

Guidelines for Reallocation of Year 4 Placements between Australia and Ochsner



Definitions

Advanced Hospital Practice (AHP) Semester – The semester in which a Year 4 MD Student is allocated to undertake their Medical Specialties, Anaesthetics/Ophthalmology/ICU and Emergency/Orthopaedics clinical placements.

Clinical Placements: The ten (10) individual clinical placement blocks, excluding the elective, of six to nine weeks undertaken by Students in Years 3 and 4 as part of Clinical courses, with five (5) placements in year 3 and five (5) in year 4.

Clinical School: A formal organisational unit within the Medical School, comprising of teaching hospitals and other relevant medical teaching sites within a geographical region.

Clinical Unit: A designated organisational sub-unit of the Rural Clinical School, or Greater Brisbane Clinical School, including hospitals or other relevant medical teaching sites. Clinical Units can include both major and peripheral teaching hospitals, which are listed below:

Clinical Units	Hospitals
Greater Brisbane Clinical School	
Northside	The Prince Charles Hospital, Caboolture Hospital, Redcliffe Hospital, St Vincent's Hospital, Northside
PA/Southside	Princess Alexandra Hospital, Redlands Hospital, Queen Elizabeth II Hospital,
RBWH	Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital, Toowong Private Hospital, New Farm Clinic
Mater	Mater Hospital
Greenslopes	Greenslopes Hospital, The Park Centre for Mental Health
Ipswich	Ipswich Hospital
General Practice	Various General Practices throughout South-East Queensland
Children's Health Queensland	Queensland Children's Hospital
Rural Clinical School	
Bundaberg	Bundaberg Hospital
Hervey Bay	Hervey Bay Hospital
Toowoomba	Toowoomba Hospital
Rockhampton	Rockhampton Hospital
Rural and Remote Medicine	Various hospital, general practice and/or community-based settings in Rural and Remote communities in Queensland.
Ochsner Clinical School	
Ochsner Health, New Orleans, USA, including: Ochsner Medical Center – Baton Rouge, Ochsner Medical Center – Kenner, Ochsner Medical Center – New Orleans, Ochsner Medical Center – North Shore, Ochsner Medical Center – West Bank, Ochsner Baptist, Ochsner St. Anne	

OCS: Ochsner Clinical School.

RCS: Rural Clinical School

GBCS: Greater Brisbane Clinical School

Student: A student enrolled in or undertaking courses in the MD Program.

UQ-Ochsner MD: Doctor of Medicine Program at The University of Queensland in which students are required to undertake Years 3 and 4 at the Ochsner Clinical School (OCS) operating in New Orleans, USA.

UQ-Onshore MD: Doctor of Medicine Program at The University of Queensland in which students are required to undertake Years 3 and 4 at the Greater Brisbane Clinical School or Rural Clinical School in Queensland, Australia.

Purpose of the Guidelines

The Medical School recognises that various circumstances can give rise to students requesting a reallocation of their existing placements so they can spend more time in Australia (for UQ-Ochsner students) or in New Orleans (for UQ-Onshore students). The following options are proposed for students in this situation. These options are subject to placement availability and are limited to Year 4 students only.

Prior to Applying

UQ-Ochsner students are required to meet with their Medical Society Head for a documented discussion about their request and notify the Ochsner Clinical School (OCS) Student Administration team (med.ocsStudentAdmin@enquire.uq.edu.au) of their intent. The Medical Society Head will provide a recommendation to the Director of the OCS who will determine whether the application will be supported.

UQ-Onshore students are required to meet with the Academic Guidance Lead (Years 3 and 4) for a documented discussion about their request. The Academic Guidance Lead (Years 3 and 4) will provide a recommendation to the Director of the relevant Clinical School who will determine whether the application will be supported.

Application Timeline

Students can apply at any time. Onshore students who have not yet been allocated to a Clinical Unit and placement pathway for the year in which they are applying, are able to request Special Consideration as outlined in the following pages.

All requests for Special Consideration must be accompanied by evidence, including a Letter of Support from the Director of the relevant Clinical School and must be submitted in accordance with the relevant application timelines for Special Consideration (further details can be found [here](#)).

Approval Process

Approval for reallocated placements is assessed on a case-by-case basis and the final decision on reallocation is at the discretion of the Dean, Medical School. Each application is assessed on the information supplied by the student and is subject to placement availability.

1. Advanced Hospital Practice (AHP) Semester Swap

A direct swap of a full semester schedule can be made between a current UQ-Ochsner student and a current UQ-Onshore student. That is, a UQ-Onshore student may undertake their AHP semester at the OCS in New Orleans, and the UQ-Ochsner student may undertake their AHP semester at the GBCS or Rockhampton Clinical Unit that originally hosted the UQ-Onshore MD student. Either student is unable to request an alternate Clinical Unit or placement order, they will simply be allocated to the other students' Clinical Unit and placement order.

Where a UQ-Onshore student is approved to go to OCS for their AHP semester and the discipline of their Medical Specialties placement at OCS has already been allocated, the student may request to change disciplines. This request must be made in writing to med.ocsStudentAdmin@enquire.uq.edu.au and approval will be subject to availability.

Where a UQ-Ochsner student is approved to undertake their AHP semester in the GBCS, they will have the opportunity to preference for the discipline of their Medical Specialties placement, along with the rest of the cohort allocated to the same Clinical Unit. If the discipline of their Medical Specialties placement has already been allocated, the student may request to change disciplines. This request must be made in writing to the relevant [Clinical Unit](#) and approval will be subject to availability.

Eligibility

UQ-Ochsner Student - No intention of entering US Match and wants to apply for internship in Australia;

UQ-Onshore Student - Demonstrated a commitment to enter the US Match by passing USMLE Step 1;

All Students -

- Urgent and significant unexpected family matters (relating to immediate family); or
- Illness/accident involving the student or immediate family; or
- Other unforeseen, extenuating circumstances.

Application Process

Students who meet the eligibility criteria should submit their application via the Faculty of Medicine Placements Team (med.placements@uq.edu.au).

Each Student must include the following with their application:

- The type of option (i.e. AHP Semester Swap)
- Which semester they are applying to spend abroad (i.e. at OCS or GBCS)
- A brief statement on the rationale for the proposed placement change
Letter of support from Director, Ochsner Clinical School or the Director of the relevant Clinical School

If two students (one UQ-Ochsner and one UQ-Onshore) mutually agree to a semester swap, this will progress straight to the approvals process. Other students will be placed on a waitlist until a match is found.

Special Consideration

UQ-Onshore students who have not yet been allocated to a Clinical Unit and placement pathway for the year in which they are applying, are able to request Special Consideration. To do so, the UQ-Onshore student must have already found a swap partner who has the same semester order as the person they have identified to swap with.

Students who are yet to find a swap partner are unable to request Special Consideration.

2. Partner Reallocation - AHP Semester

A partner reallocation can be arranged between a couple comprised of one UQ-Ochsner MD student and one UQ-Onshore MD student. Placements may be organised whereby the two students undertake their semesters together at the same location. That is, in one semester they will be at the GBCS in Australia, and for the other at the OCS in New Orleans. The student who is travelling to their partner's location (i.e. Australia or New Orleans) will undertake their AHP placements at that location. Students are unable to request a specific Clinical Unit or placement order.

Where an UQ-Onshore MD Student is approved to go to OCS for their AHP semester and the discipline of their Medical Specialties placement at OCS has already been allocated, the student may request to change disciplines. This request must be made in writing to med.ocsStudentAdmin@enquire.uq.edu.au and approval will be subject to availability.

Where an UQ-Ochsner MD student is approved to undertake their AHP semester in the GBCS, they will have the opportunity to preference for the discipline of their Medical Specialties placement, along with the rest of the cohort allocated to the same Clinical Unit. If the discipline of their Medical Specialties placement has already been allocated, the student may request to change disciplines. This request must be made in writing to the relevant [Clinical Unit](#) and approval will be subject to availability.

Eligibility

UQ-Ochsner MD Student - A spouse or partner who lives in Australia; and

UQ-Onshore MD Student - A spouse or partner who lives in the United States; and

Plus one of the below:

- Ochsner student has no intention of entering US Match and wants to apply for internship in Australia; or
- Onshore student has demonstrated a commitment to enter the US Match by passing USMLE Step 1.

Application Process

Students who meet the eligibility criteria should apply to the Faculty of Medicine Placements Team (med.placements@uq.edu.au).

Each Student must include the following with their application:

- The type of option (i.e. Partner Reallocation)
- Which semester they are applying to spend abroad (i.e. at OCS or GBCS)
- A brief statement on the rationale for the proposed placement change
- Letter of support from Head of Ochsner Clinical School or the Director of the relevant Clinical School.

Special Consideration

Onshore students who have not yet been allocated to a Clinical Unit and placement pathway for the year in which they are applying, are able to request Special Consideration, as follows:

- Allocation to a GBCS Clinical Unit, with the opposite semester order to their partner.