

The University of Newcastle/University of New England Joint Medical Program (JMP)

Rural and Remote Admissions Scheme (RRAS)

1. Admissions

1.1 Application

Applicants wishing to be considered under RRAS are required to:

- a) Register with UCAT ANZ to undertake the University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT ANZ) by the final closing date for application;
- b) Complete a direct online JMP application form, choosing the Rural and Remote Admissions Scheme option, and submit the form by 5.00 pm on the closing date in the year prior to the year in which admission is sought. The closing date for applications will be the on-time closing date (i.e. end September) for UAC applications; and
- c) Lodge a UAC application with the Universities Admission Centre, which includes a preference for the JMP (UAC Code 785000-CSP), by the November UAC closing date for late applications.

If an applicant does not lodge all three of the applications outlined above, by the respective closing dates, they will not be eligible for consideration.

Candidates who apply to be considered under RRAS are not permitted to also lodge a standard (non-rural) JMP direct application.

To be eligible for admission applicants must satisfy the rural/remote assessment, the academic requirement and the Assessment of Personal Qualities as specified below.

1.2 Assessment of Rural/Remote Status

An applicant's rural/remote status will be assessed based on the information provided with the RRAS application.

The information requested includes:

- a) schools attended by the candidate (Kindergarten through to Year 12)
- b) the location of any work experience
- c) higher education details – location
- d) employment history – location
- e) a reference from a rural community leader (supporting and validating the student's rural status)
- f) current and previous residential addresses

Note: additional factors may be taken into consideration where deemed appropriate by the JMP Admissions Committee.

In order to satisfy the rural/remote criteria students would need to provide evidence that they have spent 5 years consecutively or 10 years cumulatively in areas 2-5 of the ASGS-RA (2016) map. The University of Newcastle/University of New England will classify regions as being rural/remote using the Commonwealth Government's Australian Statistical Geography Standard – Remoteness Area classification (ASGS-RA 2016). The Universities reserve the right to conduct checks on any documentation provided in support of the RRAS application.

Only Australian citizens and Australian Permanent Residents may apply for entry under RRAS (New Zealand citizens are ineligible to apply).

Students who are deemed not to satisfy the rural/remote criteria will be advised by email and their

application will be automatically transferred to the standard non-rural CSP applicant pool.

1.3 Academic Requirements As per JMP Admissions and Selection Policy 000871.

1.4 Assessment of Personal Qualities

Assessment of personal qualities requires the completion of: UCAT ANZ, Multiple Skills Assessment (MSA) and Personal Qualities Assessment (PQA).

To be eligible to be invited to the JMP MSA/PQA an applicant must achieve a UCAT ANZ aggregate score at the level determined each year by the JMP Admissions Committee for admission under RRAS. The required score will be based on the performance of the RRAS applicant pool in any given year.

1.5 Selection

- a) Only those applicants who satisfy the rural/remote criteria, the assessment of personal qualities requirements and who satisfy the minimum academic requirement will be eligible for consideration for admission to the JMP under the RRAS.
- b) RRAS applicants will be ranked for selection in descending order of merit based on MSA/PQA performance. Applicants with the same rank will be sub-ranked on the basis of their UCAT ANZ aggregate score.
- c) Offers will be made to RRAS applicants until the available RRAS places within the JMP are filled.

1.6 Personal Health Requirements As per JMP Admission and Selection Policy 000871.

1.7 Deferral of Admission As per JMP Admission and Selection Policy 000871.

2. Enrolment

RRAS students enrolled in the JMP will be expected to support and promote rural/remote initiatives undertaken by the School of Medicine and Public Health, University of Newcastle and the School of Rural Medicine, University of New England. Including but not limited to being active members of the University of Newcastle Rural Health Club (*Breathhe*) or the University of New England Rural Health Club (NERCHA)

This policy needs to be read in conjunction with UON Policy 000871 JMP Admission and Selection.

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