THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME AUSTRALIA

Program Code: 4114

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

Graduate Diploma of Midwifery

GradDipMidw

Responsible Owner:	National Head of School of Nursing & Midwifery
Responsible Office:	School of Nursing and Midwifery
Contact Officer:	National Manager, Enrolments, Fees & Student Administration
Effective Date:	1 January 2026

THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME AUSTRALIA

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2 AMENDMENTS

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

Version	Date Amended	Amendment Details	Approved by
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
9	May 2022	Program to be offered on the Fremantle and Sydney campuses	NHOS
10	May 2023	CRICOS Audit corrections: Practicum requirements updated and locations corrected to include approved Broome campus	
11	May 2024	Addition of Melbourne Clinical School (Werribee) delivery location	Academic Council
12	April 2026	Removal of CRICOS code	Academic Council

3 PURPOSE

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

4 OVERVIEW

4.1 Campus Availability
The Graduate Diploma of Midwifery has been approved for delivery on the Fremantle (WA), Sydney (NSW) & Broome (WA) Campuses, and Melbourne (VIC) Clinical School Werribee.

4.2 Student Availability
The Graduate Diploma of Midwifery is available for enrolment to domestic 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 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 a blended 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

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

- Criminal screening check
- 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

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. Students will undertake the *equivalent* of 26 weeks full time midwifery practice experience over 18 months. This midwifery practice experience will be undertaken in regular blocks of 3 -4 days per week.

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, e.g., Physiotherapist.

7 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

7.1 Program Description

The Graduate Diploma of Midwifery is a full-time, entry-to-practice degree that enables current Registered Nurses to study midwifery, students who successfully complete this program will be able to register with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia as midwives. This program is designed to prepare midwifery students to become competent, safe registered midwives in the clinical midwifery environments. Midwifery students will utilise current evidence-based research to substantiate learning of essential clinical skills in the context of contemporary practice. The program incorporates existing and emerging national and regional health priorities, health research, health policy and reform. Midwifery students will develop skills in critical thinking, clinical reasoning, and reflection to enable them to make sound clinical judgments and practice safely in the clinical midwifery environments. They will undertake clinical professional practice placements to consolidate learning and facilitate the integration of theory to practice. 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 National Competency Standards for the Midwife and gain registration as a midwife with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia

2. Critically review emerging local, national, and global maternity care priorities, and apply midwifery evidence-based knowledge to provide holistic and woman centred care across the childbirth continuum, to pregnant and childbearing women and their families, with a focus of continually improving the quality and delivery of care

3. Reflect on knowledge and belief to share practice and foster self-regulated behaviours to implement the concept of life-long learning, which will assist in the professional growth and development of self and others

4. 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

5. Integrate knowledge, humanistic values, clinical skills, and reflective thinking to an advanced level of critical analysis to provide safe, culturally congruent, equitable, high quality midwifery care for women, babies, families, and communities

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 250 units of credit
These Units of Credit comprise:
250 Units of Credit from seven (7) 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 Discipline Lead. An approved course substitution for enrolled students transferring to the newly accredited Graduate Diploma of Midwifery in 2023 is listed below:
MIDW5025 Complex Midwifery Practice replaces MIDW5004 Midwifery in Complex Situations & MIDW5014 Midwifery Emergencies
MIDW5027 Advancing Midwifery Practice replaces MIDW5016 Becoming a Midwife
MIDW5026 Midwifery Clinical Reasoning replaces NURS5003 Evidence Based Practice & PHIL6020 Ethical Issues for Professional Life

8 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of these Requirements, 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**
MIDW5021	Midwifery Foundations	25	MIDW5024	Midwifery Partnerships	25
MIDW5022	Beginning Midwifery Practice	50	MIDW5025	Complex Midwifery Practice	50
MIDW5023	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Women & Communities	25			
Total Units of Credit for Y1 S1		100	**Total Units of Credit for Y1 S2**		75
				Total Units of Credit Year One	175

YEAR TWO					
Semester One			**Semester Two**		
Course Code	**Course Title**	**Units of credit**	**Course Code**	**Course Title**	**Units of credit**
MIDW5026	Midwifery Clinical Reasoning	25			
MIDW5027	Advancing Midwifery Practice	50			
Total Units of Credit for Y2 S1		75	**Total Units of Credit for Y2 S2**		
				Total Units of Credit Year Two	75

APPENDIX B: LIST OF PRE-REQUISITES

COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	PRE-REQUISITE
MIDW5024	Midwifery Partnerships	MIDW5021 Midwifery Foundations MIDW5022 Beginning Midwifery Practice
MIDW5025	Complex Midwifery Practice	MIDW5021 Midwifery Foundations MIDW5022 Beginning Midwifery Practice
MIDW5027	Advancing Midwifery Practice	MIDW5025 Complex Midwifery Practice