

Semester 1 2022
Admission Information
and Portfolio

UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

MASTER OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY (40187)
MASTER OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY (40117)





UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

Thank you for considering applying to The University of Newcastle Clinical Psychology and/or Professional Psychology Programs.

As places in the highly regarded Master of Clinical Psychology and Master of Professional Psychology are limited, admission is based on a competitive selection process. This document outlines the requirements for applying for admission for 2022.

Please ensure that you review all sections and submit all required documents by the required date. Applications close at midnight on **4 October 2021**. Late and incomplete submissions will not be accepted.

PLEASE REVIEW ALL SECTIONS

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APPLICATION TIMELINE

DATE	TASK	SUMMARY
August 2021	NPRS Applications Open (Domestic and International Applicants)	Both domestic and international applicant referees are able to submit references via the National Psychology Referee System (NPRS).
1 September 2021	UAC Applications Open (Domestic Applicants)	Applicants can submit an application via the University Admission Centre .
4 October 2021	Applications Close	Applicants must apply via UAC, ensure that references are submitted to the NPRS AND provide their admission portfolio by this date. Late and incomplete applications will not be considered.
Week commencing 8 November 2021	Interview invites	Applicants who satisfy the minimum academic admission requirements and who are selected by the selection panel will be invited to participate in a selection interview with the University of Newcastle School of Psychological Sciences .
17 and 18 November 2021	Interview period	Selection interviews will be held via Zoom.
Commencing 24 November 2021	Interview outcomes <i>Please allow up to 5 days to receive your outcome</i>	The University of Newcastle School of Psychological Sciences will contact all applicants who have been successful in the interview process, or who have gained a place on the reserve admission list.
26 November 2021	Semester 2 fully graded date	University of Newcastle undergraduate students will receive their final Semester 2 2021 grades.
17 December 2021	Round 1 offers released	Successful applicants will be provided with a formal offer of admission to commence studies in 2022. This will be communicated via email.
24 December 2021	Round 1 offer acceptance period	Applicants who receive a Round 1 offer must formally accept the offer by this date.
January 2022 (up until early February)	Round 2 offers	If places are available after Round 1, additional offers may be made to applicants on the offer reserve list. Reserve applicants will be contacted by the School of Psychological Sciences.
10 February and 11 and 14 to 18 February	1. Compulsory Orientation 2. Compulsory intensive course	Applicants who have accepted an offer are required to attend a compulsory orientation session at the University of Newcastle, followed by a compulsory intensive course from the program (PSYC6501).
21 February 2022	Semester 1 2022 commences	First week of the 2022 University of Newcastle academic year.

DEGREE INFORMATION AND ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

MASTER OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

The Master of Clinical Psychology is a two year APAC accredited program. The Master of Clinical Psychology is a professional qualification for those who wish to work as clinical psychologists. Graduates will be knowledgeable, skilled and ethical practitioners of Clinical Psychology, capable of adhering to the 'scientist-practitioner' model of practice. The program is accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) and approved by the College of Clinical Psychologists for the purposes of determining College membership and accepted by the Psychology Board of Australia as an approved fifth and sixth year of study.

The admission requirements are as follows:

- Hold a 4 year or 3+1 year APAC accredited sequence of study with a minimum Honours (or equivalent) result of H2A or 6.0 + GPA (on 7.0 scale)
- Eligible for Provisional Registration with the Psychology Board of Australia
- English proficiency equivalent to IELTS 7.0 overall with no subtest below 7.0
- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is available depending on your past education, professional registration, professional experience and Continuous Professional Development (CPD).

Graduates are eligible to apply for general registration as psychologists with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra), following general registration students are also eligible to apply for entry into a clinical psychology endorsement registrar program.

MASTER OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

The Master of Professional Psychology is a one year APAC accredited program. The Master of Professional Psychology is a professional qualification for those who wish to practice as a Registered Psychologist. Through intensive psychological training and education, graduates will be skilled in applying advanced psychological learnings competently and ethically across a broad range of professional settings. The program is accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC), and accepted by the Psychology Board of Australia as an approved 5th year of study.

The admission requirements are as follows:

- Hold a 4 year or 3+1 year APAC accredited sequence of study
- Eligible for Provisional Registration with the Psychology Board of Australia
- English proficiency equivalent to IELTS 7.0 overall with no subtest below 7.0

On successful completion of the program graduates will be eligible to apply to Ahpra for entry into a one-year internship – the internship is organised by the graduate. At the conclusion of the internship year and the successful completion of the National Psychology Exam, the graduate can apply for general registration as a psychologist with Ahpra.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

If you are an Australian Citizen, Australian Permanent Resident, or hold an Australian Permanent Humanitarian Visa, please follow the steps outlined below.

Please ensure that your UAC application is submitted and ALL supporting documentation is provided to The University of Newcastle by **midnight 4 October 2021** (no late applications will be accepted).

STEP 1 – SUBMIT AN ADMISSION APPLICATION VIA THE UNIVERSITY ADMISSION CENTRE (UAC).

Admission applications will open via UAC at 7.30am on 4 September 2021. Instructions on how to apply via UAC are available [online](#).

The University of Newcastle offers both Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP) and Full Fee Paying places in the Clinical and Professional Masters programs. CSP places are limited, and are offered to the highest ranked applicants. CSP places may also be offered to indigenous applicants whose status has been previously verified in accordance with the [Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander - Establishing Status within the University Policy](#).

Applicants who are successful in gaining a Commonwealth Supported place will be notified at the time of offer.

- Master of Clinical Psychology– UAC Code 927805
- Master of Professional Psychology – UAC Code 927807

If you wish to be considered for both Masters programs, you must list both as preferences on your UAC application.

STEP 2 – SUBMIT YOUR MASTER OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY AND MASTER OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY ADMISSION PORTFOLIO

Complete the Master of Clinical Psychology and Master of Professional Psychology Admission Portfolio (see pages [7 - 11](#) below) and upload your portfolio and supporting documents (as one PDF) to your UAC application.

STEP 3 – NATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY REFEREE SYSTEM.

All applicants must provide **TWO** referee reports. This could be either one Academic and one Professional reference, or two Professional References, depending on your circumstances. Please note that it is your responsibility to ensure that your referees complete the report via the National Psychology Referee System (www.psychologyreference.org). **Encourage your referees to check their junk mail folder for this request.** Late referees reports will not be accepted and applications with fewer than two referee reports will not be considered. **Once your referees have completed their references, please make sure you share your references with the university prior to the deadline.** This is simply an extra step in the National Psychology Referee System, where you must click on 'share your references' (some students miss this step and we don't receive their referee reports). Please check you have completed this essential step otherwise we can't access your references.

Please see page [6](#) of this document for further detail on the requirements.

NATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY REFEREE SYSTEM

The NPRS will be live from August, 2021. The objective of this system is to have a one-stop-shop for references to be sent to all institutions to which an applicant has applied.

The Reference Request System allows applicants for Australian post-graduate programs in Psychology to apply for a reference from academic and/or professional referees in [three simple steps](#):

1. YOU nominate referees, and indicate the programs and institutions being applied to.
2. REFEREES complete a reference online.
3. YOU then allow the completed reference to be shared with the programs you have applied to.

Please ensure that you have two referee reports submitted to the [National Psychology Referee System](#) before **4 October 2021**.

All applicants must provide **TWO referee reports**. This could be either one Academic and one Professional reference, or two Professional References, depending on your circumstances.

Please provide **one academic reference and one professional reference** if you are completing or have completed your fourth year (APAC accredited sequence) of study in the past three years.

Please provide **two professional references** if you have completed your fourth year (APAC accredited sequence) of study more than four years ago.

- Academic Referee

Preferably your academic referee will be your fourth-year supervisor. If your supervisor is not able to provide a reference, please attempt to gain a reference from an academic who worked closely with you through your studies.

- Professional Referee

Preferably your professional referee will be a Psychologist or Clinical Psychologist. Alternate options include professionals working in related disciplines (such as Social Workers or Counsellors).

MASTER OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY AND MASTER OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY ADMISSION PORTFOLIO

All applicants must submit an admission portfolio. Please complete the questions below, and return your portfolio and any supporting documents by **midnight 4 October 2021**.

PERSONAL DETAILS

SURNAME: FIRST NAME: TITLE:

ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

POST CODE:

COUNTRY:

UAC APPLICATION NUMBER: *all domestic applicants must provide their UAC application number

UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE STUDENT NUMBER: *if applicable

UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE APPLICATION NUMBER: *International applicants only

Please indicate whether you are applying for one or both programs:

Master of Professional Psychology only

Master of Clinical Psychology only

Both Clinical and Professional

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

Please provide details of ALL academic qualifications held. If you are currently studying and anticipate completing your qualification at the end of 2021, you may still be considered for admission.

You must also attach certified or full colour copies of official transcripts for all listed academic qualifications.

Honours Degree in Psychology (if applicable)

University:

Complete: Yes No Year of Completion:

Currently Enrolled: Yes No Expected Completion Date:

If completed, what Honours Class was awarded:

Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology (if applicable)

University:

Complete: Yes No Year of Completion:

Currently Enrolled: Yes No Expected Completion Date:

If completed, what Honours Class was awarded:

REGISTRATION

To be considered for admission, applicants must be registered, or eligible for provisional registration, with the Psychology Board of Australia through the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra). It is the applicant's responsibility to read and confirm this [eligibility with the Psychology Board of Australia](#) prior to submission of the application.

Current Registration Status:

Time Registration has been held:

Registration Number (if applicable):

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

Personal Statement

Summarise in 250 words maximum what are the qualities you possess that you think will lead you to become a good a Registered Psychologist (if applying for the Master of Professional Psychologist only) or endorsed as a Clinical Psychologist in the future (if applying to both the Master of Professional Psychology Program and the Master of Clinical Psychology Program or just The Master of Clinical Psychology program alone). Please be mindful to complete these questions with information that may double up on the information that is in your CV. The panel evaluating your application will not search for this information in your CV if you leave anything relevant or important out of these sections of the portfolio.

Relevant Experience

Please list any relevant experience (paid or volunteer) helping people with physical and/or mental health problems, or otherwise your work with children, adolescents, adults or the elderly.

Organisation 1:

Position Title:

Paid Employment: Yes No Volunteer Position: Yes No

Duration of Service:

Briefly outline your roles and responsibilities with this organisation.

Organisation 2:

Position Title:

Paid Employment: Yes No Volunteer Position: Yes No

Duration of Service:

Briefly outline your roles and responsibilities with this organisation.

Please outline any additional experience by attaching a Curriculum Vitae

Relevant Education and Training

If applicable, please list any relevant programs or short courses/workshops that are relevant to the practice of Psychology. You must also attach certified or full colour copies of completion certificates.

Course 1:

Provider or Organisation:

Date Completed:

Course 2:

Provider or Organisation:

Date Completed:

Course 3:

Provider or Organisation:

Date Completed:

Civil and Academic Awards

Please list any university or civil awards you have received (e.g., University Medal, Duke of Edinburgh Award).

Award:

Awarding Institution:

Date:

Award:

Awarding Institution:

Date:

Award:

Awarding Institution:

Date:

Award:

Awarding Institution:

Date:

Research Experience (in addition to Honours)

Please provide details of any research activities you have undertaken in addition to your study. This can include other relevant degrees or qualifications, conference presentations or publications.

Relevant Extra Curricular Activities

Please provide details of any extra-curricular activities you actively participate in which you believe are relevant to this application.

Experience with Professional Organisations

Please summarise any experience you have with professional organisations (e.g. Australian Psychological Society).

Please describe any education or career disruption you have experienced.

APPLYING FOR CREDIT OR RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL)

For information on credit, please refer to our website [here](#).

For information on RPL, please refer our website [here](#).

If you wish to apply for Credit or Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), please indicate below, otherwise proceed to the Checklist and Declaration section.

Credit

To be considered for credit or advanced standing you need to supply:

- Program outlines
- Subject outlines
- Methods of assessment
- Contact hours
- Duration of study
- Full list of textbooks used.

All program course and subject information should be from official educational institution publications and handouts.

Do you wish to apply for credit or advanced standing? Yes No

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

I would like to apply for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL): Yes No

Master of Clinical Psychology– the RPL application will be considered based on evidence as supplied.

Research courses, up to 30 units of the coursework: Yes No

If yes, please complete information on page [15](#).

Up to 80 units of coursework of the program: Yes No

If yes, please complete information on pages [15 - 16](#).

If yes please complete the sections below. If no, please skip the sections below and proceed to the Checklist and Declaration section.

I would like to apply for RPL for the research courses. I have completed a Research Higher Degree in an area directly relevant to Clinical Psychology

Yes - please complete the section below

No - you are not eligible to apply for RPL

Conferral date:

Awarding Institution:

Research supervisors:

Title of thesis:

If applicable, full references of any peer-reviewed publications resulting from thesis:

Provide a DOI link (or equivalent) to the thesis: [Click here](#) to enter text.

Provide a brief abstract of the thesis (up to 750 words):

Provide a rationale for how the research project made a contribution to scientific knowledge in Clinical Psychology (up to 750 words; please note, this rationale needs to be based on the actual thesis content at the time of submission, not a post-hoc interpretation of the findings from the thesis):

I would like to apply for RPL for up to 80 units of in the program. I hold general registration as a psychologist with AHPRA and have held the general registration for a minimum of 1 year full-time equivalent.

Yes - please complete the section below and supply evidence as required

No - you are not eligible to apply for RPL

Date general registration awarded:

Please, address each level 3 competency – as determined by APAC - below and provide evidence as appropriate. Attach evidence such as completed professional development activities, certificates of workshops/training, references, or equivalents to the application with appropriate referencing to the relevant competency.

I can competently;

- 3.2 Apply evidence-based and scientific methods to professional practice across the lifespan in empirically valid and culturally responsive ways.
- 3.3 Employ professional communication skills, in a culturally responsive manner, with a range of socially and culturally diverse clients.
- 3.4 Perform appropriate standardised psychological testing, as part of broader assessment, to assess and interpret aspects of functioning.
- 3.5 Identify psychological disorders using a recognised taxonomy.
- 3.6 Conduct professional interviews and assessments and synthesise information from multiple sources, including assessment of risk, to formulate a conceptualisation of the presenting issues to determine the most appropriate interventions, including management of risk.
- 3.7 Monitor outcomes and modifications based on evolving case formulation, including health and health concerns, family and support networks, and organisational, cultural or community contexts, with care given to the appropriateness of interventions for the client within their wider context.
- 3.8 Interpret and communicate findings in oral and written formats, including formal psychological reports, using culturally appropriate language.
- 3.9 Implement appropriate, empirically supported interventions, and monitor clients' progress and intervention outcomes.
- 3.10 Demonstrate respect for the skills and contribution of other professionals.
- 3.11 Work effectively with a range of professional and support staff in the workplace and communicate and collaborate effectively, within the bounds of ethical and legal requirements.
- 3.12 Operate within the boundaries of (own) professional competence, consult with peers or other relevant sources where appropriate, and refer on to relevant other practitioners where appropriate.

- 3.13 Rigorously apply professional practice policies and procedures, including as they relate to referral management and record-keeping, across a range of workplace settings and with recognition of different organisational cultures and practices.
- 3.14 Engage in self-reflective professional practice, taking account of the impact of their own values and beliefs, and taking appropriate actions as a result.
- 3.15 Evaluate the effectiveness of (own) professional practice, identifying areas for improvement and implementing changes where needed.
- 3.16 Critically evaluate contemporary scientific literature to inform practice.
- 3.17 Investigate a substantive individual research question relevant to the discipline of psychology (Honours research not included).

Please refer to the course learning outcomes and content for the following courses (available in the [Program Handbook](#)) and provide a rationale of how your professional/applied psychological experience and expertise corresponds to the competencies gained in the course(s). Please, attach evidence (e.g. certificates of training, work role descriptions, etc.) as appropriate to the application portfolio with appropriate referencing:

[PSYC6501 Professional and Ethical Practice](#)

[PSYC6502 Counselling and Psychological Intervention](#)

[PSYC6503 Psychological Practice: Adult Psychopathology](#)

[PSYC6506 Clinical Psychology with children and families](#)

[PSYC6507 Assessment in Psychological Practice](#)

[PSYC6505 Research Development](#) (and other research courses; may include evidence of e.g. peer-reviewed publications, research associate positions, applied research activities in the workplace).

CHECKLIST AND DECLARATION

Please review the required documentation and return this declaration with your portfolio.

1. I have read and satisfy the suitability requirements for the professional practice of Clinical Psychology as outlined in the Master of Clinical Psychology Program Handbook
Yes No
2. I have read and satisfy the suitability requirements for the professional practice of Psychology as outlined in the Master of Professional Psychology Program Handbook.
Yes No
3. I have read and am aware of the [Inherent Requirements](#) for Postgraduate Psychology
Yes No
4. I wish to identify as being of Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander Decent and have reviewed the [Establishing Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander status within the University](#) policy.
Yes No
5. I have attached a detailed Curriculum Vitae with my Admission Portfolio.
Yes No
6. I have included certified or full colour copies of official transcripts for all qualifications listed in my application and evidence of their equivalency to an APAC accredited 4th year if required
Yes No
7. I am aware of my responsibility to arrange for two referee reports to be submitted to the National Psychology Referee System before 4 October, 2021. I have shared these references with The University of Newcastle.
Yes No
8. I declare that all information and documentation supplied by me to the University is true, accurate and complete.
Yes No

Signed:

Date: