

# EXCELLENCE THROUGH EQUITY PATHWAY TO MEDICINE



## PAST ENABLING STUDENT FAQs

### WHAT IS THE EXCELLENCE THROUGH EQUITY (ETE) PATHWAY TO MEDICINE?

The University of Newcastle is committed to enabling and supporting medical practitioners dedicated to the highest quality practice embedded in a commitment to equity.

The **Excellence through Equity (EtE) Pathway to Medicine** opens opportunities for people who bring many diverse experiences, including having navigated sustained educational disadvantage and social inequalities, who wish to study the **Bachelor of Medical Science and Doctor of Medicine (Joint Medical Program)**. This initiative is currently in pilot stage.

### AM I ELIGIBLE?

This Pathway is open to past Enabling (Open Foundation and Newstep) students who apply within five years of graduating from their Enabling program.

Applicants must have completed a minimum of one year Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) tertiary study (this does not require completion of a full degree and could be part-time or full-time study) since completing their Enabling Program, and will be subject to the standard minimum academic criteria as outlined [here](#).

Applicants must also satisfy the **Excellence through Equity Selection Criteria** which includes demonstrating sustained socioeconomic disadvantage including financial hardship, and at least two of the additional equity indicators as identified in the table below. In order to demonstrate this, applicants will need to submit relevant documentation as well as a personal statement. **If they meet the Excellence through Equity Selection Criteria a lower UCAT ANZ threshold will be applied, giving greater opportunity for selection for interview.**

EXCELLENCE THROUGH EQUITY PATHWAY TO MEDICINE EQUITY INDICATORS	
School type/environment	Regional, rural, remote or isolated area
A non-English speaking background or English language difficulty	Personal illness or disability
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	Minority ethnic background
Out-of-home care experience	Sole parent responsibilities
Carer responsibilities	Suffered discrimination in educational history
Refugee status	A childhood history of disadvantaged (parental/carer/family) circumstances
Experience of domestic and family violence and/or significant form of trauma	

## WHEN AND HOW CAN I APPLY?

Applicants are required to apply through the standard process. This includes on-time submission of a UAC application listing the Joint Medical Program (JMP) as a preference by 30 September 2025, direct application to the School of Medicine and Public Health by 30 September 2025, and completion of the UCAT ANZ by the applicable dates as outlined [here](#).

Prior graduates of the University of Newcastle Enabling programs will be identified through their direct application to the School of Medicine and Public Health. Applicants who have indicated that they would like to apply via the EtE Pathway will be invited to submit a personal statement with relevant documentation to demonstrate socioeconomic disadvantage including financial hardship, and two additional equity indicators if they wish to be considered for eligibility.

If an applicant demonstrates their eligibility, a lower UCAT ANZ threshold will be applied, giving greater opportunity for selection for interview.

All applicants have the opportunity to have adjustment factors added to their academic selection rank through the [Educational Access Scheme](#) (EAS) and should apply for EAS consideration via the standard UAC process.

**2025 NSW Health Rural Career Scholarships** are available to eligible applicants up to the value of \$1,200 for UCAT ANZ registration and associated expenses. For further information see [here](#).

## WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I APPLY?

### OCTOBER 2025:

- Applicants are invited to submit their response to the [Equity Selection Criteria](#).
- Closing date for submission of equity supporting documents.
- Equity supporting documents are reviewed and applicants are advised of whether or not they demonstrate eligibility.

### NOVEMBER 2025:

- Applicants who have met the required eligibility criteria are invited by the JMP to attend the next stage of the application process, the [Joint Medical Program Assessment](#).

### NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2025:

- Joint Medical Program Assessment is held.
- Academic eligibility is assessed by the UAC.

### JANUARY 2026:

- Offers will be made to students via the UAC.

Timeframes are indicated on the [EtE Webpages](#).

## WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE?

To assist with the application process, further resources and guidelines can be found [here](#).

Students who are offered a place in the JMP will also form part of the EtE Scholars Network, where the Pathway Coordinator will provide additional support throughout your University journey.

## WHERE CAN I FIND FURTHER INFORMATION?

Please visit: [newcastle.edu.au/ete](http://newcastle.edu.au/ete) or email [excelthroughequity@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:excelthroughequity@newcastle.edu.au)