

**Te Whatu Ora**  
Health New Zealand

# Nurse Practitioner Pathway

**2024**

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<h2>POST-GRAD CERTIFICATE &amp; DIPLOMA</h2>		<b>B average (GPA 5.0) or higher to enter the Master of Nursing</b>	<h2>NURSE PRACTITIONER TRAINING PROGRAMME</h2>	
<b>PG Certificate HSc</b> 60 points	<b>PG Diploma HSc</b> 120 points (60 point PGCertHSc + 60 points)		<b>Master of Nursing</b> 240 points (120 point PGDipHSc + 120 point taught Masters)	
<p><b>Compulsory papers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>30pts:</b> Advanced Assessment and Clinical Reasoning</li> <li>• <b>30pts:</b> Advanced Pathophysiology or Biological Science or Applied Sciences (University dependent)</li> <li>• <b>30pts:</b> Advanced Pharmacology</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional papers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specialty practice pathways e.g. Mental Health &amp; Addictions, Gerontology, Long-term Conditions</li> </ul>		<p><b>Clinical Papers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>30pts:</b> Evidence-based Practice and Implementation</li> <li>• <b>30pts:</b> Clinical Project</li> </ul> <p><b>Internship Papers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>30pts + 150hrs mentorship:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Advanced Nursing Practicum <b>**Only available in Semester 1</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>30pts + 150hrs mentorship:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prescribing in Advanced Nursing Practice <b>**Only available in Semester 2</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
<h2>NURSE PRACTITIONER TRAINING PROGRAMME READINESS</h2>		<h2>NURSING COUNCIL - FINAL ASSESSMENTS</h2>		
<p><b>Clinical Readiness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working at expert level for at least 12 months in service intended to complete your NPTP year.</li> <li>• Senior clinical mentor relationship established.</li> <li>• Connected to NP peer group or senior NP.</li> </ul>		<p><b>Nursing Council Final Assessments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Portfolio Submission</li> <li>• Panel Assessment</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Organisational Readiness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic plans to provide NP positions within the organisation.</li> <li>• Service established candidate in a senior clinical role/pathway at least 1-2 years prior to NPTP.</li> <li>• Development in-house clinical mentorship.</li> <li>• Support supernumerary hours as per NPTP requirements.</li> <li>• Have defined NP position at completion of NPTP.</li> </ul>		<p><b>Portfolio Submission:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nursing Council will assess Competency 2 and 3 only</li> <li>• Complete reference checks</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Competencies 1,4,5, 6 will be completed and assessed during the NPTP</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Academic Readiness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connection to academic mentor to develop a post-graduate study plan.</li> <li>• Support for academic writing, utilization of evidence-based practice and research skills</li> <li>• Core prerequisite courses or equivalent completed</li> <li>• GPA 5.0 / B average</li> </ul>		<p><b>Panel Assessment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Panel assessment: 4 hours via zoom or F2F</li> <li>• Candidate can choose their preference and have a support person</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nursing Council will organise the panel assessment.</li> <li>• There is usually a Chairperson and two panel members. The two panel members are chosen based on the candidates area/scope of practice/any conflict of interest and cultural preferences.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Whanau / Pastoral Readiness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• External professional supervision</li> <li>• Extra support needed from family/friends</li> <li>• Self-care strategies</li> <li>• Time and priority management skills</li> </ul>				

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## NPTP ENTRY CRITERIA

### Clinical Readiness

- Have completed a minimum of three years' equivalent full-time practice (0.8FTE or higher) within the last five years in the area of practice that you will be registering.
- At least one of the three years needs to have been in New Zealand.
- A solid foundation of clinical skills and knowledge to be able to practice at an advanced level.

### Employer Readiness

- Have identified a clinical supervisor (a senior NP or senior doctor) who is willing to mentor the attainment of the advanced skills and competencies required for NP practice.
- There is a strong preference for an established clinical relationship of 12 months before the start of the NPTP. The clinical supervisor must be committed to providing clinical mentorship for the 12 months of the NP training programme contract.
- Written agreement from your employer must be provided with the application to confirm a minimum of 500 hours of supernumerary clinical release time, clinical supervisor availability, release to attend University study days, and commitment to employ the student as a NP on registration (minimum 0.6FTE).

### Academic Readiness

- Be educationally prepared to complete the masters programme at the end of the practicum year or have already completed a masters programme (Please verify your eligibility for Masters completion with your university of choice for the NPTP).
- Have completed the prerequisite courses including advanced health assessment, pathophysiology, and pharmacology, and preferably with a B grade average or above (including any required grades for specific courses).

### Other Requirements

- Be a New Zealand citizen or hold a New Zealand Permanent Resident Visa.
- Be a registered nurse with a current New Zealand practicing certificate and be in good standing with the Nursing Council of New Zealand.
- Hold suitable indemnity insurance.

## NPTP EMPLOYER COMMITMENT

- Allow a minimum of 500 hours (16 hours per week) clinical release time from regular work responsibilities to undertake advanced clinical practice, plus attendance at university study days (approximately 12 per year). They will receive their current salary while completing the supernumerary hours (the NPTP funding provides a contribution to support this).
- Included in the 500 hours is the minimum 80-hour secondary placement.
- Each student will have identified a clinical supervisor (senior NP or senior doctor) who is willing to mentor the attainment of the advanced skills and competencies required for NP practice.
- At least one of the clinical supervisors (primary or secondary placement) must be an NP.

If you have questions regarding your academic eligibility for the NPTP after reading all of the information,

please contact your chosen University:

- AUT: Helen Topia – [helen.topia@aut.ac.nz](mailto:helen.topia@aut.ac.nz) or [pgnursing@aut.ac.nz](mailto:pgnursing@aut.ac.nz)
- UoA: Rachael Walker – [rachael.walker@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:rachael.walker@auckland.ac.nz) or [postgradnursing@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:postgradnursing@auckland.ac.nz)
- Massey University: [nursing@massey.ac.nz](mailto:nursing@massey.ac.nz)
- UoO: [nursingstudies.uoc@otago.ac.nz](mailto:nursingstudies.uoc@otago.ac.nz)
- Victoria University: Betty Poot – [betty.poot@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:betty.poot@vuw.ac.nz)
- UoW: Louise Leonard – [louise.leonard@waikato.ac.nz](mailto:louise.leonard@waikato.ac.nz) or [pgnursing@waikato.ac.nz](mailto:pgnursing@waikato.ac.nz)

If you don't meet the entry criteria for the NPTP, or are unsure if you do, and you are of Māori or Pacific descent or any other priority areas for improving equity in our communities, please contact one of the programme co-leads to discuss further options for your NP career pathway with you:

- Sue Adams: [s.adams@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:s.adams@auckland.ac.nz)
- Josephine Davis: [Josephine.davis@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:Josephine.davis@auckland.ac.nz)