Lincoln University of Eswatini (LUE)

Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Allied Health Sciences

PROSPECTUS

Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery

(MBBS)

Train as a Doctor for the Country That Needs You Most

5 Years | 600 Total Credits | ESQF Level 8 (Professional Degree)

ACCREDITATION STATUS: This programme has been developed by LUE in accordance with Eswatini Higher Education Council (ESHEC) Programme Approval Standards and is being submitted to ESHEC for accreditation. As a professional medical degree, the MBBS additionally requires endorsement by the relevant national medical regulatory body prior to final ESHEC accreditation. Prospective applicants should confirm the current accreditation and regulatory-endorsement status of this programme with LUE's Admissions Office before enrolling.

September 2026

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WELCOME

Eswatini's physician density is approximately 0.10–0.14 per 1,000 population — among the lowest in the world. The Ministry of Health's own 2023 Health Labour Market Analysis found that existing supply meets only 48.1% of documented health-workforce need, with the largest gaps among physicians and specialists, while 41% of the existing health workforce intends to migrate. The University of Eswatini does not offer a medicine programme, so Emaswati citizens wishing to become doctors must currently train abroad. LUE's Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) is designed to change that: a five-year, ESQF Level 8 professional degree producing safe, competent, ethical physicians for Eswatini's health system.

Why Study MBBS at LUE?

- Responds directly to one of the most severe, best-documented physician shortages in the world — your qualification addresses a need the country's own Ministry of Health has explicitly quantified.
- A curriculum contextualised throughout to Eswatini's specific disease burden: the world's highest adult HIV prevalence, high-burden tuberculosis status, and non-communicable diseases causing 46% of deaths.
- Benchmarked against the University of Botswana, the University of KwaZulu-Natal (Nelson R. Mandela School of Medicine) and the University of the Witwatersrand, so your qualification is built to travel.
- Three full years of clinical clerkship (Years 3–5) mean you graduate having actually managed patients across every major discipline of medicine, not just studied theory.
- A dedicated Family Medicine and Rural Health Practicum directly addresses Eswatini's documented rural health-workforce maldistribution.

PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

Award:	Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)
Faculty:	Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Allied Health Sciences
Duration:	5 Years (10 Semesters): a 2-Year Foundation Sciences Phase and a 3-Year Clinical Clerkship Phase
Total Credits:	600 credits
ESQF Level:	Level 8 — Professional Degree (Bachelor's Degree with Honours-equivalent professional exit)
Mode of Study:	Full-Time, Campus Learning with Clinical Placements
Number of Modules:	30 modules across 5 years
Clinical Training:	Three full years of whole-year clinical clerkship rotations (Years 3, 4 and 5), including two Elective Clinical Attachments and a Year 5 Research Project/Dissertation
Classification:	Awarded as a single integrated professional qualification (Pass/Fail progression per level), not a classified Pass/Merit/Distinction degree — consistent with international practice for first professional medical degrees

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Six (6) credits and/or passes in SGCSE/GCE/IGCSE O-Level.
- A Grade C or better in English Language.
- A Grade C or better in Mathematics.
- A Grade C or better in Biology and in Chemistry.
- Physics or Additional Mathematics strongly recommended as a further relevant science subject.
- 2 points in 2 relevant A-Level subjects (or a passed recognised pre-university/foundation science course).

Applicants who do not yet hold the required A-Level qualifications may apply via LUE's Certificate in Pre-Admission Health Sciences (Foundation) — a one-year bridging programme covering the Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics prerequisites shared by the MBBS and BDS/BCh.D programmes.

Mature learners with relevant health-science, clinical or health-technology experience may apply via LUE's Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process, which may not constitute more than 10% of the annual intake.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

600 credits over 5 years: a 2-year Foundation Sciences Phase (biomedical sciences), followed by a 3-year Clinical Clerkship Phase (Junior Clerkship, Senior Clerkship and Final Year) of progressively increasing clinical responsibility.

Year 1, Semester 1

Module	Credits
Human Anatomy I: Head, Neck and Thorax	20 cr.
Human Physiology I: Cell, Nerve, Muscle and Cardiovascular Physiology	15 cr.
Biochemistry I: Metabolism and Bioenergetics	15 cr.
Introduction to Medicine, Professionalism and Communication Skills	10 cr.

Year 1, Semester 2

Module	Credits
Human Anatomy II: Abdomen, Pelvis, Limbs and Neuroanatomy	20 cr.
Human Physiology II: Respiratory, Renal, GI and Endocrine Physiology	15 cr.
Medical Genetics and Embryology	10 cr.
Behavioural Sciences, Community Health and Epidemiology	15 cr.

Year 2, Semester 3

Module	Credits
General Pathology	15 cr.
General Microbiology and Immunology	15 cr.
General Pharmacology	15 cr.
Cardiovascular and Respiratory Systems	15 cr.

Year 2, Semester 4

Module	Credits
Gastrointestinal, Hepatobiliary and Renal Systems	15 cr.
Endocrine and Reproductive System	15 cr.
Nervous System, Special Senses, Musculoskeletal System and Haematology	15 cr.
Research Methodology, Biostatistics, Medical Ethics and Law	15 cr.

Year 3 — Junior Clerkship (Whole-Year Rotations)

Module	Credits
Introduction to Clinical Medicine and Clinical Skills	10 cr.
Internal Medicine I	20 cr.
General Surgery I	20 cr.
Obstetrics and Gynaecology I	15 cr.
Paediatrics I	15 cr.
Psychiatry and Behavioural Medicine	15 cr.
Community and Family Medicine I	15 cr.
Elective/Selective Clinical Attachment I	10 cr.

Year 4 — Senior Clerkship (Whole-Year Rotations)

Module	Credits
Internal Medicine II	20 cr.
General Surgery II	20 cr.
Obstetrics and Gynaecology II	15 cr.
Paediatrics II	15 cr.
Orthopaedics and Trauma	15 cr.
Community and Family Medicine II	15 cr.
Elective Clinical Posting II	10 cr.
Clinical Pharmacotherapeutics	10 cr.

Year 5 — Final Year (Whole-Year Rotations)

Module	Credits
Internal Medicine III	15 cr.
General Surgery III	15 cr.
Obstetrics and Gynaecology III	10 cr.
Paediatrics III	10 cr.
Accident and Emergency Medicine	15 cr.
Orthopaedics II	10 cr.
Psychiatry II	10 cr.
Family Medicine and Rural Health Practicum	15 cr.
Research Project / Dissertation	20 cr.

Full Course Learning Outcomes, learning focus and reading lists for every module are available in LUE's MBBS Detailed Course Outlines, available on request from the Admissions Office.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

Foundation Biomedical Sciences

Human anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, genetics, pathology, microbiology, immunology and pharmacology, integrated system-by-system in Year 2 (cardiovascular/respiratory, GI/hepatobiliary/renal, endocrine/reproductive, nervous/musculoskeletal/haematological).

The Full Breadth of Clinical Medicine

Internal Medicine, General Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Paediatrics, Psychiatry, Orthopaedics and Trauma, and Accident and Emergency Medicine — each built across progressive I/II/III rotations of increasing responsibility.

Community, Family and Rural Medicine

Community and Family Medicine I & II and a capstone Family Medicine and Rural Health Practicum connect your clinical training directly to Eswatini's rural health-workforce needs.

Research and Professional Practice

Research Methodology, Biostatistics, Medical Ethics and Law (Year 2), followed by a full Research Project/Dissertation with oral defence in your Final Year.

CAREER AND FURTHER-STUDY PATHWAYS

MBBS graduates are prepared for medical practice across Eswatini and the SADC region:

- General medical practitioner / medical officer (public or private-sector hospital and clinic practice)
- Rural and primary-care physician
- Postgraduate specialist training (e.g., LUE's own MMed in Paediatrics, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Anaesthesiology, Community Medicine or Internal Medicine)
- Medical academic or researcher
- Health-system leadership and clinical-governance roles

ASSESSMENT AND PROGRESSION

Every module is assessed through a combination of written examinations, OSCE/OSPE practical examinations and, in the clinical clerkship years, direct clinical (long/short case) examination, moderated internally and, for the Research Project/Dissertation, externally examined with an oral defence.

As the MBBS is awarded as a single integrated professional qualification rather than a classified (Pass/Merit/Distinction) Bachelor's degree, progression is governed by a Pass Requirement at each level rather than a final degree classification — consistent with international practice for first professional medical degrees.

HOW TO APPLY

- Submit a completed LUE application form, available from the Admissions Office or LUE's website.
- Attach certified copies of academic transcripts and certificates evidencing the entry requirements set out above.
- Attach a certified copy of your national identity document or passport.
- Pay the non-refundable application fee specified by LUE's Finance Office.
- Attend a structured admissions interview, assessed using LUE's Admissions Interview Rubric (communication and analytical ability; mathematical and scientific readiness; motivation for medical study).

Applications are considered by LUE's Admissions Committee, and successful applicants receive a formal offer of a place, conditional upon final confirmation of qualifications, EQA equivalence (for international qualifications), and ESHEC accreditation and medical-regulatory-body endorsement status at the time of enrolment.

Contact

Faculty:	Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Allied Health Sciences

Office:	LUE Admissions Office

This prospectus is accurate as of the date shown on the cover page and is provided for general information. It does not form part of any contract between LUE and an applicant. Programme content, fees and accreditation status are confirmed at the point of offer.