FAQ – Bachelor of Health Sciences (BHSC)

Who can apply for admission to the BHSc?

There are three entry categories to the Bachelor of Health Science (BHSc) at the University of Auckland:

1. **School Leavers**
   - **NCEA**: Applicants must achieve a minimum rank score of 250 over a maximum of 5 approved subjects at Level 3, with a minimum of 18 credits in one subject from Table A and a minimum of 18 credits in one subject from Table B (see tables below).
   - **CIE**: Applicants must achieve a minimum rank score of 300. They will be allocated a rank score according to their UCAS tariff score total accumulated over a maximum of 6 subject units at AS or A Level from subjects that contribute to UE. In addition, applicants must have taken at least one subject from Table A (at either AS or A level, preferably A Level) and one subject from Table B at A Level.
   - **IB**: Applicants must obtain their IB Diploma with at least 33 points overall.

2. **Alternative Admissions**
   A candidate in this category has left secondary school and undergone further formal education in a degree programme from a recognised university for a minimum of one year of full-time study.
   Offers will be made to alternative admissions candidates in each intake. Candidates are expected to achieve a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA)/Grade Point Equivalent (GPE) of 5.0 (B) across their last year of full-time study, or from their entire degree.

3. **Foundation programmes**
   - Tertiary Foundation Certificate (GPA 5.5)
   - Certificate of Health Sciences (Māori and Pacific Students only) (GPA 4.5)
   - Academic Colleges Group (270 in four subjects including one science subject)
   - Taylors College (310 including one science subject)

Applicants are subject to University Entrance (UE) requirements, the Academic English Language Requirement (AELR) and specific programme entry requirements.

**MAPAS**

This category is for students of Māori or Pacific descent. Up to 75 places will be offered to MAPAS candidates in each intake. Those applying under this scheme must be able to demonstrate a willingness to participate in their culture. Applicants may be school leavers, alternative admissions students, or foundation programme students (as above).

What are the Table A or Table B subjects?

Table A and Table B subjects are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table A</th>
<th>Table B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classical Studies</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Calculus</td>
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<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
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<tr>
<td>History of Art</td>
<td>Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Te Reo Māori OR</td>
<td>Mathematics*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Te Reo Rangatira</td>
<td>Physics</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Statistics</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Digital Technologies**</td>
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</table>

* Cannot be used in combination with Calculus and/or Statistics

** There are only 11 Level 3 achievement standards that will count taken from this domain, numbered 91632 – 91642

What subjects should I take if I am applying under the School Leaver category?

You should choose your subjects to meet UE, AELR, and the BHSc Table A and B requirements.

Many courses in the BHSc require strong academic writing and critical thinking skills, so taking subjects where these skills are developed is strongly recommended.

In addition, students wishing to apply for the medical or pharmacy programmes (MBChB or BPharm) at the end of their first year should have a strong background in science subjects. Therefore, at least **one English rich** subject, as well as Biology, Chemistry, and/or Physics are strongly recommended. Statistics or Calculus are also useful.
Do I need to sit UMAT for BHSc entry?
No. UMAT is only required for entry into the MBChB programme.

What academic background do I need to apply under the Alternative Admissions category?
You can apply under this category is you have completed at least one year of the following:

- A relevant degree or tertiary qualification
- The Faculty’s Certificate in Health Sciences, offered to Māori and Pacific Students under the MAPAS scheme.

Candidates are expected to achieve a minimum GPA of 5.0 (B average) across their entire course of study.

If I am admitted under the Alternative Admissions category, am I exempt from any courses?
Depending upon your previous course of study, you may be eligible to apply for specified credit against some courses.

Are Australian students considered as International applicants?
No. Citizens and permanent residents of Australia, and students from the Cook Islands, Tokelau or Niue who are New Zealand citizens, are eligible for entry on the same basis as New Zealand students.

What if I am an International Student?
The BHSc programme is available to independent full fee paying international students.

What are the BHSc entry requirements for competence in English?
The BHSc degree requires a high level of competence in written and spoken English.

If your entrance qualifications are from an overseas university and your first language is no English, you will have to meet the University’s English requirements for admission, and provide evidence of one of the following:

- an IELTS academic module to 6.5 (with no band less than 6.0), or;
- TOEFL 575 (paper-based) plus Essay (TWE) of 4.5 or 90 (internet-based) plus a Writing score of 21, or;
- A statement from your previous educational institute confirming that you have been taught in the medium of English, full time, for a minimum of two years. This cannot include English language acquisition courses.

Postgraduate Study: Can I undertake postgraduate study or research upon completion of the BHSc degree?
Yes, there are many opportunities to take a variety of postgraduate qualifications, both in New Zealand and overseas, upon completion of BHSc. The School of Population Health offers a variety of postgraduate programmes in Health Sciences and Public Health.

Opportunities include an Honours programme, Postgraduate Diplomas, Masters programmes and PhD. For further postgraduate information, please see the postgraduate section of the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences website:

Does applying for the BHSc allow me to apply for the medical and pharmacy programmes at the end of my first year?
Yes. The first year of the BHSc is one of only two pathways for entry into the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB), and one of only two pathways for entry into the Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm), at the University of Auckland.

If you do wish to apply for the medical or pharmacy programmes at the end of your first year, you must take specific courses in your first year in order to be eligible. More information about these courses can be found on the Faculty website, or by contacting the Faculty Student Centre on fmhs@auckland.ac.nz

NOTE: The first year of the BHSc does not allow for entry into the Bachelor of Optometry programme (BOptom). More information about the BOptom can be found at:

How many students apply for the BHSc each year?
Over 2,000 apply for the Semester One intake.

How many places are there in the BHSc and BHSc conjoints each year?
We take approximately 320 domestic students, and approximately 35 international students, in total each year.

Applications Close 8 December
To apply, visit: www.apply.auckland.ac.nz

As selection criteria may change from year to year, applicants should consult the faculty website, prospectus, or the Faculty Student Centre for the latest information.