



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

**School of Medicine
Rural Clinical School**

Stream B - INTERNATIONAL RURAL & REMOTE PLACEMENT

**Guidelines for international students seeking to undertake a rural placement
in their country of origin or an overseas country**

International students are encouraged to undertake this placement overseas or return to their country of origin in order to satisfy the requirements for the placement component of the Medicine in Society course. It will be the responsibility of the student to plan and negotiate the proposed placement opportunity. This will include the student arranging and funding all their own accommodation, travel and other support for the placement.

What is an appropriate Rural Placement?

The Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine¹ defines Rural and Remote Medicine in the following way:

Rural and Remote Medicine operates on a unique paradigm of primary, secondary and tertiary medical care, with increased responsibility (for the practitioner) owing to the relative professional isolation, geographic isolation, limited resources and special cultural and sociological factors.

The Rural or Remote Medical Practitioner requires a broad understanding of diagnosis, treatment and management from the perspective of a number of medical and surgical disciplines and applies these skills along a continuum of care from primary presentation to secondary and sometimes tertiary care. Practitioners are able to adapt and build their skills in response to the health needs of a diverse range of rural and remote community settings and the degree of isolation from other health services and resources.

In the context of this definition, the School of Medicine has determined that the placement requirements for Medicine in Society – Stream B International Rural Medicine may be satisfied under the supervision of an experienced practitioner (Preceptor) in a clinical environment located in a rural or regional (Provincial) community with a maximum population of 100,000. The clinical environment will be staffed by generalist practitioners capable of working with a high degree of professional independence across the primary and secondary health care continuum utilising a broad range of procedural and cognitive skills with a particular focus on rural and remote medicine.

Procedure

1. Students must meet the below School of Medicine placement guidelines if intending to undertake a clinical placement in interstate or international locations:

Students must hold a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 4.5 or greater at the time of making any application referred to within these rules.

Students must not have received a penalty (including a warning) for any level of general or academic misconduct to be eligible.

¹ Australian College of Rural & Remote Medicine (2007). *ACRRM Standards for Regional Training Providers (RTP) Recognition*. Brisbane: Australian College of Rural & Remote Medicine.
Endorsed February 2016

These Guidelines can be accessed via

<https://my.som.uq.edu.au/mc/media/25680/guidelines%20for%20the%20allocation%20of%20students.pdf>

For Ochsner students, initial approval is required from A/P Leonardo Seoane Deputy Head of School University of Queensland / Ochsner Clinical School to undertake Medicine in Society Stream B International Rural and Remote Medicine.

2. Students must obtain a placement agreement that complies with the University of Queensland Standard Terms and Conditions for Placements (Clinical) (if required).
3. The Head of Discipline (Rural and Remote Medicine) must approve the proposed Preceptor and placement site. In seeking approval students must complete and submit the requisite application form (with attachments) online at least twelve (12) weeks prior to the commencement of the proposed rural placement. A completed application form will contain the following information:
 - Name and contact details for the proposed preceptor.
 - Written statement from the proposed preceptor confirming their status as a rural and remote Medical Practitioner and their willingness to supervise and support the student during the placement, including the conduct of requisite assessment tasks.
 - Brief profile for the healthcare facility(ies) where training will be undertaken.
 - Brief description of the community in which the placement will be undertaken.
4. Students will be notified of the outcome of their application within ten (10) working days of the application being received.
5. Non- Ochsner students and Ochsner students (who are undertaking a placement in Australia) will be required to attend all sessions in the Orientation program (Week 1) held in either of the Rural Clinical School locations.
6. Non- Ochsner students and Ochsner students (who are undertaking a placement outside of the USA) will be exempted from attending the Debriefing Week (Week 8) on the condition they are able to satisfy all the requirements typically undertaken/finalised during that Week. For non-Ochsner students and Ochsner students (who are undertaking a placement outside of the USA) it is mandatory that students attend the Trauma Management Scenarios in the rotation prior to undertaking the Medicine in Society rotation.

The Head of Discipline (Rural and Remote Medicine) must be satisfied that the student can sit the written exam at an appropriate time (typically during Week 8) under University approved examination conditions at the overseas placement site.

- The student will be responsible for arranging an invigilator and examination venue, and shall incur any and all costs associated with such arrangements.
- The student will inform the Rural Clinical School Student Coordinator (Assessment) by the commencement of Orientation Week (Week 1) of the name, position and contact details (including a secure email address) for the proposed invigilator.

NOTE: In order for you to be properly prepared for the written examination, students should take every opportunity to discuss cases with their Preceptor and peers and students should ensure that course material provided in Orientation and Debriefing Weeks (available through Blackboard) is reviewed.

6. Following confirmation of the Head of Discipline's approval of the proposed placement (including endorsement of the Preceptor and arrangements for the conduct of the written examination), the Rural Clinical School Student Coordinator (Assessment) will formalise arrangements with the Preceptor and/or host agency and will address the School of Medicine's expectations and requirements..

In summary, as a **non-Ochsner student** you are:

- Responsible for all costs of overseas placement.
- Required to attend all sessions in the Orientation program (Week 1) in Australia.
- Exempt from attending the Debriefing Week (Week 8) on the condition that you are able to satisfy all the assessment requirements typically undertaken/finalised during that Week. Week 8 involves you undertaking study for your written examination paper. You will need to attend a Trauma Management session in the prior MiS rotation.
- Responsible for completing and returning the UQ Travel Student Placement Spreadsheet prior to the placement in order to be covered by UQ Travel Insurance.
- Responsible for arranging an Invigilator and examination venue, and shall incur any and all costs associated with such arrangements.
- To inform the Rural Clinical School Student Coordinator (Assessment) by the commencement of the rotation of the name, position and contact details (including a secure email address) for the proposed Invigilator.

In summary, as an **Ochsner student undertaking a placement in Covington, Louisiana USA** you are:

- Required to attend all sessions in the Orientation program (Week 1) and Debrief Week (Week 8) at the Ochsner Clinical School.
- Responsible to view the resources on Blackboard and complete the online modules.
- Required to attend a Trauma Management session at the Ochsner Clinical School.

In summary, as an **Ochsner student undertaking a placement in the USA** (other than Covington, Louisiana) you are:

- Required to **gain initial approval** from A/P Leonardo Seoane Deputy Head of School University of Queensland/Ochsner Clinical School that you can do Medicine in Society Stream B International Rural and Remote Medicine.
- **Apply online** to seek approval from HOD Discipline RRM as to your eligibility to do Stream B and that your placement location meets the discipline requirements.
- Responsible for all costs associated with your placement.
- Required to attend all sessions in the Orientation program (Week 1) and Debrief Week (Week 8) at the Ochsner Clinical School.
- Responsible to view the resources on Blackboard and complete the online modules.
- Required to attend a Trauma Management session at the Ochsner Clinical School.
- Responsible for organising and payment of any costs for health/travel insurance if deemed necessary.
- Responsible for completing and returning the UQ Travel Student Placement Spreadsheet prior to the placement in order to be covered by UQ Travel Insurance (unless placement is at an Ochsner location or one of its affiliates).

In summary, as an **Ochsner student undertaking a placement outside of the USA (not in Australia)** you are:

- Required to **gain initial approval** from A/P Leonardo Seoane Deputy Head of School University of Queensland/Ochsner Clinical School that you can do Medicine in Society Stream B International Rural and Remote Medicine.
- **Apply online** to seek approval from HOD Discipline RRM as to your eligibility to do Stream B and that your placement location meets the discipline requirements.

- Responsible for all costs associated with your placement.
- Required to attend a Trauma Management session at Ochsner Clinical School.
- Required to attend all sessions in the Orientation program (Week 1) at the Ochsner Clinical School.
- Responsible to view the resources on Blackboard and complete the online modules.
- Exempt from attending the Debriefing Week (Week 8) on the condition that you are able to satisfy all the assessment requirements typically undertaken/finalised during that Week. Week 8 involves you undertaking study for your written examination paper.
- Responsible for organising and payment of any costs for health/travel insurance if deemed necessary.
- Responsible for completing and returning the UQ Travel Student Placement Spreadsheet prior to the placement in order to be covered by UQ Travel Insurance.
- Responsible for arranging an Invigilator and examination venue, and shall incur any and all costs associated with such arrangements.
- To inform the Rural Clinical School Student Coordinator (Assessment) by the commencement of the rotation of the name, position and contact details (including a secure email address) for the proposed Invigilator.

In summary, as an **Ochsner student undertaking a placement in Australia** you are:

- Required to **gain initial approval** from A/P Leonardo Seoane Deputy Head of School University of Queensland / Ochsner Clinical School that you can do Medicine in Society Stream B International Rural and Remote Medicine.
- **Apply online** to seek approval from HOD Discipline RRM as to your eligibility to do Stream B and that your placement location meets the discipline requirements.
- Not to use a rural placement location that is used for the domestic MiS Year 3 students.
- Responsible for all costs of overseas placement.
- Required to attend all sessions in the Orientation program (Week 1) in Australia.
- Required to attend the Debriefing Week (Week 8) session and attend a Trauma Management session in Brisbane. Week 8 involves you undertaking study for your written examination paper and sitting for your examination in Brisbane.
- Responsible to view the resources on Blackboard and complete the online modules.
- Responsible for completing and returning the UQ Travel Student Placement Spreadsheet prior to the placement in order to be covered by UQ Travel Insurance.