physiotherapy School makes distinctive contributions to the physiotherapy profession and society in clinical practice, research, learning & teaching and knowledge exchange.

DOCTOR OF PHYSIOTHERAPY

From 2011 Physiotherapy at Melbourne will be offered at a graduate level only, with the commencement of the entry-to-practice Doctor of Physiotherapy program. This transition from undergraduate to graduate level study is part of a new approach to higher education across the University known as the Melbourne Model.

Graduates of the Doctor of Physiotherapy will have a high level of knowledge and will be well placed to be health care leaders of the future. The program provides students with a comprehensive, integrated course of study in the theory and practice of physiotherapy.

Students will experience dynamic and interactive learning with opportunities to study under the guidance of internationally renowned research-active staff with a broad range of expertise in education and research.

A distinguishing feature of the Doctor of Physiotherapy graduate will be the combined depth and breadth of their physiotherapy practice knowledge. The combination of a prior undergraduate degree with a professional degree will result in a confident graduate who has a strong sense of professional identity and purpose within their work; who is able to integrate domains of knowledge and a sophisticated ability to recognise and accommodate a range of perspectives, values and beliefs for the purpose of providing healthcare to enhance the lives and well being of people.

WHY GRADUATE PHYSIOTHERAPY?

As a graduate-level physiotherapy student you will:

- combine the breadth of understanding and knowledge gained in a general or biomedical sciences degree with a contemporary physiotherapy degree
- be extremely well prepared to work in an ever-changing and complex environment where your leadership and clinical skills are in high demand
- make an informed decision to study physiotherapy having explored a range of options in your undergraduate degree
- participate in a rigorous and intense, graduate-level learning experience
- benefit from the University's strong links to hospitals, community, government and professional bodies in Australia and world wide

BENEFITS OF THE DOCTOR OF PHYSIOTHERAPY

The Doctor of Physiotherapy is the only 3 year second tier physiotherapy degree in Victoria. It offers a focus on professional commitment, responsibility and clinical leadership through:

- clinical placements in the largest major metropolitan teaching hospitals, primary care, rural and international settings
- innovative teaching methods and an extensive clinical program that offers advanced skills that will create work ready and highly employable graduates
- being part of one of the largest health sciences faculties in Australia
- an international focus to develop skills and attitudes enabling practice in both national and international environments
- being part of Australia's strongest research University
- opportunities to explore an extended scope of practice (e.g. emergency medicine, sports physiotherapy)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. Undergraduate degree and pre-requisite subjects

Applicants must have completed or be in the final year of completing an undergraduate degree which includes at least one subject in each of human anatomy# and human physiology^ at an appropriate level (see website for details). To be competitive, it is anticipated that applicants will achieve a minimum 70% or equivalent Grade Point Average.

2. Score in an Aptitude test

Applicants must also register and sit the GAMSAT (Graduate Australian Medical School Admissions Test). The GAMSAT is held only once per year, usually in March, with registration approximately one month prior. Test scores are valid for 2 years and can be used for entry to a range of graduate entry professional health programs across many Australian universities. More information on the GAMSAT is available at www.gamsat.edu.au

3. Interview

Applicants will participate in a multi-mini interview.

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PATHWAYS

The main focus of an undergraduate degree may be biomedicine or science, or students may take electives or breadth in biosciences as part of a completely different degree.

University of Melbourne Students or Graduates

The Bachelor of Biomedicine is the ideal pathway to the Doctor of Physiotherapy as the pre-requisite subjects are taught as a core component of this degree. Any of the other New Generation undergraduate degrees can also meet the entry requirements provided the pre-requisite subjects are studied as core or breadth. It is advised that students studying a degree other than the Bachelor of Biomedicine meet with student and course advisors to ensure the correct selection of subjects.

Students or Graduates from Other Universities

Students from biomedicine and science programs at other universities will be considered for entry to the Doctor of Physiotherapy. Such students are advised to ensure they meet the subject pre-requisites and to contact the Melbourne Physiotherapy School to discuss their eligibility and application.

FEES and SCHOLARSHIPS

At least 50% of places in the Doctor of Physiotherapy will be Commonwealth Supported which means that they are subsidised by the government, and will cost students less. All places are eligible for financial assistance in the terms of either FEE-HELP or HECS-HELP, where the fees are deferred and paid as part of your tax once a minimum income threshold is reached.

Students may also be eligible for Youth Allowance and Austudy.

Various scholarships are available including special access and equity through Graduate Access Melbourne**

CAREER OUTCOMES

Graduates from the Doctor of Physiotherapy are immediately employable following registration with the Physiotherapists Registration Board. They are practice-ready and bring leadership and a level of maturity from the combination of the depth and breadth in their bachelor degrees combined with the learning outcomes of the Doctor of Physiotherapy.

International experience has shown that graduates of a Doctor of Physiotherapy degree are in high demand in the work place. Employers and clinicians repeatedly rate University of Melbourne physiotherapy graduates highly. The Doctor of Physiotherapy is expected to build on this reputation.

Graduates also have the option of returning to further study at the University in order to extend their qualifications to areas of advanced practice or clinical research.

IMPORTANT DATES

Please take note of important dates below:

To be eligible to apply for the Doctor of Physiotherapy commencing in 2011, all applicants must sit the GAMSAT in either 2009 or 2010.

GAMSAT Registration Deadline:	February 2010
GAMSAT Test Date:	March 2010
Timely applications: (made to the School directly)	TBA

MORE INFORMATION

Physiotherapy at Melbourne
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F: +61 3 9437 4188
E: physio-enquiries@unimelb.edu.au
W: www.physioth.unimelb.edu.au

** For information on the Graduate Access Melbourne Scheme visit http://www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/grad/admissions/gam.html

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CRICOS provider code: 00116K (The University is in the process of obtaining CRICOS accreditation for the Doctor of Physiotherapy)