

Postgraduate program in General Practice Nursing

- **Graduate Certificate in Health (General Practice Nursing)**
- **Graduate Diploma of Nursing**
- **Master of Nursing**
- **Master of Clinical Nursing**

Flinders University offers registered nurses the opportunity to develop clinical knowledge, skills and competencies in General Practice Nursing by studying a specialist stream within any of the following courses:

- Graduate Certificate in Health
- Graduate Diploma of Nursing
- Master of Nursing
- Master of Clinical Nursing

The 18-unit Graduate Certificate in Health can be completed in two semesters part-time.

The 36-unit Graduate Diploma in Nursing requires one year (two semesters) full-time or equivalent part-time.

The Master of Nursing requires 54 units of study - three semesters full-time or the equivalent part-time.

Students who complete the General Practice Nursing stream in the Graduate Certificate in Health will be eligible for 18 units of credit towards either the Graduate Diploma in Nursing, Master of Nursing or Master of Clinical Nursing.

This program was developed by the School of Nursing and Midwifery in collaboration with affiliated health services and Departments of General Practice. The program aims to provide a sound theoretical and clinical basis for nursing practice in a primary care setting. It will equip registered nurses to practice collaboratively with general practitioners and other health professionals in promoting the health and wellbeing of individuals, families and the community.

The program contains the clinical requirements for MBS items including immunisation, wound care and pap smears. A certificate of achievement will be issued on the completion of these components.

Students will have the opportunity to:

- provide clinical nursing services in the general practice context;

- improve health outcomes by contributing to and enhancing the management and prevention of ill health;
- undertake health education and health promotion with general practice patients, their carers and the wider community;
- coordinate general practice patient services;
- work effectively as a leader and/or as a member of a primary health care team;
- meet relevant standards and legislative requirements to manage the general practice environment; and
- sustain general practice by contributing to better management of human and material resources.

The Master of Clinical Nursing is a 72-unit award. Up to 36 units of credit may be awarded for an applicant's previous postgraduate study and professional achievements. Additional information is provided with the application form.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for the Graduate Certificate must be registered general nurses with a current practising certificate. It is recommended that applicants have completed at least six months full-time (or equivalent) post-registration experience. Applicants should be employed in a general practice. Applicants who are not currently employed in a general practice should discuss their situation with the Postgraduate Coordinator.

Applicants for the Graduate Diploma, Master of Nursing and Master of Clinical Nursing must normally hold a Bachelor of Nursing or equivalent qualification and be a registered general nurse with a current practising certificate. Applicants for the Master of Nursing or Master of Clinical Nursing must have completed at least two years of post-registration nursing experience. However, other candidates may be admitted in special circumstances.



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MODES OF STUDY

The stream is offered by flexible delivery with 2-3 day clinical intensives per semester to be organised by the student with support from the Stream Coordinator. The clinical intensives can include field experience with family planning, a school immunisation clinic, triage in a public hospital emergency department, placement in an outpatient clinic with chronic heart/lung disease or community services.

PROGRAM OF STUDY

The General Practice Nursing Stream within the Graduate Certificate in Health normally comprises the two specialist 9-unit topics:

General Practice Nursing 1

General Practice Nursing 2

These two specialty topics plus 18 units of core topics will complete the Graduate Diploma of Nursing. This can then be credited towards the Master of Nursing or the Master of Clinical Nursing.

The core topics offered in the Graduate Diploma of Nursing are:

Core Topics A:

Issues and Methods in Nursing and Midwifery Research	6
Qualitative Research	3
Health Statistics	3
and either	
Nursing, Human Nature and Society, or	6
Knowledge Development in Nursing	6
OR	

Core Topics B:

Advanced Clinical Practice 1	4.5
Advanced Clinical Practice 2	4.5
Evidence-Based Clinical Practice	6
Introduction to Clinical Audit	3

Candidates interested in completing the Master of Nursing should choose Core Topics A. Those interested in completing the Master of Clinical Nursing should choose Core Topics B (*Note: Core Topics B may only be taken with the permission of the course coordinator*).

COURSE FEES

All graduate courses are fee paying.

The 2005 fees are:

\$3,600 - Graduate Certificate

\$7,200 - Graduate Diploma

\$10,800 - Master of Nursing

\$14,400 - Master of Clinical Nursing

Fee details can be found on the

University's web site at:

<http://www.flinders.edu.au/enrolling/fees.html>

Students are billed at the beginning of each semester in accordance with the number of units being undertaken.

Students have the option to pay fees up front or, alternatively, eligible students may defer all or part payment of tuition fees to tax through the Higher Education Loan Program (FEE-HELP).

Further information about payment options will be included with enrolment information.

Students may be eligible for tax deductions for work-related education expenses.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available from the Australian government for the immunisation or wound management components. Further information can be found on the Australian Divisions of General Practice web site:

<http://www.apna.asn.au>

Scholarships are also available through the Royal College of Nursing.

TO APPLY

Applications on prescribed forms must be lodged by:

- 28 October 2005 for Semester 1 intake in 2006.
- 19 May 2006 for Semester 2 intake in 2006.

Applicants are requirement to attach to the form the following:

- copy of current practising certificate
- copy of official academic transcripts
- curriculum vitae
- evidence of attendance at/completion of non-mandated professional development courses relevant to the application.

Application forms are available from:

The Admissions Office, Flinders University, GPO Box 2100, Adelaide SA 5001

Tel: (08) 8201 3074 or 1300 657 671 (local call cost). Fax: (08) 8201 2580
Email: admissions@flinders.edu.au

FURTHER INFORMATION

Ms Kate Wiseman, Faculty of Health Sciences Office, Flinders University, GPO Box 2100, Adelaide SA 5001

Tel: (08) 8201 3414.

Email: kate.wiseman@flinders.edu.au

OR

Ms Di Chamberlain, Stream Coordinator, School of Nursing and Midwifery

Tel: (08) 8201 3772.

Email: di.chamberlain@flinders.edu.au

Web site: <http://nursing.flinders.edu.au>

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