



THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME AUSTRALIA

Program Code: 4114

CRICOS Code: 078806F

# **PROGRAM REGULATIONS:**

## Graduate Diploma of Midwifery

### GradDipMidw

Responsible Owner: National Head of the School of Nursing, Midwifery, Health Sciences and Physiotherapy  
Responsible Office: Faculty of Medicine, Nursing, Midwifery and Health Sciences  
Contact Officer: PCAC Executive Officer  
Effective Date: 1 January 2021



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**NOTRE DAME**  
A U S T R A L I A

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## 2 AMENDMENTS

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Amendments to these regulations will be made in accordance with the General Regulations.

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date Amended</b>	<b>Amendment Details</b>	<b>Approved by</b>
1	May 2011	Amendments to program regulations	Dean
2	December 2013	Regulations transferred to new template	Dean
3	August 2015	Amendments to program regulations	Dean
4	October 2016	Addition of new courses and revision of existing course titles	Dean
5	September 2017	New course codes assigned	PVCA
6	December 2017	Date effective, incorrect data corrected	Dean
7	November 2018	Regulations transferred to new template	Dean
8	January 2021	Program description added	PCAC EO

### 3 PURPOSE

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These Program Regulations set out the approved requirements for the Graduate Diploma of Midwifery.

### 4 OVERVIEW

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#### 4.1 Campus Availability

The Graduate Diploma of Midwifery has been approved for delivery on the Fremantle Campus.

#### 4.2 Student Availability

The Graduate Diploma of Midwifery is available for enrolment to domestic Students and international Students who are registered as a Registered Nurse with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia.

#### 4.3 Australian Qualifications Framework

The Graduate Diploma of Midwifery is accredited by the University as a Level 8 AQF qualification.

#### 4.4 Duration

The Volume of Learning for the Graduate Diploma of Midwifery is 1.5 years of equivalent full-time study.

An option to complete this Program Part-time is available.

An accelerated option to complete the Program is not available.

#### 4.5 Maximum Duration

The maximum period of time within which a student is permitted to complete the Graduate Diploma of Midwifery Award is 5 years (including any periods of approved leave of absence) from the date on which they were first enrolled into the program by the University.

#### 4.6 Study Mode

The Graduate Diploma of Midwifery is offered in Internal mode.

#### 4.7 Professional Accreditation

The Graduate Diploma of Midwifery is accredited by the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council, and the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia.

### 5 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

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#### 5.1 University Admission Requirements

To be eligible for admission to The University of Notre Dame Australia, all applicants must meet the [University's minimum requirements for admission](#). The requirements for admission are detailed in the University's Policy: *Admissions*.

#### 5.2 Specific Program Requirements for Admission

To be eligible for admission to the Graduate Diploma of Midwifery applicants must also meet the following specific requirements.

- 5.2.1 A Bachelor degree in nursing and registration as a registered nurse with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia
- 5.2.2 Registered nurses who do not have a Level 7 AQF qualification in nursing will need to demonstrate recent clinical registered nursing experience and may be admitted with an alternative mode of entry assessment.
- 5.2.3 Students shall be required to provide relevant clearance documents, as directed by the School of Nursing and Midwifery, which include:
  - National Police Check
  - Working with Children Clearance (WA)

- Government of Western Australia Department of Health criminal screening card
- Basic Life Support (BLS) and Manual Handling (MH) as annual competencies
- Proof of current immunisation status
- A declaration from a healthcare provider of fitness to satisfy Professional Practice demands (if requested by the School)
- Additional state-based requirements may be needed.

## 6 PRACTICUM OR INTERNSHIP REQUIREMENTS

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- 6.1** Students are required to complete Professional Practice placements (practicum) within the Graduate Diploma of Midwifery. The Professional Practice component of this Program equals 50% of the Program content, which is divided into six (6) five (5)-week placements, all of which are full-time. There is one (1) compulsory country placement.
- 6.2** In addition to the practicum placements, students are required to complete a minimum of ten (10) continuity-of-care experiences. These experiences may occur at any point across the 18-month Program.
- 6.3** In order to participate in Professional Practice placements and the continuity-of-care experiences, students must complete a health declaration. Students who have had an illness or injury may be required to provide a fitness-to-practice medical certificate from a medical doctor or allied health professional, eg. Physiotherapist.

## 7 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

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### 7.1 Program Description

The Graduate Diploma of Midwifery is a full-time, entry-to-practice degree that enables current Registered Nurses to study the distinct body of midwifery knowledge. Students who successfully complete this Diploma will be able to register with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia as midwives. The degree combines theory, research and professional practice with a high level of critical thinking, technical competence and interdisciplinary teamwork skills, so that students graduate as confident, competent and adaptable midwives. Teaching and learning is based upon the application of Australian and international midwifery standards and codes, so that students learn to meet their professional, legal and ethical obligations as midwives. The degree is scaffolded, so that students' progress from learning the fundamentals of the pregnancy-birth-postnatal continuum to the rare and emergency issues that may impact this continuum. Woman-centred care is the basis of this degree. Students learn the therapeutic importance of continuity-of-care and continuity-of-carer as they follow ten women through their journeys of pregnancy, labour and birth, and the postnatal period. Midwifery professional practice totals 1200 hours, and students attend placements across a variety of health settings, including public and private health facilities, country, midwifery group practices and GP and obstetrician practices. The Graduate Diploma of Midwifery is accredited through the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council.

### 7.2 Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the Graduate Diploma of Midwifery graduates will be able to:

1. Meet the Midwife Standards for Practice (Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia, 2018), and gain initial registration as a midwife with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia
2. Practice as competent professionals and industry-ready graduates who can critically appraise and problem-solve in practical and creative ways, enabling them to practice in diverse midwifery settings
3. Provide evidence-based, holistic and woman-centred care across the childbirth continuum to pregnant and childbearing women and their families, with a focus on continually improving the quality and delivery of care
4. Participate meaningfully in collaboration with other health professionals including clinicians, educators and policy-makers in pursuit and attainment of excellent maternity care
5. Implement the concept of life-long learning which will assist in the professional growth and development of self and others

6. Demonstrate ethical responsibility by actively and continually participating in the development of the midwifery profession at the individual, national and global level
7. Provide safe, culturally congruent, equitable and just midwifery care by practicing and promoting a culture of reflective and reflexive midwifery care to the individual woman, her supporters, and other members of the healthcare team.

### **7.3 Required Courses**

To be eligible for the award of Graduate Diploma of Midwifery students must complete a minimum of 300 Units of Credit. These Units of Credit comprise:  
25 Units of Credit from one (1) Core Curriculum Course  
275 Units of Credit from eleven (11) compulsory Courses.

### **7.4 Elective Courses**

There are no elective courses in the Graduate Diploma of Midwifery.

### **7.5 Course substitutions**

Course substitutions, where permitted, must be approved by the Dean. An approved course substitution for enrolled students transferring to the newly-accredited Graduate Diploma of Midwifery in 2018 is listed below:

MIDW5003 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' Health: Women and Babies replaces NURS5003 Evidence-based Practice.

## **8 DEFINITIONS**

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For the purpose of these Regulations, the following definitions are available in the General Regulations.

- Leave of Absence
- Major
- Units of Credit
- Pre-requisite Course
- Minor
- Elective
- Co-requisite Course
- Specialisation
- General Elective

## 9 LIST OF APPENDICES

### APPENDIX A: Graduate Diploma of Midwifery

YEAR ONE					
Semester One			Semester Two		
Course Code	Course Title	Units of credit	Course Code	Course Title	Units of credit
MIDW5000	Foundations of Midwifery	25	MIDW5004	Midwifery in Complex Situations	25
MIDW5001	Woman-centred Care	25	MIDW5005	Midwifery in Primary Health Care	25
MIDW5002	The Professional Midwife	25	MIDW5006	Midwives as Professional Partners	25
MIDW5003	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' Health: Women and Babies	25	PHIL6020	Ethical Issues in Professional Life	25
<b>Total Units of Credit for Y1 S1</b>		100	<b>Total Units of Credit for Y1 S2</b>		100
			<b>Total Units of Credit Year One</b>		
			200		

YEAR TWO					
Semester One			Semester Two		
Course Code	Course Title	Units of credit	Course Code	Course Title	Units of credit
MIDW5014	Midwifery Emergencies	25			
MIDW5015	Legal and Professional Frameworks in Midwifery	25			
MIDW5016	Becoming a Midwife	25			
NURS5003	Evidence-based Practice	25			
<b>Total Units of Credit for Y2 S1</b>		100	<b>Total Units of Credit for Y2 S2</b>		
			<b>Total Units of Credit Year Two</b>		
			100		

<b>TOTAL PROGRAM UNITS OF CREDIT:</b>	<b>300</b>
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## APPENDIX B: LIST OF PRE-REQUISITES

COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	PRE-REQUISITE
MIDW5004	Midwifery in Complex Situations	MIDW5000 Foundations of Midwifery MIDW5001 Woman-centred Care MIDW5002 The Professional Midwife
MIDW5005	Midwifery in Primary Health Care	MIDW5001 Woman-centred Care
MIDW5006	Midwives as Professional Partners	MIDW5000 Foundations of Midwifery MIDW5002 The Professional Midwife
MIDW5014	Midwifery Emergencies	MIDW5004 Midwifery in Complex Situations MIDW5006 Midwives as Professional Partners
MIDW5015	Legal and Professional Frameworks in Midwifery	MIDW5004 Midwifery in Complex Situations MIDW5005 Midwifery in Primary Health Care MIDW5006 Midwives as Professional Partners
MIDW5016	Becoming a Midwife	MIDW5004 Midwifery in Complex Situations MIDW5006 Midwives as Professional Partners