

Graduate Diploma in Child and Family Health Nursing

2018
Postgraduate

This program prepares registered nurses (with qualifications as midwives) for advanced practice in community child and family health nursing.

You will develop the ability to critically analyse and apply principles of primary health care to help you secure a rewarding role as a maternal and child health nurse.

In addition to child and family health specialty courses, the RMIT program includes family partnership training that is highly regarded by industry and offers a dedicated elective in parent-infant mental health.

The face-to-face contact at RMIT develops strong clinical skills in child health and enables regular support and discussion to enhance learning.

RMIT University is at the forefront of nursing education and research. We are one of the oldest providers of nursing education in Australia with a history of industry partnership and strong graduate employability for over 40 years.

The program is structured to enable you to:

- critically analyse and apply the principles of primary health care related to child and family health
- analyse and evaluate nursing strategies designed to promote and maintain wellbeing for children and their families
- apply evidence-based practice to primary care within the scope of the Maternal Child Health (MCH) service
- critically examine key ethical issues relevant to professional health care practice in community settings.

Learning and teaching

You will experience a range of learning approaches including learner-centred curriculum, learning activities and projects.

Your learning will be further supported by face-to-face lectures, some online learning, independent study and clinical experiences across a range of early childhood services.

Industry connections

RMIT University is committed to providing you with an education that strongly links formal learning with professional or vocational practice.

Career outlook

Graduates work in maternal and child health nursing in local government, early parenting centres and community services.

Professional recognition

Graduates can join professional organisations such as the Victorian Association of Maternal and Child Health Nurses.

Program snapshot

Program code: GD159

Duration

Full-time: 1 year
Part-time: 2 years

Location

Bundoora campus

Program Coordinator

Dr Leanne Sheeran
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How to apply

Direct to RMIT University:
rmit.edu.au/programs/apply/direct

Fees

2018 indicative fees

- Commonwealth supported places (CSPs) range from \$AU6,561 and \$AU10,951
- Full fee: \$AU20,160 per annum

For more information and to learn how to calculate your exact tuition fees see:
rmit.edu.au/programs/fees/postgraduate

rmit.edu.au/programs/gd159

Program structure

The Graduate Diploma in Child and Family Health Nursing consists of 96 credit points.

You will complete seven core courses and one program elective.

Elective examples

- Context of Mental Health Nursing
- Foundations of Mental Health Nursing Partnerships
- Health Inquiry Critique
- Parent-Infant Mental Health
- Therapeutic Initiatives in Mental Health

Clinical practice

To meet course requirements, you must complete a minimum of 300 hours of clinical experience in approved early childhood agencies. While most experience occurs in approved MCH centres, almost one-third of your clinical experience will include observations and visits to community agencies. These include childcare centres, early intervention services, early parenting centres, MCH Line, community day stay programs and other key services.

Year 1	Family and Community Studies	Working in Partnership with Families	Child and Family Nutrition	Health Promotion for Early Parenting
	Child and Family Health Assessment	Child and Family Nursing in the Community	Maternal and Child Health Clinical Practice	Program elective

■ Compulsory courses ■ Program electives

Please note: This is an example of the program structure. Courses may change and may not be available each semester. Part-time students complete four to five theory courses in year one and clinical courses in year two.

Entry requirements

To be considered for admission into the program you should normally hold:

- A Bachelor of Nursing degree or equivalent, and a Graduate Diploma in Midwifery or Bachelor of Midwifery degree or equivalent.
- Current registration with Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) as both a nurse and a midwife.
- You must also have a minimum of one year of equivalent full-time (EFT) graduate experience in each of nursing and midwifery.

You should be able to demonstrate recent clinical experience, defined as having worked in nursing or midwifery for a minimum of one year EFT in the past five years.

Applicants are required to arrange a clinical place with a local MCH service and submit confirmation of this as part of the application process. You are encouraged to discuss this early in the application process with the program coordinator, who will also provide a specific form for this requirement.

Additional information

Working With Children Check: Students must hold a valid Working With Children Check prior to undertaking the clinical components of this program.

Police check: Students must present evidence of a successful National Police Records Check prior to undertaking the clinical components of this program. This should be current for the full calendar year of your clinical placement and can be arranged at the beginning of the year.

Immunisation policy: Students must be adequately vaccinated prior to undertaking the clinical components of this program.

This information is designed for Australian and New Zealand citizens and permanent residents of Australia.

Disclaimer: Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained in this publication is accurate and current at the date of printing. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the RMIT University website before lodging your application. Visit www.rmit.edu.au. RMIT University CRICOS Provider Code: 00122A. RMIT Registered Training Organisation code: 3046. Prepared August 2017. 14673 0817