
THE APPLIED MEDICAL SCIENCE HONOURS PROGRAM AT WESTMEAD

The Applied Medical Science (AMED) Honours Program at Westmead is run through the University of Sydney, Faculty of Science. It is broad in scope and offers projects relevant to any aspect of medical sciences including a range of areas within Basic Research, Clinical Sciences, Epidemiology, Bioinformatics, Public Health and Allied Health. Specific areas of research include cancer, infectious diseases, immunology, vaccine development, autoimmunity, cardiology, kidney disease, liver disease, diabetes, obesity, developmental biology, neuroscience, dentistry, transplantation and mental health.

Who can apply?

Any student from any university who has a science related undergraduate degree and meets the entry requirement of a SciWAM of ≥ 68 can apply. If you are a University of Sydney student, you must have completed a major in any science area related to the project you will undertake (ie you do not need to have majored in Applied Medical Science). If you are enrolled in an undergraduate degree that is being administered by another faculty that also has supervisors based at Westmead, you cannot enrol into this honours program. Examples include the Faculty of Engineering and the Faculty of Medicine and Health.

How to apply?

1. Search for projects of interest

Search for an honours project of interest on the [School of Medical Sciences search engine](#). This allows you to narrow down your search using key words, general subject areas, or specific supervisors. For AMED honours projects at Westmead select 'Applied Medical Sciences, Westmead' in the drop-down menu.

You can also email the honours coordinator at Westmead, Andrew Harman, who can send you a full list of currently available projects (westmead.honours@sydney.edu.au).

2. Contact a supervisor and arrange for an interview

You next need to contact a supervisor and arrange a time to meet. Please note that supervisors are more likely to be interested in you joining their research team if you have undertaken some prior investigation into what they do. We recommend you visit their University of Sydney profile page and download one or two of their recent publications, so you can discuss these during your interview.

3. Submit an expression of interest form

Once you have finished meeting supervisors you must commit yourself to a single project. The supervisor is also required to make a firm commitment to you and cannot assign the project to another student. In recognition of this, both student and supervisor must sign the expression of interest form found at the end of this document and send a copy to westmead.honours@sydney.edu.au. This form must be submitted before 30th November for semester 1 enrolment or 30th June for semester 2. Each student can only submit one expression of interest form.

4. Apply for the course with university admissions online

This expression of interest form is not an enrolment form. You must next [lodge an online application](#) to join the program. A copy of the signed expression of interest form should be uploaded as evidence of 'communication with Discipline'. Only a completed and signed form will be accepted. The online application must be completed and submitted online by midnight on 30 November for semester 1 enrolment or 30 June for semester 2. Please select 'Applied Medical Sciences' when you enrol.

Please note:

1. All University of Sydney students must complete their honours year in the same degree as their undergraduate degree, eg BSc (adv) students must do BSc (adv) (honours).
2. All students who have done their undergraduate degree at other universities have to do BSc (hons) regardless of the title of their undergraduate degree.

Once your final marks are available the Admissions Office will calculate your SciWAM and send us a list of students who have submitted an application for the AMED honours program, along with their final SciWAM. We will check we have an expression of interest form for you and that you have attained the minimum entry requirement (SciWAM of ≥ 68). We will then instruct the Admissions Office to make you a formal offer and also let your supervisor know that you have been paired with them.

5. Formally enrol with the Faculty of Science

The Admissions Office will now make you a formal offer and provide you with instructions as to how to enrol which you must do before the census date.

6. Contact supervisor and prepare for on-boarding within your host institution

The Westmead precinct consists of multiple institutions which all have their own on-boarding requirements. Please arrange a start date with your supervisor and make sure you adhere to all the necessary on-boarding requirements stipulated. This can range from specific vaccinations, serum baseline checks (if working with human tissue or infectious diseases), criminal record checks, being added to ethics applications (human and/or animal) and approval for working with children.

Please note that if you intend to work within in a Physical Containment level 3 (PC3) or with human tissue you **MUST** be vaccinated against Hepatitis B and show a serological titre. If unvaccinated or serologically negative this requires a series of 3 injections over a period of 6 months. We recommend you commence the vaccination course as early as possible if you are not already vaccinated.

We recommend that you and your supervisor liaise with the internal honours coordinator for your institution to make sure that all correct procedures are followed.

The internal Westmead honours coordinators are:

Westmead Adults Hospital: Heather Medbury (heather.medbury@sydney.edu.au)

Institute of Dental Research (IDR): Naisana Seyedasli (naisana.seyedasli@sydney.edu.au)

Institute of Clinical Pathology and Medical Research (ICPMR): David Brown (d.brown@amr.org.au)

Sydney Children's Hospital Network (SCHN) which includes the Children's Hospital Westmead (CHW)

and the Kids Research Institute (KRI): Frances Evesson (Frances.Evesson@health.nsw.gov.au)

Children's Medical Research Institute (CMRI): Mark Graham (mgraham@cmri.org.au)

Westmead Institute for Medical Research (WIMR): Liang Qiao (liang.qiao@sydney.edu.au) and Monica Miranda (monica.miranda@sydney.edu.au)

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM FOR HONOURS IN APPLIED MEDICAL SCIENCES AT WESTMEAD

Student to complete

Name: _____

USYD ID: _____ Current University (non USYD): _____

Contact number: _____

Email: _____

Degree: _____

Estimated final SciWAM: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please attach a copy of your academic transcript.

Supervisor/s to complete

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Co-supervisor Name: _____ Signature: _____

Title of Project: _____

Please tick any boxes that apply to this project:

- Basic Science Clinical Public Health Allied Health Epidemiology
 Flow Cytometry QPCR Western Blot

This form is to be lodged with Andrew Harman (westmead.honours@sydney.edu.au)

NOTE: This is NOT an enrolment form. You must still **submit your intent to enrol** through the Faculty of Science portal online.

A copy of this document should be uploaded as evidence of 'communication with Discipline'. Only a completed and signed EOI will be accepted. Students should enrol in Applied Medical Sciences.

APPENDIX

AMED Honours Course Structure

AMED 4101 Research Skills and Processes: 12.5%

Runs in the first half of the honours year and consists of a series of practical sessions on:

- PCR
- Westmead Blot
- Flow Cytometry
- Epidemiology
- Ethics
- Work health and safety
- Qualitative Research

AMED 4102 Scientific Analysis and Communication: 12.5%

Runs in the second half of the honours year and consists of:

- Oral Presentation of your research
- Poster Presentation of your research
- Journal Club presentation
- Seminar Attendance

Honours Thesis: 65%

- 15,000-word thesis of research project marked by two independent examiners

Final Oral Presentation: 10%

Given approximately 10 days after thesis submission

- 20-minute oral presentation
- 10-minute question and answers