

19/11/24



Tena koe,

RE: Bachelor of Midwifery – New programme approval

Congratulations on taking this important step toward a rewarding career in midwifery! We are excited to welcome you on the Bachelor of Midwifery programme here at Otago Polytechnic. You are enrolling on a new unified degree which is pending approval by NZQA and the Midwifery Council and will begin in Semester 1, 2025.

Unification is the process by which Te Pūkenga developed a single programme of study for a qualification, which works for all current and future providers, industry partners and ākonga. This unified programme builds on the existing accredited programmes offered by Ara, Otago Polytechnic, and Wintec.

Under this unified structure, all providers will share the same strategic goals, graduate outcomes, regulations and core programme structure. All ākonga will complete the same required courses which have the same aims and learning outcomes.

Programme Overview and Structure

Level	7		
Total Years (full time)	4 years		
Te Pūkenga Credits	480	Total Credits	480
Total Learning Hours per Year	1200	Total Learning Hours	4800
Theoretical Content (maximum) Hours	2400	Midwifery Clinical Practice (minimum) Hours	2400

The new Bachelor of Midwifery is delivered full time over four years. It comprises 26 compulsory courses and prepares graduates for registration with the Midwifery Council, allowing them to practice midwifery in New Zealand and internationally upon passing the National Midwifery Examination. The programme includes a minimum of 2400 hours of clinical practice across four years, where ākonga provide supervised midwifery care in a variety of settings, including continuity of care placements, primary and secondary/tertiary maternity services, rural and community services.

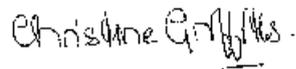
- **Year 1:** 300 clinical hours, with some simulation, focusing on understanding women's experiences and foundational midwifery practice.
- **Year 2:** 470 clinical hours, building skills in physiological pregnancy, childbirth, clinical reasoning, and evidence-based practice.

- **Year 3:** 670 clinical hours, focusing on women's health complexities and consolidating midwifery knowledge.
- **Year 4:** 960 clinical hours, with a focus on achieving competencies for entry to the Register of Midwives, including advanced reasoning, decision-making, and emergency response skills.

All ākonga are supported to meet the Midwifery Council's practice standards and educational requirements for registration.

We look forward to meeting you during School of Midwifery Orientation week in Dunedin commencing 27 January 2025 and supporting you on your journey as part of our Bachelor of Midwifery whānau, here at Otago Polytechnic.

Ngā mihi nui



Christine Griffiths
Head of School