

2020 FAQs

Extra-curricular Research

What is Extra-curricular Research?

- Extra-curricular Research refers to a wide range of extra-curricular/volunteer research opportunities for medical students.

Can anyone do Extra-curricular Research during his or her medical program?

- No. While students are encouraged to get involved in research during their medical program, the MD must remain the priority.
- Only students who can maintain a 4.5 GPA will be approved to undertake Extra-curricular research. See Extra-curricular Research on the Student Research Portal for details.

Do I have to find a project on the Student Research Portal?

- All projects that are available for students **must be posted** on the Student Research Portal.
- A research supervisor may post these on the 'Post a Project' page, or a student may propose a project on the 'Propose a Project' page.
- In other words, students may find their own project and supervisor – but it must be posted and Registered on the Portal before they may begin.

Do I have to register my project before I start?

- Yes. Medical students must not embark on any research project or activity until the project has been registered on the Student Research Portal. This helps ensure a worthwhile research experience for the student and supervisor, and allows us to acknowledge both student and supervisor for their time and efforts.

I have no research experience at all. Where should I start?

- Please understand that with little or no prior research experience, you may be limited in the types of activities you may be allowed to do.
- Wet lab or clinical research is not possible for Extra-curricular research.
- Look for research projects that involve analysis of secondary data or existing data. Public health and health systems research, medical education and epidemiological research, literature reviews are good options to look for and also offer excellent experience.

Are students based outside of Brisbane, e.g., Rural Clinical Schools, able to participate in research?

- Yes. Students are encouraged to find research projects within their clinical location.
- All the Rural Clinical School sites have an active student research program.

Will I be allowed any time out of my medical program to devote to research activity?

- No. There is no dedicated time out of the medical program to devote to extra-curricular research.
- All students must fulfil all the normal requirements of the medical program.

Can I get officially acknowledged for my research projects, and research achievements as part of my medical program?

- Yes. This a simple process on the [Student Research Portal](#)
- Every student must register their research and report their research achievements. This allows us to officially acknowledge all your research activity when you graduate.

Summer Research Scholarship Program

- The UQ Summer Research Scholarship Program is a good option for students.
- The Faculty of Medicine offers several project each year but students may choose from a wide variety of research projects across UQ.
- Projects are advertised each year in July and August

[Learn more about the UQ Summer Research Scholarship Program.](#)

Please note that the Winter Research Scholarship Program is not suitable for Medical Students due to the clash in timetables and should not be considered as a research option.