

Graduate Diploma of Health (GDHH) - GDHealth

Programs at USQ regularly undergo a comprehensive re-accreditation process to assure their relevance and quality. This program is currently being re-accredited and, as a consequence, is likely to undergo some changes. Full details will be made available when it is approved. If you have any questions, please [contact us](#).

	External
Semester intake:	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July)
Fees:	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place
Standard duration:	2 years part-time, maximum duration 4 years
Program articulation:	From: Graduate Certificate of Health To: Master of Health

Contact us

Future Australian and New Zealand students	Future International students	Current students
Ask a question Freecall (within Australia): 1800 269 500 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 5315 Email: study@usq.edu.au	Ask a question Phone: +61 7 4631 5543 Email: international@usq.edu.au	Ask a question Freecall (within Australia): 1800 007 252 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 2285 Email usq.support@usq.edu.au

Professional accreditation

Students enrolling in the Rural and Remote specialisation may elect to include the scheduled medicines courses. The Scheduled Medicines program is accredited with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) to enable graduates to apply for scheduled medicines endorsement through Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).

Note: Successful completion of this degree does not lead to registration as a health care professional in Australia.

Program aims

The aim of the Graduate Diploma of Health is to enable health professionals to broaden and develop an in-depth understanding of, and capacity to contribute to specialised areas of health including:

- Rural and remote (incorporating scheduled medicines)
- Community health
- Health Leadership (incorporating clinical education)
- General (no specialisation)

Program objectives

Graduates of the Graduate Diploma of Health will be able to:

- (1) critically reflect on their own clinical and educational practices
- (2) engage in effective, supportive, collaborative practice within a specialised context
- (3) have the skills to practice in a professional, legal and ethically justifiable manner according to professional requirements and standards, within a specialised context

- (4) advocate and protect the rights of individuals or groups regardless of their cultural background, age and/or geographical situation
- (5) critically analyse relevant (i.e. clinical data, government policy, research findings) and apply this knowledge to their selected specialised area
- (6) strengthen their professional identity including independence, interdependence, authority and partnership
- (7) extend their capacity to search, critique and synthesise relevant research literature in relation to a topic within their speciality area of choice
- (8) develop an understanding of different research methodologies, including their application to a research question relevant to their area of specialisation
- (9) demonstrate competence in and appropriate use of language and literacy including spelling, grammar, punctuation and bibliographic referencing.

Australian Qualifications Framework

The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) is a single national, comprehensive system of qualifications offered by higher education institutions (including universities), vocational education and training institutions and secondary schools. Each AQF qualification has a set of descriptors which define the type and complexity of knowledge, skills and application of knowledge and skills that a graduate who has been awarded that qualification has attained, and the typical volume of learning associated with that qualification type.

This program is at AQF Qualification Level 08. Graduates at this level will have advanced knowledge and skills for professional or highly skilled work and/or further learning.

The full set of levels criteria and qualification type descriptors can be found by visiting www.aqf.edu.au.

Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission, applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

- Completion of an Australian university three year Bachelor degree in a health related field, or equivalent.
- English Language Proficiency requirements for Category 3.

Admission Criteria

Rural & Remote specialisation: To be eligible for admission to the Rural & Remote (incorporating Scheduled Medicines) specialisation, applicants must:

- be registered as a Division 1 Registered Nurse and must be able to demonstrate at least one years' full-time clinical experience. Applicants must provide a detailed CV including education, clinical experience, professional development, and full time equivalent for each employer.
- USQ requires written confirmation that the applicant is currently practicing as an RN and can complete required hours of clinical mentorship in their workplace.

All students are required to satisfy the applicable [English language requirements](#).

If students do not meet the English language requirements they may apply to study a University-approved [English language program](#). On successful completion of the English language program, students may be admitted to an award program.

Requirements for professional experience placements

There is a compulsory clinical requirement for [ANP5002 Immunisation Nursing](#) (Rural & Remote or Advanced Clinical Practices for Health) only. This placement is coordinated through the USQ Professional Placements Office.

Program fees

Domestic full fee paying place

Domestic full fee paying places are funded entirely through the full fees paid by the student. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

Domestic full fee paying students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [FEE-HELP](#) provided they meet the residency and citizenship requirements.

Australian citizens, Permanent Humanitarian Visa holders, Permanent Resident visa holders and New Zealand citizens who will be resident outside Australia for the duration of their program pay full tuition fees and are not eligible for [FEE-Help](#).

International full fee paying place

International students pay full fees. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken and whether they are studied on-campus, via distance education/online. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

Program structure

The program consists of eight courses each worth one unit. There are two core courses common to all GDHH programs and six courses specific to the chosen specialisations.

Program completion requirements

Students are required to successfully complete [HEA8001 Contexts of Practice](#), [HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences](#) and six courses specified for the chosen specialisations. Students who select to study GDHH (general) are required to successfully complete [HEA8001](#) and [HSC8050](#) (or may substitute [HSC8050](#) with an approved course) and six courses from the GDHH. To discuss which courses to study within the General specialisation please [contact USQ](#). All course pre-requisites must be met, and all courses chosen are subject to the approval of the Program Coordinator.

Required time limits

Students have a maximum of 4 years to complete this program.

Core courses

[HEA8001 Contexts of Practice](#), and [HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences](#) (or an approved course for the general specialisation) are required for successful completion of the program.

Specialisation

Community Health

The program enables experienced health and social well-being practitioners to develop the necessary theoretical knowledge and practical application skills to analyse and address human health and social well-being issues within a community health framework.

Rural and Remote (incorporates Scheduled Medicines)

The program has been developed for registered nurses wishing to further their knowledge and advance their nursing skills in the area of rural and isolated practice. Options for other health professionals who wish to extend their expertise in this area are currently at planning stage. With the incorporation of scheduled medicines, the program enables registered nurses to further their advanced knowledge and skills in the area of scheduled medicines, under protocol or permit. (See note under Other Information.)

Health Leadership (incorporating Clinical Education)

The development of types of leadership and leadership issues from the perspective of teams is an essential component of health leadership preparing students for their role as leaders in their area. The program also

enables health professionals to develop their knowledge and expertise to work effectively as clinical mentors, facilitators and preceptors in supporting the clinical education of students, peers and other health professionals with a particular, but not exclusive, focus on rural and non-urban settings.

General

Enables health professionals to personalise the courses studied to suit their own specific needs by completing the core courses ([HEA8001 Contexts of Practice](#) and [HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences](#) (or an approved course)) and six courses of their choice approved by the Program Coordinator to meet their professional learning objectives as well as overall program objectives. To discuss which courses to study within the General specialisation please [contact USQ](#). All course pre-requisites must be met, and all courses chosen are subject to the approval of the Program Coordinator.

Other combinations of specialisations may be studied with the approval of the Program Coordinator.

Electives/Approved courses

Approved courses may be chosen from any of the Graduate Diploma of Health (GDHH) specialisations, [Master of Nursing](#) or courses of the student's choice approved by the Program Coordinator.

Approved courses for students interested in Mental Health.

Course Name
COU5001 Couple and Family Counselling
COU5002 Child and Youth Counselling
COU5003 Introduction to Clinical Supervision
COU5004 Mental Health Practice 1
COU5005 Mental Health Practice 2
COU5006 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity, and Ethics[#]
COU5007 Counselling Issues and Contexts[#]
COU5008 Group Counselling Processes and Practice
COU5009 Counselling Skills and Applications[#]
COU5010 Counselling Frameworks[#]
COU5011 Counselling Supervision/Teaching Practicum⁺
COU5012 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling

Footnotes

This course has a mandatory 5 day residential school.

+ Students are required to undertake a practicum placement for this course.

Practical experience

All students are normally required to have current employment as a professional in health practice to be able to complete the Graduate Diploma of Health.

IT requirements

Students should refer to the USQ [minimum computing standards](#) to check that their computers are capable of running the appropriate software and versions of Internet web browsers and to check the minimum and recommended standards for software.

Articulation

Postgraduate Certificate of Advanced Nursing Practice graduates within the last five years, are eligible for 4 credits when articulating into the [GDHH Graduate Diploma of Health](#) including the core course of [HEA8001](#)

Contexts of Practice. Specifically Postgraduate Certificate of Advanced Nursing Practice students who have undertaken [ANP5001](#), [ANP5002](#), [ANP5003](#) and [ANP5004](#) would be given credits for [ANP5001](#), [ANP5002](#), [ANP5003](#) and [HEA8001](#).

A student successfully completing the [Graduate Certificate of Health](#) program may apply to articulate into the Graduate Diploma of Health or [Master of Health](#). A student articulating without a break into a higher degree will only receive the award of the higher degree that they complete. Such students will be given full credit for all courses completed whilst studying the [Graduate Certificate of Health](#) or Graduate Diploma of Health (articulation to [Master of Health](#)). Students must advise the Faculty in writing of their intention to articulate and this must occur prior to completion of the [Graduate Certificate of Health](#) or Graduate Diploma of Health.

Related programs

The Graduate Diploma of Health is a part of a nested program including the [Graduate Certificate of Health](#) and [Master of Health](#).

Exit points

Students may exit on completion of 4 approved courses including [HEA8001 Contexts of Practice](#) with a [Graduate Certificate of Health](#).

Credit

Exemptions/credit will be assessed based on the [USQ Credit and Exemption Procedure](#).

Other information

Students selecting the scheduled medicines courses [ANP8008 Diagnostics and Assessment](#), [ANP8009 Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacology for Scheduled Medicines](#) and [ANP8010 Situational Practice: clinical and critical decision making skills](#) must have and produce certified copies of annual medication competency certification. These courses are only available for students from Australia as they are specific to the Australian context.

Enrolment

Part-Time Enrolment - This program is only offered as a part-time enrolment pattern of up to two (2) courses in each semester.

Mid-Year intake

Students may commence the program in Semester 2 as per the recommended enrolment pattern however in some instances may not be able to complete within 4 semesters. Refer to recommended enrolment pattern.

Rural and Remote Specialisation recommended enrolment pattern - Semester 1 entry

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
HEA8001 Contexts of Practice					1	1,2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or M NRS or MNSG or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or DOHH or GDNG
ANP8008 Diagnostics and Assessment					1	1,2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or MNSG or MNRS or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
ANP8009 Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacology for Scheduled Medicines					1	1,2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or MNRS or MNSG or PDEV
ANP8010 Situational Practice: clinical and critical decision making skills					1	2	Pre-requisite: ANP8008 and students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or MNSG or PDEV Co-requisite: ANP8009
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences					2	1	
ANP5001 Introduction to Rural and Remote Nursing Practice					2	1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: PDEV or MNSG or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or GDNG
ANP5002 Immunisation Nursing^{#*}			2	2			Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: MNRS or MNSG or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or DOHH
ANP5003 Emergency Nursing in Isolated Practice					2	2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or MNSG or PDEV or GDNG

Footnotes

ANP5002 is only available to students who hold current Division 1 nursing registration with the Australian Health Professional Registration Authority (AHPRA) and are located in Australia.

* Clinical component

Rural and Remote Specialisation recommended enrolment pattern - Semester 2 entry

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
HEA8001 Contexts of Practice					1	1,2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or M NRS or MNSG or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or DOHH or GDNG
ANP8008 Diagnostics and Assessment					2	1,2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or MNSG or MNRS or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
ANP8009 Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacology for Scheduled Medicines					1	1,2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or MNRS or MNSG or PDEV
ANP5001 Introduction to Rural and Remote Nursing Practice					2	1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: PDEV or MNSG or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or GDNG
ANP8010 Situational Practice: clinical and critical decision making skills					2	2	Pre-requisite: ANP8008 and students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or MNSG or PDEV Co-requisite: ANP8009
ANP5003 Emergency Nursing in Isolated Practice					2	2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
							GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or MNSG or PDEV or GDNG
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences						3 1	
ANP5002 Immunisation Nursing ^{#*}			3	1,2			Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: MNRS or MNSG or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or DOHH

Footnotes

[ANP5002](#) is only available to students who hold current Division 1 nursing registration with the Australian Health Professional Registration Authority (AHPRA) and are located in Australia.

* Clinical component

Community Health Specialisation recommended enrolment pattern - Semester 1 entry

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
HEA8001 Contexts of Practice					1	1,2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or MNRS or MNSG or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or DOHH or GDNG
HEA8302 Culture as a Determinant of Health					1	2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or MNRS or MNSG or PDEV
HEA8301 Fundamentals of Community Health					1	1,2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or MNRS or MNSG or PDEV
NUR8060 Health Policy Analysis and Review					1	1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or MNRS or PDEV or MNSG or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or GCCO or MCOO or GDCN
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences					2	1	
HEA8303 Community Development and Health					2	1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or MNSG or PDEV.
MGT8040 Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Creativity					2	2	
Approved course [^]					2	2	

Footnotes

[^] [NUR8550 Professional Studies 1](#) or [NUR8340 The Law and Health Care Practice](#) are recommended.

Community Health Specialisation recommended enrolment pattern - Semester 2 entry

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
HEA8001 Contexts of Practice					1	1,2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or M NRS or MNSG or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or DOHH or GDNG
HEA8301 Fundamentals of Community Health					1	1,2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or MNRS or MNSG or PDEV
MGT8040 Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Creativity					2	2	
Choose one of the following two courses:							
NUR8060 Health Policy Analysis and Review					2	1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or M NRS or PDEV or MNSG or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or GCCO or MCCO or GDCN
Approved course [^]					2	2	
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences					2	1,2	
HEA8302 Culture as a Determinant of Health					2	2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or MNRS or MNSG or PDEV
HEA8303 Community Development and Health					2	1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or MNSG or PDEV.
Approved course [@]					2	1,2	

Footnotes

[^] [NUR8550 Professional Studies 1](#) or [NUR8340 The Law and Health Care Practice](#) are recommended.

[@] [NUR8550 Professional Studies 1](#) or [NUR8340 The Law and Health Care Practice](#) or [NUR8040 Qualitative Research Methods](#) are recommended.

Health Leadership specialisation recommended enrolment pattern - Semester 1 entry

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
HEA8001 Contexts of Practice					1	1,2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or M NRS or MNSG or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or DOHH or GDNG
HEA8201 Introduction to Clinical Education			1	1			Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or MNSG or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH and be employed as a practising health professional
HEA8202 Relationships for Professional Learning and Development					1	2	Pre-requisite: Students must have completed HEA8001 and HEA8201 and be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
							MNSG or PDEV or GCHH or MNRS or GDHH or MOHH
One choice from the following two courses:							
EDU5221 Professional Learning						1 2	
Approved course [^]						1 2	
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences						2 1,2	
ANP8003 Management in Health Care Practice						2 1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following programs: BHEH or M NRS or PDEV or MNSG or GDHH or MOHH or GCCO or MCCO or GDCN or GCHH
NUR8060 Health Policy Analysis and Review						2 1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or M NRS or PDEV or MNSG or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or GCCO or MCCO or GDCN
MGT8037 Team Leadership						2 2	

Footnotes

[^] [NUR8550 Professional Studies 1](#) or [NUR8340 The Law and Health Care Practice](#) are recommended.

Health Leadership specialisation recommended enrolment pattern - Semester 2 entry

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
HEA8001 Contexts of Practice						1 1,2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or M NRS or MNSG or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or DOHH or GDNG
One choice from the following two courses:							
EDU5221 Professional Learning						1 2	
Approved course [^]						1 2	
HEA8201 Introduction to Clinical Education			2	1			Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or MNSG or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH and be employed as a practising health professional
NUR8060 Health Policy Analysis and Review						2 1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or M NRS or PDEV or MNSG or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or GCCO or MCCO or GDCN
HEA8202 Relationships for Professional Learning and Development						2 2	Pre-requisite: Students must have completed HEA8001 and HEA8201 and be enrolled in one of the following Programs: BHEH or MNSG or PDEV or GCHH or MNRS or GDHH or MOHH
MGT8037 Team Leadership						2 2	
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences						3 1,2	
ANP8003 Management in Health Care Practice						3 1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following programs: BHEH or M NRS or PDEV or MNSG or GDHH or MOHH or GCCO or MCCO or GDCN or GCHH

Consult the Handbook on the Web at <http://www.usq.edu.au/handbook/current> for any updates that may occur during the year.
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Footnotes

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