

## Master of Midwifery (MMID) - MM

This program is offered only to continuing students. No new admissions will be accepted. Students who are interested in this study area should [contact us](#).

	External
<b>Semester intake:</b>	No new admissions
<b>Campus:</b>	Toowoomba
<b>Fees:</b>	Commonwealth supported place Domestic full fee paying place
<b>Residential school:</b>	Toowoomba campus (compulsory)
<b>Standard duration:</b>	1 year full-time equivalent on a part-time basis, maximum 3 years, with compulsory attendance at a partner hospital for designated sections of the program;

### Contact us

Current students
<a href="#">Ask a question</a> Freecall (within Australia): 1800 007 252, Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 2285 Email: <a href="mailto:usq.support@usq.edu.au">usq.support@usq.edu.au</a>

### Professional accreditation

The Master of Midwifery program is approved by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA).

### Program aims

The aim of this program is to prepare students for practice in midwifery to the standard of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council (ANMC) National Competency Standards for the Midwife using a woman-centred model. Graduates will be eligible for registration with [NMBA](#).

### Program objectives

On successful completion of this program graduates will be able to:

- initiate, maintain and conclude partnerships with women which facilitate women's empowerment and promote the health of women and their families
- use a comprehensive knowledge and skill base to provide safe and effective clinical care and education for childbearing women and their foetuses/infants across all ages and health-risk categories
- express acceptance of the uniqueness of individual women and through the combined attributes of caring, patience, gentleness, and compassion and by practising within the ANMC code of ethics, promote a supportive and safe birthing environment
- develop and integrate into practice knowledge and wisdom about the biophysical and psycho-social spiritual aspects of childbearing women and foetuses/infants
- critically evaluate and apply research relevant to midwifery
- apply clinical decision-making skills to provide midwifery care and promote quality outcomes
- practice midwifery within prescribed legal boundaries and within their own scope of competence
- fulfil the pivotal role of midwife and coordinator of care within the multi-disciplinary health care team
- demonstrate a critical awareness of historical, political and cultural context of birthing and use this to further the aims of childbearing women and the discipline of midwifery

- demonstrate advanced skills in reflection, analysis, argument and criticism including the ability to research and enhance own clinical practice
- grow and develop as a person and as a professional .

## Admission requirements

Applicants meeting the following criteria may apply to be accepted into the program:

- be a registered nurse with a Bachelor degree in Nursing or equivalent. USQ principles of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) will be used where applicable
- hold current general nursing registration with NMBA through Australian Health Professional Registration Authority (AHPRA)
- have access to ongoing quality clinical experiences in a variety of settings through USQ's partner hospitals
- have personal access to a PC computer with Internet facilities for teaching-learning purposes. This is essential if students are to fulfil course assessment requirements. See below for further technical requirements..
- have a minimum one year of recent post registration clinical nursing experience at the time of commencing the Master of Midwifery.

The following are encouraged to apply:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander registered nurses.
- Registered nurses from culturally and linguistically diverse communities.
- Registered nurses who have diverse academic, work and life experiences.

## PLEASE NOTE

Students need to commit to the professional clinical experience requirements which are both unpaid and paid placements. This will involve being available to meet the requirements for continuity of care of women partnered with students outside of scheduled placement hours. To participate in this mandatory practice activity, students will need to meet woman centred timelines. This will require negotiation of existing employment and personal commitments. In order to complete all [mandatory professional experience requirements](#) (see Standard Eight in Standards and Criteria for the Accreditation of Nursing and Midwifery Courses Leading to Registration, Enrolment, Endorsement and Authorisation in Australia—with Evidence Guide), students will be required to continue professional experience beyond the completion of the 12 month paid contract with the Partner hospital. Hence activity as a midwifery student may extend into semester two of the second year of the Program.

Students will be required to meet NMBA requirements for registration as a midwife and registration as a student. All students enrolled in the Master of Midwifery program will automatically be registered by USQ as a student with the [Australian Health Professional Registration Authority \(AHPRA\)](#). For further details of student registration, please see the [Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia](#).

To fulfil midwifery education standards, students must attend all compulsory residential schools. See [Residential Schools](#) for details. Students unable to attend must withdraw from the associated course.

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USQ strongly encourages applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Indigenous students interested in a career in midwifery should contact the Indigenous coordinator in the Department of Nursing and Midwifery at [indigenousnursing@usq.edu.au](mailto:indigenousnursing@usq.edu.au) for information on guidance and support and to discuss entry pathways.

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Students must be willing to undertake and submit the requirements of the University of Southern Queensland and Queensland Health for clinical placement. These include:

- (1) evidence of Hepatitis B immunisation
- (2) evidence of adult immunisation for measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria, tetanus and Pertussis.

- (3) a current CPR certificate
- (4) a signed Qld Health Student Orientation Checklist, Qld Health Placement Deed and a Qld Health Placement Privacy and Consent Deed
- (5) a signed USQ Student Clinical Placement Policy Declaration
- (6) a current Criminal History Police Check
- (7) a Blue Card from the Queensland Government Commission for Children and Young People and Young Guardian.

### **Application Procedures**

There are 2 components to the application:

- (1) USQ Application process
- (2) Hospital Application process

#### **1. USQ Application process**

Applicants should apply to the University using the Direct Entry online application process. Each application will be assessed on an individual basis, according to the Entry Requirements. The following important information must be included; otherwise the application will be delayed:

- a certified copy of the applicant's Bachelor of Nursing degree or equivalent
- evidence of current registration as a nurse (AHPRA certificate)
- evidence of recent post registration nursing experience (at least one year) e.g. a letter of employment from the applicant's employer.

#### **2. Hospital Application pr**

Employment contracts with partner hospitals cannot be secured until students have successfully completed pre-requisite courses MID8070 and MID8001.

The hospital will advise the student directly of the result of their placement application once successful completion of prerequisite courses has been confirmed by USQ. Hospitals may ask the student to complete employment assessment criteria and attend a personal interview. In this case, students would be notified once references have been checked.

Employment is on the basis of a 12 month contract that is subject to performance assessment throughout the year. Students should familiarise themselves with the relevant Code of Conduct prior to commencing employment.

**Students cannot progress in the program if they do not have a hospital placement.** Where a paid placement is not available, unpaid supernumerary placement may be considered where placements can be identified and supported by the university. Students who have enrolled but have not secured a placement will be required to withdraw from enrolment in courses. Provided that they do so at any time up to and including the last day to drop courses without penalty, they may expect to receive a full refund of any tuition fees paid for courses in that semester.

**Important Note:** If for any reason the student decides to drop or defer their studies at any stage it is the responsibility of the student to contact the hospital in writing to resign the midwifery student position being held for them.

### Acceptance of enrolment

Students will receive notification of enrolment offer by email from the USQ Recruitment and Admissions office. On receipt of acceptance of an offer of enrolment from the student by the University, study packages containing comprehensive study information, study materials and assignment details will be sent, at which time students should prepare to commence study on the first day of semester.

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

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

## Program fees

### Commonwealth supported place

A Commonwealth supported place is where the Australian Government makes a contribution towards the cost of your higher education and you as a student pay a [student contribution amount](#), which varies depending on the courses undertaken. You are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#). Commonwealth Supported students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [HECS-HELP](#).

### 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. You 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](#).

## Program structure

This program consists of eight courses. Exemptions may be granted according to regulations in [USQ Policy 3.5 Course Exemptions](#). Students will normally study two courses per semester for four semesters over two years. This program uses a two semester academic calendar. Students will commence their study in March

(Semester 1) with a one week residential school. As a flexible learning program, students are required to interact through Internet Discussion Groups (See IT Requirements for minimum technology requirements). Unpaid professional experience will be commenced in this semester.

In Semester 2 (July), students attend a one-week [residential school](#) and then begin paid employment as midwifery students. They will be required to continue in the clinical field for 18 months and will complete their hospital internship and the program in Semester 2 of the following year. This includes some unpaid clinical placements to ensure the professional experience requirements specified by ANMAC have been met.

Students should contact the Faculty of Health, Engineering and Sciences to discuss variations in enrolment pattern and courses for exemption in recognition of prior learning.

### **Course Sequence and Relationship to Residential Schools**

## Recommended enrolment pattern (for completion in 24 months)

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.

As the professional practice components of the midwifery courses are achieved through a paid employment contract, students are unable to be offered any slower progression other than what appears in the enrolment pattern below.

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