

University of Melbourne Doctor of Optometry

Admissions Guide 2024

Applications are open to all applicants who have valid GAMSAT results and who have completed or are completing an undergraduate degree during 2023.

Application Dates:

Applications for domestic students open on **1 May 2023** and close on **31 July 2023 at 5pm AEST / 3pm AWST**

NO LATE APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED - Please note the closing time is 5pm AEST / 3pm AWST

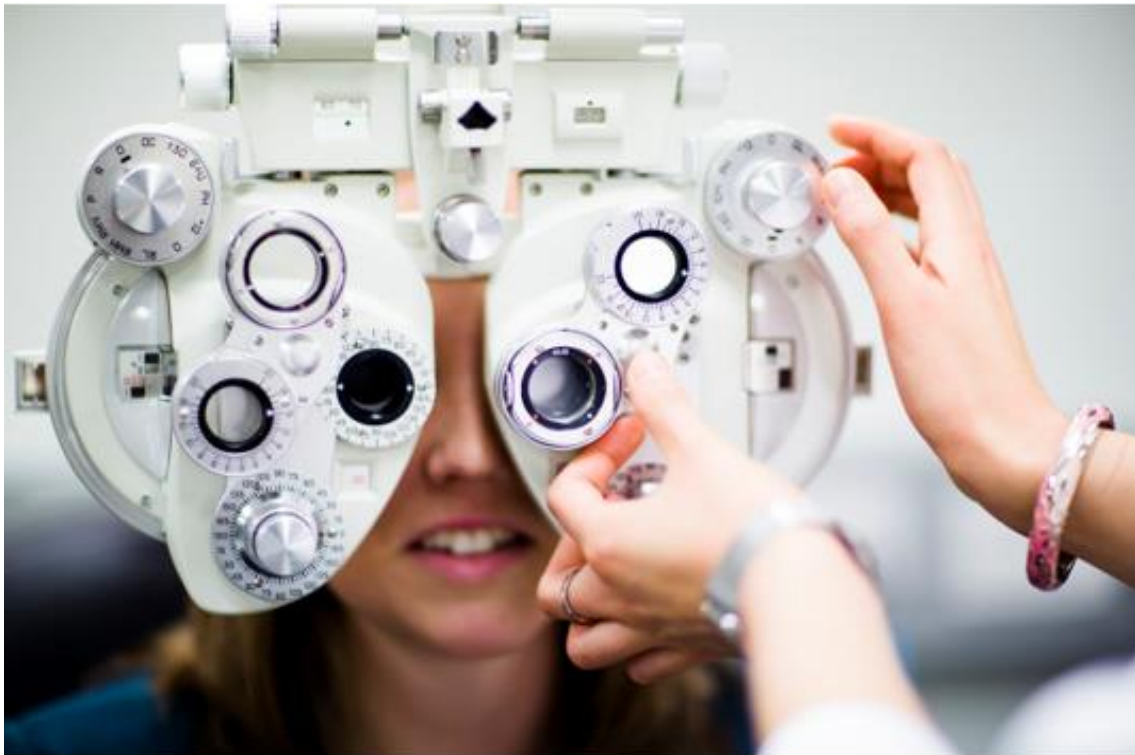




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Timeline – 2023 for 2024 Intake

<p>MARCH 2023</p>	<p>APRIL</p> <p>Ensure you have original academic transcripts if you attended (at any time) an institution not participating in ARTS.</p> <p>This includes overseas and exchange transcripts.</p>	<p>MAY</p> <p>1 May – Doctor of Optometry Applications open.</p>	<p>JUNE</p>
<p>JULY</p> <p>31 July – Applications close.</p> <p>University of Melbourne Graduate Access Melbourne Applications AND Guaranteed Entry Applications close.</p>	<p>AUGUST</p> <p>7 August – Deadline to upload original transcripts from non-ARTS institutions (including any 1st Semester, 2023 results and 2nd Semester enrolled subjects) to GEMSAS, in support of applications. (Excludes transcripts for any study at ARTS institutions).</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER</p>	<p>OCTOBER</p>
<p>NOVEMBER</p> <p>Mid November – Offers are due to be released.</p>	<p>DECEMBER</p> <p>15 December Deadline to upload transcripts online as instructed in offer letters including 2023 final results and any single subject prerequisite studies for applicants with conditional offers.</p>	<p>JANUARY 2024</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 2024</p> <p>Waitlisted and unsuccessful applicants will hear back by end of February.</p>



Contact Details

GENERAL ENQUIRIES

GEMSAS (for all general application and processing enquiries)

E: info@gemsas.edu.au

W: www.gemsas.edu.au

ACER (for GAMSAT enquiries only)

E: gamsat@acer.org

W: <https://gamsat.acer.org/>

The University of Melbourne

Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences

Enquiries: <https://go.unimelb.edu.au/r83i>

W: <https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/graduate/doctor-of-optometry/>

How GEMSAS will contact you



Email will be the primary means of contact between GEMSAS and applicants.

It is essential that **you provide a current email address** which will be valid from April 2023 to February 2024 and that you regularly check your emails, including your junk or spam folders.

Some email messages may not be accepted or may be flagged as spam by some email providers (e.g. Hotmail or Yahoo).

Applicants are advised to provide an email address other than their current university address (unless it will be available until February 2024), Hotmail or Yahoo email addresses.

Neither GEMSAS nor the University of Melbourne will be held responsible for undeliverable or unread email communication.

Should you need to change your email or postal address, please do so in your GEMSAS user account.

Please save the following email addresses to your safe sender list:

info@gemsas.edu.au, GEMSAS-noreply@vtac.edu.au, noreply@gemsas.edu.au

The My Emails page in your GEMSAS account should be checked regularly.

The following GEMSAS emails will be visible on the My Emails page:

- Confirmation of Registration, Submitted, Payment emails
- Emails from the Assessment team re: academic documents and/or education study claims
- Undeclared study and outcome emails
- Courtesy reminders

The following emails will **NOT** be visible on the My Emails page:

- Place Offer notifications, as the offer/unsuccessful/waitlist email is sent directly from the University of Melbourne
- Any email correspondence sent directly from the University of Melbourne
- Email correspondence from info@gemsas.edu.au and GEMSAS.academic@vtac.edu.au



Admission policies

Offers

Successful applicants will be given a firm date by which to accept an offer of a place and offers not accepted by that date, according to the school's instructions, will lapse.

Deferral

Deferral of a place is not permitted.

Exclusion

An applicant who has been excluded from any university must indicate this when they apply. The school may contact applicants for further detail.

Admission irregularities

Applicants should be aware that the presentation of forged documents is a criminal offence in Australia and that the university may take appropriate action against such cases. Applicants who submit fraudulent documents or otherwise seek to gain an advantage by fraudulent means may be banned from future applications through GEMSAS.

All tertiary study must be declared in the application. For the purpose of university admission, the withholding of information and/or the submission of incorrect or misleading information are deemed fraudulent. Actions taken in such cases may include cancellation of an application for admission, withdrawal of an offer of admission, or cancellation of an enrolment.

Only your first submitted application will be processed, regardless of which application has been paid for.

If you have been offered a place in another course and you intend to accept that place, then please be considerate of fellow applicants and withdraw your application as soon as possible.

Advanced Standing (credit transfer)

Successful applicants with relevant prior study or professional practice may be granted up to 200 points of credit towards the Doctor of Optometry as follows:

- 100 points of credit will normally be granted to applicants with an undergraduate degree with a major in optometry or vision science, or equivalent;
- 200 points of credit will normally be granted to applicants who are registered as an optometrist with the Optometry Board of Australia and have at least three years of documented clinical practice as a registered optometrist within the last ten years.



Appeals process

Queries

If you have a query regarding your application, please contact info@gemsas.edu.au in the first instance.

Appeals

If you wish to appeal a decision made by GEMSAS or VTAC relating to the processing of your application, please consult the [GEMSAS Appeals Policy and Procedure](#) for details.

Email the details of your appeal and any required accompanying documentation to gemsasappeals@medicaldeans.org.au with the subject heading "GEMSAS Appeal" and include your name and GAMSAT ID. Prior to submission, please ensure you have read the Policy and Procedure document and understand the decisions that can be appealed.

Please note that this Committee can only hear appeals against decisions made in the processing of your application. Appeals against decisions made by participating universities must be made to the individual university concerned.

Extenuating Circumstances

If you wish to request the extension of a deadline due to extenuating circumstances, please consult the [GEMSAS Extenuating Circumstances Policy and Procedure](#) for details.

Email the details of your request and any required accompanying documentation to info@gemsas.edu.au with the subject heading of "Extenuating circumstances" and your Name and GAMSAT ID.

Please note that this only applies to requests relating to GEMSAS or VTAC deadlines. Requests relating to deadlines imposed by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) or universities must be made to the organisation concerned.



Application Process

GEMSAS and the University of Melbourne make every effort to ensure the accuracy of information provided in this Admissions Guide at the time of publication. Applicants must consult the university website for more detailed and specific information and for updates.

There are three components of the application process:

❶ GAMSAT (<https://gamsat.acer.org/>)

The GAMSAT validity period has been changed from 2 years to 4 years. GAMSAT results obtained from different sittings are directly comparable and can be used when applying to universities for up to four consecutive years in Australia.

To apply in 2023 for entry in 2024, ONLY the following results can be used: September 2019, May 2020, September 2020, March 2021, September 2021, March 2022, September 2022 and March 2023.

All applicants for Commonwealth Supported Places and Domestic Full Fee places in the University of Melbourne's Doctor of Optometry (i.e. citizens/permanent residents/permanent humanitarian visa holders of Australia and citizens of New Zealand) must have a current score on the Graduate Australian Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT).

GAMSAT results are valid for four years. If you sit the September test in 2023 you may use the results obtained to apply in 2024, 2025, 2026 and 2027, for a graduate entry course commencing 2025, 2026, 2027 and 2028 respectively.

Helpful information can be found on the GAMSAT website that shows the validity of all the GAMSAT tests.

<https://gamsat.acer.org/results/currency-of-results>

The Doctor of Optometry uses the GAMSAT Overall Score for selection. A minimum GAMSAT score has not been set for the Doctor of Optometry.

You can evaluate your standing in relation to other candidates who sat GAMSAT in the same year as you did, by consulting the chart included with your Statement of Results. Please note that neither GEMSAS nor ACER staff have the authority to review individual transcripts or GAMSAT results or to offer advice on the likelihood of selection.

Registration for the GAMSAT and application for admission to the Doctor of Optometry are separate processes.

❷ Application

All applicants for Commonwealth Supported Places and other domestic places (i.e. citizens/permanent residents of Australia and citizens of New Zealand) must apply through GEMSAS (eligible Indigenous Australian applicants may apply directly, please refer to page 18 for more information).

Please note any other direct domestic applications made through the University of Melbourne's online system will not be accepted and these applications will be withdrawn. Please ensure you apply through GEMSAS and follow the application process on page 13.



Doctor of Optometry candidates are responsible for determining their eligibility to apply. Applicants are selected for offer of a place based on the following criteria:

- Performance in GAMSAT;
- Performance in a qualifying degree (as indicated by the Weighted Average Mark (WAM));
- Successful completion of approved prerequisite subjects.

③ Supporting documentation

GEMSAS will not be accepting any hardcopy documentation. Applicants are required to upload supporting documentation directly to GEMSAS.

If you studied at an ARTS institution (see Appendix A of this Guide), you do NOT need to send any academic transcripts for that study. Please note that we do not use hard copy transcripts where results are available via ARTS, and we will not accept transcripts provided as clarification regarding study not shown in ARTS.

For all study at non-ARTS institutions, upload official transcripts.

Note that if you have also applied for Medicine at any of the GEMSAS medical schools or Dentistry at the University of Melbourne, you will only need to upload one set of transcripts. We can use these for all your GEMSAS applications.

When you complete your Application Form, you will be presented with relevant documentation requirement information which you must read carefully. Follow the instructions on the **Documentation** page of the Application to submit your academic transcripts and English Language Competency documentation (if required).

You can view the documentation requirements, that you will be required to submit with supporting documentation, on the **Documentation** page in the application but will only be able to access the upload function once you have submitted and paid for your application.

Please submit **only** those documents that have been specifically requested and are in accordance with the new documentation guidelines and follow the instructions on the **Documentation** page. Failure to include all requested documents may disadvantage you.

There are different deadlines for uploading academic transcripts dependent on the completion date of your Undergraduate Degree or receipt of a conditional offer.

Upload your official academic transcript(s) (and separate grading schemes if they are not included on the reverse of your transcript) as soon as possible after submitting your application or completing your study. Your transcripts must be uploaded no later than the deadlines below:

Documents from non-ARTS institutions: Upload your transcript(s), for all non-ARTS study, no later than 7 August 2023.

Conditional offer:

If you have been made a conditional offer and have completed an undergraduate degree or any single subject prerequisite studies in 2023, you must upload the final transcripts to your University of Melbourne [Online Student](#)

Portal by 16 December 2023. Any student who has accepted a conditional offer but cannot provide transcripts by this date is encouraged to contact the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences.

If you experience difficulty supplying any of the required documentation by the due date, you must [contact the Faculty](#) as soon as possible (prior to the due date).

Note: If you have completed a Bachelor or Honours degree, exchange study or prior study credited to these courses, at a non ARTS institution you will need to provide a transcript for this study.



Any qualification undertaken in a language other than English must be documented by the original transcript, accompanied by an officially translated original (by a NAATI translator), in English.

Scans of **original hard copy** translations (featuring the translator's original stamp and signature on every page) can be uploaded in your account. Please see the *Academic Document Submission Guidelines* for instructions on supplying digital translation documents (which feature a digitally inserted stamp or QR code).



Extra documentation requirements for study in China and India:

China:

- Original Transcript in both Chinese and English Language
- Original Degree Certificate that is "Awarded according to the Regulations Concerning Academic Degrees in the People's Republic of China (中华人民共和国学位条例)" - both in English and Chinese Language
- If you have completed a Masters degree we will need your original documentation (either official degree certificate or graduation certificate) that shows you completed/defended your Thesis - both in English and Chinese Language. In addition to the above.

*English Translations must either be issued from your school or NAATI Translations.

*Please note if you do not provide **all of the above** it may delay the assessment of your application.

India:

- Unconsolidated Marksheets including any backlogs - Marksheets must be issued from the awarding University NOT the college.
- Official finalised completion certificate (not provisional) as issued by the awarding university (in addition to the marksheets/transcripts).

*Please note if you do not provide **all of the above** it may delay the assessment of your application.



Entry Requirements

In order to be considered for entry, applicants must have completed either:

- An undergraduate degree in any discipline, with studies to have been completed within 10 years of commencing the Doctor of Optometry
- Or**
- For applicants whose most recently completed undergraduate degree was completed 10 or more years before January 1st of the year in which the applicant intends to commence the Doctor of Optometry, a Graduate Diploma, Master or PhD degree, or equivalent, completed within 10 years of commencing the Doctor of Optometry

Undergraduate Australian degrees must be from a Commonwealth-accredited institution as listed by TEQSA (see <http://www.teqsa.gov.au/national-register>). Overseas degrees must be recognised by the Australian Department of Education, Skills and Employment (DESE) (previously AEI-NOOSR) or UK ENIC (previously UK NARIC) as comparable to an Australian Bachelor degree. Your qualifications will be assessed for comparability as part of your application process.

Please do not contact the Australian Department of Education, Skills and Employment (DESE) for assessment of your degree.

For those in the final year of study, satisfactory completion of the degree in 2023 will be a condition of entry. Note that if you cannot complete and provide evidence of completion of your degree in the 2023 calendar year, any offer you have received that is conditional upon completion of your current degree may be withdrawn. A qualifying degree is defined as an Honours degree or a Bachelor degree of at least three years' duration when studied full-time, or equivalent, from a recognised university.

Applicants enrolled in a two-year degree or one-year conversion degree may only apply after completion of the degree. Those who have completed a higher degree without a prior Bachelor degree should consult the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences to ascertain eligibility.

Selection Score

During selection, applicants are ranked based on a Selection Score which is based on their Weighted Average Mark (WAM) and their GAMSAT score – where the WAM is weighted 2/3 and the GAMSAT is weighted 1/3. A minimum WAM of 65 is required for the Doctor of Optometry (OD). A minimum GAMSAT has not been set.

GEMSAS will calculate a Weighted Average Mark (WAM) from electronic results (from ARTS institutions) or transcripts provided by the applicant. Scans of original hard-copy transcripts or an official and secure electronic copy of your transcript will be needed if you have completed your degree or any part of your qualifying degree at an overseas university or any university not included in the list of ARTS institutions in Appendix A. Please note that GEMSAS does not use hard copy transcripts where results are available via ARTS, and we will not accept transcripts provided as clarification regarding study not shown in ARTS.

If you wish to calculate your WAM, please do so according to the instructions in the 'How to Calculate Your WAM' section below. Applicants whose degrees were completed outside Australia and New Zealand will not be able to calculate a WAM for themselves. Please note that any WAM calculated by an applicant will be an estimated WAM and used only for the information of the applicant.



The WAM indicates the level of performance in the qualifying degree. It should be emphasised that a science major is not a prerequisite, and that academic excellence in other areas, such as the humanities and social sciences, is encouraged and recognised.

How to calculate your Weighted Average Mark (WAM)

The Weighted Average Mark (WAM) is calculated using the most recent eligible 200 credit points (equivalent to two years of full time study) completed in an undergraduate or honours degree.

In the WAM calculation:

- The most recently completed 100 credit points (equivalent to one year of full time study) are weighted by 2
- The next most recently completed 100 credit points (equivalent to one year of full time study) are weighted by 1
- Subjects completed concurrently will be selected for inclusion in the most recent 100 credit points (equivalent to one year of full time study) according to performance, starting from the subject with the highest mark.
- Results for failed subjects will also be included in the WAM calculation for the year in which they were studied and their credit value will count towards the most recently completed 200 credit points.

Please note the following:

- *Results for 2020 subjects completed before the COVID-19 pandemic will be included in WAM calculations. Results for honours completed in 2020 will be included in WAM calculations for 2022 and all subsequent intakes. All other 2020 subject results will be excluded from WAM calculations for 2022 and all subsequent intakes. For the avoidance of doubt, please note that subjects from all other study periods will be used in WAM calculations.*
- For example:
 - If an applicant completed their final year of undergraduate study in 2020, the most recently completed 100 **eligible** credit points (equivalent to one year of full time study) (including study completed prior to the COVID-19 pandemic (1 April 2020) and any honours results completed in 2020), will be weighted by 2. The next most recently completed 100 credit points (or equivalent) will be weighted by 1.
 - If an applicant completed their penultimate year of undergraduate study in 2020, the most recently completed 100 credit points (equivalent to one year of full time study) will be weighted by 2 and the next most recently completed 100 credit points (equivalent to one year of full time study) completed prior to the COVID-19 pandemic (including 2020 results completed prior to 1 April 2020 and honours results completed in 2020), will be weighted by 1.

The Selection Committee may select applicants on the basis of postgraduate study, where the study:

- has been completed within ten years of commencement of the Doctor of Optometry;
- is equivalent to at least one year full-time; and
- builds upon studies completed at the undergraduate level and is in a health or biological science discipline.

Before you calculate your Selection Score, you should read the section 'How To Apply'.



Prerequisite Subjects

Applicants to the Doctor of Optometry at the University of Melbourne must have completed approved prerequisite studies:

- Three subjects at second or third year level (or equivalent) from one or more relevant biological science disciplines.

Please refer to the University of Melbourne website for further information and the full list of approved prerequisite subjects: <https://mdhs.unimelb.edu.au/study/prerequisites>

Interviews

There are no interviews for the Doctor of Optometry.

Offers

Selection into the Doctor of Optometry is based on the following criteria:

- Performance in GAMSAT;
- Performance in an undergraduate degree (and/or related postgraduate study)
- Successful completion of approved prerequisite subjects;
- Demonstration of meeting the University's English language requirements



How to Apply

❶ Complete the online application form

The online application opens 1 May 2023. We recommend that you register and begin the application as soon as possible after this date. To apply for admission to the Doctor of Optometry commencing in 2024, you must complete the online Application Form – on the GEMSAS website – by no later than:

- **5.00pm AEST/3pm AWST Monday 31 July 2023**

Late applications will NOT be accepted.

The application fee is paid by credit card, when completing the online application form. You do not need to complete your payment at the time of submission, but must do so by **5pm AEST/3pm AWST 7th August**.

In 2023, for 2024 entry, the application fee for University of Melbourne Doctor of Optometry is **AUD \$250**.

Don't forget to include info@gemsas.edu.au, GEMSAS-noreply@vtac.edu.au, noreply@gemsas.edu.au in your 'Safe Senders' list and email address book, to ensure messages from GEMSAS are not treated as spam and sent to your Junk folder. We cannot be held responsible for any email not reaching or not being read by you.

Special Entry Schemes. If you are applying through Graduate Access Melbourne, you will need to complete a Graduate Access Melbourne application form in addition to your GEMSAS online application. **Refer to page 15 for more information.**

Eligible Indigenous Australian applicants: Please refer to page 18 for more about how to apply directly to the University as an Aboriginal and/ or Torres Strait Islander applicant. Eligible applicants do not pay an application fee.

❷ Upload your supporting documentation

After completing and submitting the online Application Form and making your payment, you need to upload your official **transcripts** from non-ARTS institutions. All documentation must be uploaded **by the dates listed below**. Wherever possible they should be uploaded earlier.

Due Date: Uploaded no later than Monday 7th August 2023

If any of your tertiary studies were undertaken at a university not listed in Appendix A (as an institution whose results can be retrieved through ARTS), you **MUST** upload your official academic transcripts for all such studies.

- Only **one** set of transcripts is required to complete your GEMSAS application, even if you are applying for multiple applications across Medicine, Dentistry and Optometry.
- Uploaded documents must be a high-quality colour scan of the **official** transcript/and or completion certificate or a secure official digital copy.
- Documentation must be in PDF or JPEG file only and a limit of 15MB.
- Please scan each document **separately** and include **both sides** (front and back) if applicable. Transcripts received from the same qualification can be combined into one file.
- Please refer to the full Academic Document Guide found in the application portal.
- If there has been no change to your education history and you applied through GEMSAS **within the last two years** you **do not** need to provide GEMSAS with your academic documents again. You will be contacted should GEMSAS require any further academic documentation.




Any qualification undertaken in a language other than English must be documented by the original transcript, accompanied by an officially translated original (by a NAATI translator), in English.

Scans of **original hard copy** translations (featuring the translator's original stamp and signature on every page) can be uploaded in your account. Please see the *Academic Document Submission Guidelines* for instructions on supplying digital translation documents (which feature a digitally inserted stamp or QR code).

Extra documentation requirements for study in China and India:

China:

- 
- Original Transcript in both Chinese and English Language
 - Original Degree Certificate that is "Awarded according to the Regulations Concerning Academic Degrees in the People's Republic of China (中华人民共和国学位条例)" - both in English and Chinese Language
 - If you have completed a Masters degree we will need your original documentation (either official degree certificate or graduation certificate) that shows you completed/defended your Thesis - both in English and Chinese Language, in addition to the above.

*English Translations must either be issued from your school or NAATI Translations.

*Please note if you do not provide **all of the above** it may delay the assessment of your application.

India:

- Unconsolidated Marksheets including any backlogs - Marksheets must be issued from the awarding University NOT the college.
- Official finalised completion certificate (not provisional) as issued by the awarding university (in addition to the marksheets/transcripts)

*Please note if you do not provide **all of the above** it may delay the assessment of your application.

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

Please submit only those documents that have been specifically requested. Address all general correspondence or enquiry, via email to info@gemsas.edu.au. No additional documentation or general correspondence can be accepted by GEMSAS Operations.

Additional Information

The University of Melbourne Doctor of Optometry	
Contact details:	
Enquiries	https://go.unimelb.edu.au/r83i
Web	https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/graduate/doctor-of-optometry/
Bachelor Degree/ WAM/ GAMSAT/Ranking Score	Please refer to the 'How to Calculate Your WAM' section on page 11 of this document.
Currency of qualification	<p>Degree: undergraduate degree to have been completed within 10 years of commencing the Doctor of Optometry, or for applicants whose most recently completed undergraduate degree was completed 10 or more years before 1 January 2024, Graduate Diploma, Master or PhD degree or equivalent completed within 10 years before 1 January 2024.</p> <p>Prerequisites: subjects to have been completed within 10 years of commencing the Doctor of Optometry</p>
Special entry schemes	<p>Graduate Access Melbourne</p> <p>Graduate Access Melbourne (GAM) provides access to applicants whose personal circumstances have had a sustained adverse effect on their academic achievement at undergraduate level or who are members of a specified group known to be under-represented in higher education. Applicants approved for the Graduate Access Melbourne scheme may be re-ranked based on their level of disadvantage.</p> <p>To be eligible for Graduate Access Melbourne you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be an Australian or New Zealand citizen or Australian permanent resident or holder of a permanent Humanitarian Visa; and • Have demonstrated the capacity to successfully undertake the Doctor of Optometry; and • Apply through GEMSAS for a place in the Doctor of Optometry <p>You may be considered under one or more of the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous status as a refugee or current holder of a Humanitarian Visa; • Rural or isolated background; • Disadvantaged socio-economic circumstances; • Disability or chronic medical condition; • Personal difficulties <p><i>Recognition as an Indigenous Australian:</i> Please refer to page 18 for more about how to apply as an Aboriginal and/ or Torres Strait Islander applicant.</p> <p>In order to be considered for Graduate Access Melbourne in one or more of the above categories, applicants must clearly state how the disadvantage has affected their studies in their degree. In the application form you will need to include statements describing your circumstance and attach supporting documentations where appropriate.</p> <p>Further information about eligibility can be found at https://go.unimelb.edu.au/yxy6</p> <p>How to apply for GAM</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GAM applications are made separately to your course application and must be submitted directly to the University of Melbourne at https://go.unimelb.edu.au/c46s

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. All supporting documentation must be attached to the online form at the time of submission. Incomplete applications are not able to be considered. 3. The closing date for GAM applications for the 2024 intake is Monday 31 July 2023 4. Only eligible applicants should apply <p>Guaranteed Entry Pathway</p> <p>This pathway is available to two cohorts of students who are completing their undergraduate degree at the University of Melbourne.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chancellors Scholars (current University of Melbourne students who entered their undergraduate degree at the University of Melbourne with an ATAR of 99.90 or above). More information at https://go.unimelb.edu.au/u726 2. Guaranteed Full Fee Entry (current University of Melbourne students who entered their undergraduate degree at the University of Melbourne with an ATAR of 96.00 or above). More information at https://go.unimelb.edu.au/q5mi <p>How to Apply under the Guaranteed Entry Pathway</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Applications must be submitted directly to the University of Melbourne at https://go.unimelb.edu.au/tmg6 2. Applications must be submitted by 5:00pm AEST on Monday 31 July 2023 <p>Please note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants eligible for guaranteed entry will not be required to complete the Graduate Australian Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT). • Full-Fee Guaranteed Entry applicants must also meet course Weighted Average Mark of 75 or above. <p>Full-Fee Guaranteed Entry applicants who wish to be considered for other fee type places must apply via the standard GEMSAS process. These applications will be considered separately.</p> <p>University of Melbourne Indigenous Pathway</p> <p>Please refer to page 18 for further information</p>
Offers	Offers will be made on the basis of the ranked list - WAM and the GAMSAT score where the WAM is weighted 2/3 and the GAMSAT 1/3.
Prerequisite subjects and equivalents	<p>Three subjects at second or third year level (or equivalent) from one or more relevant biological science disciplines.</p> <p>The prerequisite subjects need not have been completed as part of the qualification(s) that is used as the basis for selection.</p> <p>Please go to https://mdhs.unimelb.edu.au/study/prerequisites to find out more about subject prerequisites and how to have your subjects pre-assessed if required. Subjects should be submitted no later than one month prior to the application deadline.</p> <p>Applicants enrolling in prerequisite subjects in 2023 must have results available by 16 December 2023 Applicants should confirm with their enrolling institution that results</p>

	<p>will be available by this date. If results will not be available, applicants should apply for the 2025 intake.</p> <p>Subjects must have been completed within 10 years of commencing the Doctor of Optometry.</p>
<p>Selection Criteria</p>	<p>For detailed selection criteria, refer to the University of Melbourne website https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/graduate/doctor-of-optometry/#entry-requirements</p>
<p>English Language Proficiency for Domestic Applicants</p>	<p>Domestic applicants who have completed their undergraduate degree, or a graduate degree of at least two years duration, where the degree was taught and assessed entirely in English[^], may satisfy the University’s English requirements if you fulfil the following:</p> <p>If the degree was completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • within two years of your commencement to study at the University of Melbourne, no additional evidence of English language proficiency is required • between two and five years of your commencement to study at the University of Melbourne, evidence of work* in an English-speaking environment is required • more than five years of your commencement to study at the University of Melbourne, evidence that sustained work* in a designated country**, in an English-speaking environment, has been undertaken since completing the degree will be required. <p>Applicants who have satisfactorily completed a graduate degree of at least one years’ duration, where the degree was taught and assessed entirely in English[^] and the English language entry standard for the completed degree was at least IELTS (Academic) overall band score 6.5 or equivalent, may satisfy the University’s English requirements if you fulfil the following:</p> <p>If the degree was completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within two years of your commencement to study at the University of Melbourne, no additional evidence of English language proficiency is required • Between two and five years of your commencement to study at the University of Melbourne, evidence of work** in an English-speaking environment is required • More than five years of your commencement to study at the University of Melbourne, evidence that sustained work** in a designated country*, in an English-speaking environment, has been undertaken since completing the degree will be required. <p>[^] This option is not available if the institution is in China, India, Nepal or Pakistan.</p> <p>*Evidence of work: sufficient documentation includes an up-to-date resume</p> <p>** Designated countries: Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa, Republic of Ireland, United Kingdom and United States</p>

	<p>Applicants who have not completed undergraduate studies that are taught and assessed in English can satisfy the English Language Requirements in a number of ways, as outlined on the website and must provide evidence to support this when you have received offers at the University of Melbourne:</p> <p>https://study.unimelb.edu.au/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/graduate-english-language-requirements</p>
<p>Aboriginal and/ or Torres Strait Islander applicants</p>	<p>Applicants of Aboriginal and/ or Torres Strait Islander descent are given priority access to the Doctor of Optometry at the University of Melbourne.</p> <p>Applicants of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent can apply for the Doctor of Optometry via one of two ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The standard pathway – applications submitted via GEMSAS • The University of Melbourne Indigenous pathway* – applications submitted direct to the University of Melbourne <p>*Indigenous applicants are encouraged to apply via the Indigenous pathway as eligible applicants will not be subject to ranking and will be selected into the program if the minimum requirements are met.</p> <p>Indigenous applicants are not required to apply via GEMSAS nor sit the GAMSAT if they are applying via the University of Melbourne Indigenous pathway.</p> <p>Indigenous applicants are strongly encouraged to get in touch with the University's Indigenous Student Support Officer at mdhs-indigenous-admissions@unimelb.edu.au if they have questions about applying for the Doctor of Optometry.</p> <p>Applying via the University of Melbourne Indigenous Pathway</p> <p>Applicants applying via the University of Melbourne Indigenous pathway will have priority access. These applicants will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Need to meet the eligibility requirements for the Indigenous Pathway including supplying a Confirmation of Identity to mdhs-indigenous-admissions@unimelb.edu.au 2. Need to still meet the entry requirements of the Doctor of Optometry however are not required to undertake GAMSAT if applying via this pathway 3. Applicants eligible for the Indigenous Pathway will not be subject to ranking and will be selected into the program if the minimum requirements are met and the selection committee decides the applicant is likely to succeed in the program <p>To apply via the University of Melbourne Indigenous Pathway applicants must ensure they:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submit a Doctor of Optometry course application directly via University of Melbourne Course Application portal by 5:00pm AEST on Monday 31 July 2023 2. Submit a Confirmation of Identity to mdhs-indigenous-admissions@unimelb.edu.au

International students	<p>International applicants should refer to the University of Melbourne’s International Admissions Guide when applying for the Doctor of Optometry found online at: https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/graduate/doctor-of-optometry/how-to-apply/</p> <p>Note:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. International students must submit their application directly to the University of Melbourne at https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/graduate/doctor-of-optometry/how-to-apply/ 2. Applications must be submitted by 5:00pm AEST on Monday 31 July 2023 3. International students may apply for the Doctor of Optometry with either a score from GAMSAT or MCAT or OAT 4. Applicants who have undertaken their undergraduate studies in a language other than English should consult the University of Melbourne’s website for information about minimum English language requirements. Find out more about English language requirements.
Open Days and Information Sessions	<p>You can find out more about the University of Melbourne’s Doctor of Optometry at Open Day and through Information Sessions run throughout the year.</p> <p>Register for Open Day</p> <p>Register for upcoming information sessions</p>



FAQs

How do I choose between valid GAMSAT results?

The GAMSAT validity period has been changed from 2 years to 4 years. GAMSAT results obtained from different sittings are directly comparable and can be used when applying to universities for up to four consecutive years in Australia.

To apply in 2023 for entry in 2024, ONLY the following results can be used: September 2019, May 2020, September 2020, March 2021, September 2021, March 2022, September 2022 and March 2023.

The University of Melbourne uses an overall GAMSAT Score. If you have many valid GAMSAT results, you should select the results with the best overall GAMSAT Score.

Simply record in the Application Form the appropriate candidate identification number, month and year of sitting for the test you wish to use for selection.

This will be the only GAMSAT result that will be provided to GEMSAS for your OD application.

It is not possible to mix individual section scores from different years.

What GAMSAT scores are acceptable for entry to GEMPASS Australia medical schools?

GAMSAT results are valid for four years. To apply in 2023 for entry in 2024, ONLY the following results can be used: September 2019, May 2020, September 2020, March 2021, September 2021, March 2022, September 2022 and March 2023.

The GAMSAT is held in March and September, however results from the September sitting in the year of GEMSAS application cannot be used for that intake - it may only be used for designated future intakes:

Which GAMSAT results can be used?		
GAMSAT session	2024 Intake	2025 Intake
September 2019	✓	✗
May 2020	✓	✗
September 2020	✓	✓
March 2021	✓	✓
September 2021	✓	✓
March 2022	✓	✓
September 2022	✓	✓
March 2023	✓	✓
September 2023	✗	✓
March 2024		✓

Helpful information can be found on the GAMSAT website that shows the validity of all the GAMSAT tests. <https://gamsat.acer.org/results/currency-of-results>

I completed my undergraduate degree more than 10 years ago, am I still eligible to apply?

If you have completed additional study such as an honours or postgraduate degree (i.e., Graduate Diploma, Masters or PhD), and have completed the prerequisite subjects within the last 10 years, then you will be eligible to apply.



How will GEMSAS determine comparability of overseas qualification/s to the Australian Qualification Framework?

GEMSAS assessors will review all overseas documents that are received and determine the comparison level of the qualification under the [Australian Qualifications Framework](#) (AQF). Often, this means confirming that a Bachelor degree studied overseas is comparable in educational level to a Bachelor degree completed in Australia. However, GEMSAS will also assess other types of post-secondary overseas qualifications claimed by applicants, such as postgraduate studies and exchange programs.

For all overseas assessments GEMSAS uses the Australian government's [Department of Education, Skills and Employment \(DESE\)](#) (previously known as NOOSR/AEI NOOSR) guidelines and UK ENIC (previously UK NARIC) for verification and level comparability. Where GEMSAS is unable to determine the comparison level of a qualification using these guidelines, the assessment is passed to the institution to which the applicant has applied.

How will my overseas study be converted to an Australian comparable scale?

An Australian 50-80 point grading scale is used to calculate the Weighted Average Mark (WAM) for the Doctor of Optometry at the University of Melbourne. As many other countries use a different grading system, we may need to convert applicants' grade marks or GPAs to a 50-80 grading point scale before their GEMSAS WAM can be calculated.

GEMSAS will take the actual results from applicants' overseas university transcripts and use the institution grading information provided on the transcript to convert these grades to a 50-80 grading point scale. To do this, we need to know the minimum required pass marks and the maximum achievable mark. GEMSAS will generally use the percentage mark where a transcript shows both an exact percentage mark and a letter grade.

If there is no information on a transcript regarding the grading scale, GEMSAS assessors may take further steps, such as researching the institution and checking the grading system on the institution's official website, or using guidelines provided by The Department of Education, Skills and Employment (DESE). In some cases, we may request applicants provide further documentation that confirms the grading system used by their institution.

I have received a conditional offer, where do I send my final transcript and evidence of completion and when is the deadline?

You must upload the final original academic transcript and evidence of completion for any undergraduate degree or single prerequisite subjects studied in 2023 to the University of Melbourne application portal at <https://go.unimelb.edu.au/2wrs> by 15 December 2023. Any student who has accepted a conditional offer, but cannot provide transcripts by this date must contact the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences before the deadline at <https://go.unimelb.edu.au/r83i>.

I didn't receive confirmation of my submitted application or my payment

After completing the Application Form you will need to SUBMIT your application (once done you will receive an email from GEMSAS confirming your application has been submitted). You will then be taken to the payment system to make your payment. Once your payment has been made successfully you will be shown a receipt screen and you will receive an email from GEMSAS.



If you do not receive either email, please log into your GEMSAS account and check your My Emails page. If the successful submission and payment emails are not visible, please email info@gemsas.edu.au ASAP. Your application is not valid until it has been successfully submitted and paid for.

What is the USI number and is it a mandatory requirement?

A USI is a reference number made up of ten numbers and letters. It creates an online record of your nationally recognised training and qualifications attained in Australia. Yes, it is a mandatory requirement to provide your USI number in the application. For more information see <http://www.usi.gov.au/>

I have previously applied through GEMSAS

If you have previously applied through GEMSAS, you are still required to register anew online and complete and submit a new application.

Very Important: If there has been no change to your education history and you applied through GEMSAS *within the last two years* you **do not** need to provide GEMSAS with your academic documents again. You will be contacted should GEMSAS require any further academic documentation.

I can't see the documentation requirements for submitting supporting documentation

Documentation requirements are generated according to your selections and responses. As your application progresses, the **Documentation** page, with documentation requirements for academic transcripts and English Language Competency documentation, will appear on the left of your screen. You will only have access to the upload function once you have submitted and paid for your application. To access your documentation requirements, after you have submitted and paid for your application, log into your application and select the **Documentation** button on the My Applications page.

If you cannot save or print any of the documents mentioned above, please email info@gemsas.edu.au and include your GAMSAT ID.

How do I upload my supporting documentation (Education transcripts and/or English Language Competency)?

The documentation requirements page will describe in detail where to upload your supporting documentation, deadlines for uploading the documentation and what type of documents can be accepted. It is very important that you read this page carefully. Any incorrect documentation provided may delay the processing of your application.

Are there any restrictions on the types of academic documentation accepted?

Yes, we will only accept PDF or JPEG file formats, max 15MB. Word documents (.doc, docs, .rtf) are not accepted. For Australian and New Zealand qualifications digital documents issued by My eEquals are accepted, provided they meet the My eEquals guidelines. You must download a PDF of your document from the My eEquals portal which is digitally signed by your institution and has the required security features including the certificate key or blue banner verification. Sharing links for download via My eEquals is not permitted. For example, certified documents viewed in Adobe Acrobat Reader have a blue ribbon above the document stating: *"Certified by the issuing education provider... all signatures are valid"*. Please note that the blue ribbon/certification may not be visible in some web browsers and non-Adobe applications.

For overseas qualifications colour scans of official hard copy documents or institution-issued secure PDF documents are accepted. Scans **must** be fully legible, including any notes, codes, logos and legends. Whether security features



on a PDF meet GEMSAS requirements is at the discretion of GEMSAS Assessment. Documents which do not meet security requirements may be rejected, or may only be conditionally accepted.

Scan each document separately and include both sides (front and back) if applicable. If your academic documents have information on both sides (even if it is generic information rather than your academic results), please ensure that you scan both sides of the document. Transcripts received from the same qualification can be combined into one file.

It is very important you read the information on the **Documentation** requirements page as any incorrect documentation may delay the processing of your application.

I don't have a scanner. How can I send my documents?

Phone applications can be used to scan your documents (e.g. Cam Scanner, Adobe Scan) but askew or poorly focused scans will not be accepted. Ensure that the entire document is scanned, without scanning external surrounds such as tabletops or a frame or your fingers. The document needs to fill the entire space and all edges of the document must be visible. The documents must not look warped by the scan.

I don't have an original transcript; can I submit a copy?

No, only official transcript/s or digitally secure PDFs will be accepted. Screenshots, photos, certified copies, unofficial results and online printouts are not accepted.

A Statement of Results is not acceptable and is not considered in place of a full transcript, nor is a printout of an academic record.

If you are required to provide documentation, detailed guidelines will be available in the **Documentation** page in the GEMSAS application portal.

My transcript is not in English; should I provide a translation?

Any qualification undertaken in a language other than English must be documented by the original transcript, accompanied by an officially translated original (by a NAATI translator), in English.

Scans of **original hard copy** translations (featuring the translator's original stamp and signature on every page) can be uploaded in your account. Please see the *Academic Document Submission Guidelines* for instructions on supplying digital translation documents (which feature a digitally inserted stamp or QR code).

I'm still studying this year; do I need to submit a 2023 transcript?

Applicants completing their degree in 2023 will be assessed on the basis of the information available at the time of application. Semester 1 (or Trimester 1), 2023 results should be submitted to be included in the assessment. However, any offers made prior to the receipt of final results and confirmation of completion will be conditional.

Please note that GEMSAS does not use hard copy transcripts where results are available via ARTS, and we will not accept transcripts provided as clarification regarding study not shown in ARTS.

If you have studied at a non-ARTS institution then you must upload your official transcript as soon as possible.

I'm currently studying and plan on taking an Early Exit, what do I do?

If you are currently studying a program and intend on taking an Early Exit or Alternative Award at the end of the year, you must declare this in your application. You should select the actual year you are due to complete your

study, list that the completion status is “I am currently studying, but will not complete the qualification this year” and complete the early exit question that will generate.

If after you submit your application you realise you did not claim this information, or you decide you will be taking an early exit, you must inform GEMSAS (info@gemsas.edu.au) as soon as possible so your account and study details can be updated. If you are taking an early or alternative exit, it is your responsibility to ensure that the exit meets the entry requirements.

Examples of combined programs that could lead to an early exit are:

Bachelor/Bachelor

Bachelor/Master

Bachelor/Postgraduate Diploma

Bachelor with Embedded Honours

For example, if you are currently studying a Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts and at the end of the year plan to complete and be awarded the Bachelor of Science, this should be declared as an early exit on your application.

Similarly, if you are currently studying a Bachelor/Masters program, and plan on taking an early exit to be awarded the single Bachelor degree then this should also be declared.

Exchange studies and transcripts

Exchange studies are part of your degree and therefore we use the results from those studies in calculating your WAM. Exchange studies may appear on your home university transcript as pass/fail subjects, but we use your actual results awarded by the overseas institution to calculate your WAM.



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You must obtain and supply an official transcript for any exchange studies you have done.

Any qualification undertaken in a language other than English must be documented by the original transcript, accompanied by an officially translated original (by a NAATI translator), in English.

Scans of **original hard copy** translations (featuring the translator's original stamp and signature on every page) can be uploaded in your account. Please see the *Academic Document Submission Guidelines* for instructions on supplying digital translation documents (which feature a digitally inserted stamp or QR code).
.....

My declared study and/or results have changed. What should I do?

Ensure you inform [GEMSAS](#) ASAP if there is any change to your study, especially your key degree.

Ensure you inform [GEMSAS](#) ASAP if there is an update to a Semester 1 or Semester 2 result or if there is a delay in obtaining a Semester 1 or Semester 2 result (e.g. sitting a special or deferred exam), so GEMSAS is made aware of the need to retrieve these results.

Note that ARTS results are retrieved on request and unless you notify us of updates, we will not request ARTS results outside of the scheduled times.

What study should I declare in the application?

ALL tertiary studies (including postgraduate studies, exchange studies, cross institutional studies, non-award single subject studies) are to be declared (this includes completed and incomplete study), whether relevant or not to your key degree.



I have lodged two or more applications for Optometry through GEMSAS.

Only your **first submitted** application will be processed, regardless of which application has been paid for.

What information/emails, that have been sent to my email address, will be visible on the My Emails page in my GEMSAS account?

The My Emails page in your GEMSAS account **should be checked regularly.**

The following GEMSAS emails will be visible on the My Emails page:

- Confirmation of Registration, Submitted, Payment emails
- Emails from the Assessment team re: academic documents and/or education study claims
- Undeclared study and outcome emails
- Courtesy reminders

The following emails will **NOT** be visible on the My Emails page:

- Place Offer notifications, as the offer/unsuccessful/waitlist email is sent directly from the University of Melbourne
- Any email correspondence sent directly from the University of Melbourne
- Email correspondence from info@gemsas.edu.au and GEMSAS.academic@vtac.edu.au

How do I know if my documents have been accepted?

If you have uploaded your documentation, you will be able to view the documents that have been accepted in the **Documentation** button on the My Applications page of your application. If anything further is required, or the documents were not up to the acceptable guidelines you will be notified via email.

How can I update my personal details after I have submitted my application?

After you have completed your application you can update your gender, previous names, phone number, email, postal and/or residential addresses by logging back into your application at applygemsas.edu.au and updating details in the Account, Personal Details and Contact Details sections.

If you need to advise GEMSAS of an error in your date of birth, or a change to your current name or citizenship details, please email info@gemsas.edu.au and include your GAMSAT ID along with the updated information.

Important Information

The information in this guide is provided as general guidance to applicants to the Doctor of Optometry at the University of Melbourne and is correct as of April 2023. All applicants should routinely check the University of Melbourne website for admission updates.

<https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/graduate/doctor-of-optometry/#overview>



Appendix A: Institutions Participating in ARTS (Automated Results Transfer System)

You do NOT need to provide academic transcripts for studies undertaken at the following institutions:

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Australian National University	Canberra CAE	University of Canberra
Australian Catholic University	Canberra Institute of the Arts	

NEW SOUTH WALES

Australian Catholic University	University of Wollongong	University of New South Wales
Sydney College of the Arts	Western Sydney University (University of Western Sydney)	Charles Sturt University
University of New England	New South Wales Institute of Technology	Macquarie University
University of Newcastle	Southern Cross University	University of Sydney
University of Technology, Sydney	CQ University	

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Charles Darwin University (formerly Northern Territory University)		
Darwin Institute of Technology		

QUEENSLAND

Australian Catholic University	Griffith University	Queensland Institute of Technology
Bond University	James Cook University	CQ University
Queensland University of Technology	Darling Downs IAE	University of Queensland, The (UQ)
Gold Coast CAE	University of Southern Queensland	Queensland Agricultural CAE
Queensland Institute of Technology (Capricornia)	University of the Sunshine Coast	

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The University of Adelaide	University of South Australia	Flinders University of South Australia
CQ University		

TASMANIA

Australian Maritime College
Tasmanian CAE
Tasmanian State Institute of Technology
University of Tasmania

VICTORIA

Australian Catholic University	CQ University	Victoria College - all campuses 1985 onwards
La Trobe University	Swinburne University of Technology	Victoria University (formerly Victoria University of Technology)
Deakin University	University of Melbourne	Federation University Australia (formerly University of Ballarat)
Victorian College of the Arts	Monash University	RMIT University
Warrnambool IAE	Caulfield Institute of Technology	Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Edith Cowan University	Curtin University (Curtin University of Technology)	The University of Western Australia
Western Australian CAE	Murdoch University	Western Australian Institute of Technology

AUSTRALIA

Open Universities Australia



PLEASE NOTE: Any qualification undertaken in a language other than English must be documented by the original transcript, accompanied by an officially translated original (by a NAATI translator), in English.

Scans of **original hard copy** translations (featuring the translator's original stamp and signature on every page) can be uploaded in your account. Please see the *Academic Document Submission Guidelines* for instructions on supplying digital translation documents (which feature a digitally inserted stamp or QR code).