



OTAGO MEDICAL SCHOOL
Te Kura Hauora o Ōtākou

Other Study Opportunities for Medical Students: Integrated and Double Degree Study Options

There are several opportunities to supplement the MB ChB programme with study in additional fields

Studying Humanities enriches understanding of the human condition. It develops skills in perception, multiple perspective analysis and creative synthesis, helping to broaden your appreciation and approach to the practice of medicine.

Alternatively, you may choose to deepen your understanding in a field of science, further developing your skills in scientific enquiry and specific scientific expertise.

In considering further study, note that the Medicine programme requires full-time commitment. Any additional workload must be considered carefully and should not adversely affect progress and performance in the MB ChB programme.

Additional Study during the year:

Approval of the Associate Dean and Director ELM (for Years 2/3) or Dean of School (for Years 4/5/6) is required for additional study during the year.

This may include **enrolling in papers**, either as Certificate of Proficiency (COP) ([2019 Calendar](#) pg 148) or taken in order to complete another programme over time, eg BA, BSc, BCom, DipGrad. For example, students may wish to commence studies in music, languages, Maori Studies and Te Reo, Information Science etc, or continue study in the discipline of their Health Sciences First Year (optional) 8th paper, towards an additional qualification.

Some papers of interest might be available through the Summer School. The maximum enrolment for Summer School is 36 points (ie two 18-point papers).

Note the **Maximum Workloads regulation** (2019 Calendar p 148 <https://www.otago.ac.nz/study/otago701047.pdf>) is a maximum of 162 points

across a full year excluding Summer School with no more than 90 points being taken in any one semester (eg. a student taking a year out from the MB ChB- the maximum would be nine 18-point papers across a full year with no more than five 18-point papers in any one semester). The MB ChB is 120 points or equivalent to 60 points per semester. However as the semester period is longer for the MB ChB than for a standard 18-point paper of the BA, BSc or BCom, **normally only one 18-point paper per semester or one 30-point (postgraduate) paper in one semester would be permitted concurrent with MB ChB.** Additional papers in excess of these limits have to be approved by the PVC Health Sciences.

Students approved to undertake additional study must still attend mandatory MB ChB teaching and fully participate in all timetabled and un-timetabled learning opportunities including group work. Performance in the medicine course must not be adversely affected by the taking of extra papers/additional study. If this occurs the student may be required to withdraw from the paper/study.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure there are no clashes/conflicts with examinations for the additional study. MB ChB examinations must take priority.

Additional Study involving **taking one year out** from the MB ChB

With the approval of the Otago Medical School Academic Board, a student may **temporarily withdraw** from the MB ChB programme in order to undertake academic study. This is normally approved only following 3rd or 5th Year (following any other year only in exceptional circumstances).

Research programmes integrated with the MB ChB involve **taking one year out - BMedSc(Hons) or two years out - MB ChB/PhD** from the MB ChB programme. Scholarships are available for these programmes. During this time the student remains within Otago Medical School and continues to receive support from Student Affairs and is still bound by the code of practice and behaviour requirements for medical students.

Please note that topics for BMedSc(Hons) may include Humanities topics.

Further information about the BMedSc(Hons) is available at <https://www.otago.ac.nz/medicine/about/programme-structure/policies-and-guidelines/otago614510.pdf> (see BMedSc(Hons) Degree Policy)

and

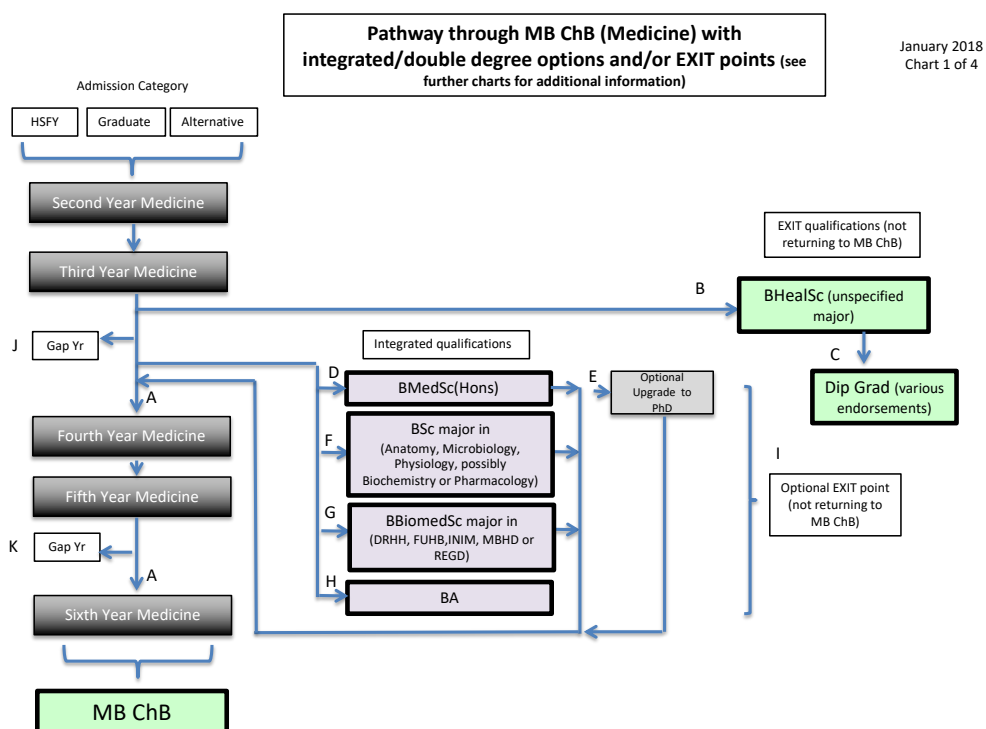
<https://www.otago.ac.nz/courses/qualifications/bmedschons.html>

Further information about the MB ChB/PhD is available at <https://www.otago.ac.nz/medicine/about/programme-structure/policies-and-guidelines/otago614496.pdf> (see MBChB & PhD Protocol)

The MMedSc can be taken following BMedSc(Hons) but more commonly students will take the integrated MB ChB/PhD programme.

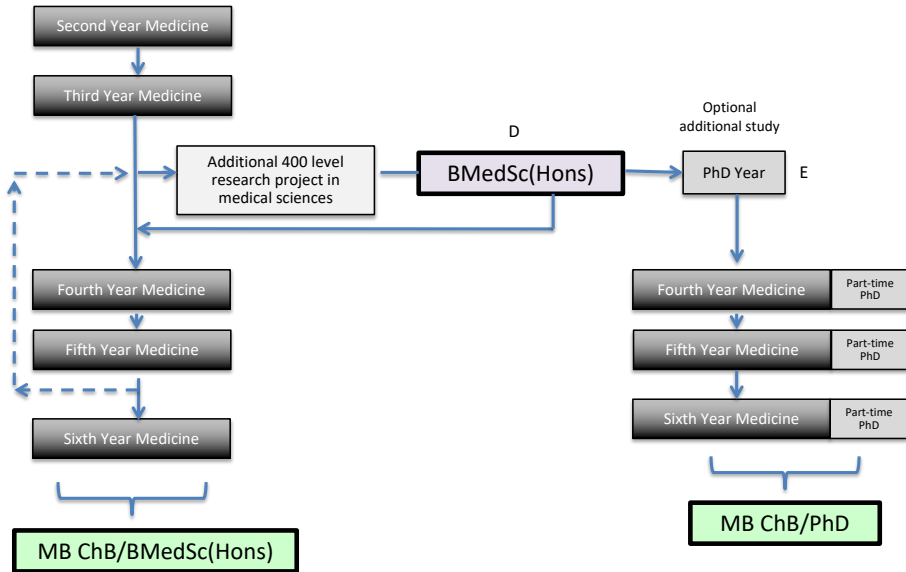
Integrated/double degree programmes:

Choices for Integrated/double degree options requiring one year out from the MB ChB (subject to prerequisites) include BA, BSc, and BBiomedSc – refer to the charts below. Students should check their eligibility for admission to programmes, ensure they receive advice about paper selections including the required number of points at 300 level and gain approval for enrolment in specific papers and the programme from the disciplinary department and from the Otago Medical School Academic Board.



Integrated BMedSc(Hons) and optional PhD

January 2018
Chart 3 of 4



Integrated/Double degree options BSc or BBiomedSc or BA – further details

January 2018
Chart 4 of 4

