

Master of Nurse Practitioner (MNP) Program – Information for clinical agencies

Background

The Master of Nurse Practitioner is an online, 120-credit-point degree intended to be completed part-time over two years. Students wishing to undertake a reduced academic workload can complete the course over three years (i.e., completing 15 credit points per semester over the first two years, followed by a clinical internship in the third year). The course is designed for flexible part-time learning and can be adapted to meet the needs of students as they work simultaneously in demanding clinical environments.

The course allows students to develop extended knowledge and advanced clinical practice skills to prepare for an advanced practice role as a nurse practitioner in specialty practice. It teaches professional leadership in contemporary clinical and professional nursing in line with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia Nurse Practitioner Standards for Practice (2021). The course allows nurse practitioner graduates to gain a legally and industry-recognised qualification that places them at the most advanced level of clinical nursing achievable within any specialty nursing area.

The Master of Nurse Practitioner is an ANMAC-accredited course.

Course entry requirements

To be eligible, applicants must demonstrate:

1. Current Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) registration (RN Div 1) with no conditions or undertakings.
2. At least five years of full-time equivalent nursing experience post-registration.
3. Graduate Diploma in a nursing specialty (or equivalent).
4. At least two years of full-time equivalent experience in an advanced practice nursing (APN) role within the last six years (approximately 2000 hours), with demonstrated competence across APN practice domains (leadership, education, research, health systems support).
5. Current and enduring employment in an area of specialty nursing practice (minimum 0.5 FTE) (year 1 of study).
6. Confirmation of work-based clinical placement support to undertake 300 hours of supernumerary, supervised Integrated Professional Practice (IPP) during the clinical internship (year 2 of study).
7. Evidence of appropriate clinical supervision (Supervision Team).

Advanced practice nursing (APN)

Advanced practice in nursing is defined by practice level, not job title or remuneration. APN includes expertise, critical thinking, complex decision-making, and autonomous, evidence-based, safe practice in generalist and specialist contexts.

To demonstrate an appropriate level of APN experience, applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

- Completion of The Australian Advanced Practice Nursing Self-Appraisal Tool: The ADVANCE Tool, with sign-off and comments from a manager or supervisor.
- A curriculum vitae/resume detailing APN experience (clearly articulating the advanced nature of the relevant nursing roles and approximate hours worked in each APN role).

Specialty practice requirements – Work-Based Practice

Students must be employed in an APN role (in their specialty area of practice) for at least 240 hours during the first year of study (recommended clinical practice load is 0.5 FTE).

Students must secure 300 hours of supervised, supernumerary Integrated Professional Practice (IPP) during their second year of study as part of their educational preparation for NP endorsement.

To be eligible for course entry, students must show evidence that they have secured:

- 300 hours of IPP (relevant to the second year of study), and
- Clinical Supervision by appropriately credentialled clinical experts in the chosen specialty practice (Supervising Team).

Appropriate organisational oversight is required to undertake IPP. Applicants must provide a **Confirmation of work-based clinical placement support** for each placement, signed by an authorised representative within the host organisation (e.g., the Director of Nursing or the Chief Nursing Officer).

This clinical support agreement should include curriculum vitae of supervisors, highlighting the experience they bring to the Supervising Team.

Supervised, Supernumerary IPP

Nurse practitioner students may obtain supernumerary integrated professional practice in one or a combination of three ways:

1. Scheduled and supervised practice in the clinical setting where the student is employed but not rostered to their usual duties (i.e., clinical practice hours without a patient load).
2. Unscheduled, opportunistic, and supervised practice in the clinical setting where they are employed and counted in the roster (i.e., taking opportunities as they arise without compromising usual care).
3. Supervised practice in a clinical setting where they are not employed (i.e., seeking clinical exposure outside of paid hours).

For more detailed information, refer to the [ANMAC Explanatory Note: Interpretation and explanation of supernumerary integrated professional practice for nurse practitioner students](#)

Supervision requirements

Students need a Supervising Team comprising at least a primary and secondary supervisor. The primary supervisor must have:

- At least two years of post-qualification experience (for Consultant/Physician/GP/Surgeon) or post-endorsement experience (for NP).
- Expertise in the student's specialty field.

We strongly encourage students to connect with an experienced Nurse Practitioner supervisor, even if this means seeking support outside their identified specialty area of practice or outside their organisation.

Expectations / Responsibilities

Universities (course coordinator)

- Be a resource for health services and prospective students with questions about university studies and processes.
- Assess applications for study, i.e., qualifications, experience, work experience & other requirements.
- Effectively communicate with students and health services.
- Timely confirmation to students of university offers.
- Ensure the University-health service organisational agreement is created.

Applicants / Students

- Submit applications to universities.
- Follow the instructions and checklist for applicants to ensure their application is complete.
- Good communication with health services and universities.

Health services

- Review the applicant's EOI.
- Notify applicants if the health service is unlikely to offer clinical support.
- Ensure the University-health service organisational agreement is maintained.
- Ensure the Supervising Team is qualified and can support the student.
- Address any concerns with students and universities as early as possible.

Supervising Team

The NP student's Supervising Team provides two years of mentorship and supervision, including:

- Direct supervision for activities outside the student's usual scope of practice.
- Indirect supervision for activities within the RN scope of practice.

The Supervising Team are asked to support and facilitate learning activities, help the student define their scope of practice, and commit to:

- Initial review and approval of clinical learning objectives.
- Fortnightly meetings (x 6) that include review and validation of logged hours and activities, review of student case study and written feedback.
- Formative (week 6) and summative (week 12) appraisals of student performance.
- Contribution to Expert Panels (viva voce) at the end of each semester