

# MASTER OF NURSE PRACTITIONER

ADMISSIONS ENROLMENT PACK



UNIVERSITY OF  
NEWCASTLE

School of Nursing and Midwifery  
College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing



# WELCOME

Thank you for considering the University of Newcastle's Master of Nurse Practitioner program.

The University of Newcastle is ranked in the top 200 universities in the world by the 2025 QS World University Rankings. The University of Newcastle's nursing discipline has been ranked 38 in the world by the Shanghai Rankings Global Ranking of Academic Subjects 2023.

The first Nurse Practitioner program offered in Australia commenced at The University of Newcastle in 2001.

The University of Newcastle's **Master of Nurse Practitioner** (MNP) is a 1 year full-time (2-year part-time) program accredited by the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council (ANMAC) and is intended for registered nurses wishing to apply for endorsement by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) to work as a Nurse Practitioner.

A Nurse Practitioner (NP) is a Registered Nurse endorsed as an NP by the NMBA. The NP practices at a clinical advanced level, meets and complies with the Nurse Practitioner Standards for Practice, is able to practice independently and has direct clinical contact. NP's practice collaboratively in multiprofessional environments. The NP practices within their scope under the legislatively protected title 'Nurse Practitioner', under the National Law (NMBA, 2021).

The program also requires that students are registered nurses engaged in advanced nursing practice within a clinical setting approved by the School of Nursing and Midwifery (SoNM).

Advanced Nursing Practice (ANP) is a continuum along which nurses develop their professional knowledge, clinical reasoning and judgement, skills, and behaviours to higher levels of capacity (that is recognisable). Nurses practising at an advanced level incorporate professional leadership, education, and research into their clinically based practice. Their practice is effective and safe. They work within a generalist or specialist context, and they are responsible and accountable in managing people who have complex health care requirements. The NMBA 2021 Nurse Practitioner Standards for Practice distinguishes between ANP and the advanced level required as a Nurse Practitioner. They term this Advanced Practice Nursing.

# HOW TO APPLY

## PREPARE TO APPLY

Before applying, please review all admission and documentation requirements outlined in the table on the following page.

Admission to the Master of Nurse Practitioner is highly competitive and places in the program are limited. The School of Nursing and Midwifery admission panel will review all completed applications for each round. Applicants will be ranked on the basis of their relevant postgraduate qualifications, work experience in their metaspecialisation and responses to the applicant proforma. The panel will make limited offers to the highest ranked candidates in each round.

**Note on Conflicts of Interest:** Applicants should not have any Conflicts of Interests with their nominated supervisors and/or workplace support for Integrated Professional Practice. Conflicts of Interest which must be declared include IPP sites owned by the applicant and clinical supervisors or referees being a spouse or family member.

## APPLICATION DATES

Round 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Applications close 11.59pm Sunday 8 June 2025</li><li>• Outcomes released Week of 16 June</li></ul>
Round 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Applications close 11.59pm Sunday 27 July 2025</li><li>• Outcomes released Week of 4 August</li></ul>
Round 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Applications close 11.59pm Sunday 28 September 2025</li><li>• Outcomes released Week of 6 October</li></ul>
Round 4 (Final Round)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Applications close 11.59pm Sunday 7 December 2025</li><li>• Outcomes released Week of 15 December</li></ul>

The application closing dates listed above are the final dates submitted applications with all required documents can be considered for that round. Late applications or those with missing or incomplete documentation will not be considered.

We recommend applying as early as possible. Wherever possible, we will contact you if you submit your application with incomplete or missing documentation. Please note that this may not be possible if you submit your application less than a week before the closing date.

## SUMMARY OF DOCUMENTS AND FORMS REQUIRED

Full admission and document requirements are outlined in the table on the following page.

### Documents

- Colour or **certified** copies of **100 points of identification**
- Colour or **certified** evidence of name change(s)
- Colour or **certified** copies of official academic transcript
- Detailed CV

### Forms

Please download and complete these forms in Adobe.

- **Master of Nurse Practitioner Applicant Proforma**
- **Referee Confirmation of Advanced Nursing Practice form x2**
- **Primary Clinical Supervisor (Endorsed NP) Nomination form**
- **Medical Practitioner Supervisor Nomination form**
- **Organisation Offer of IPP form**
- **IPP Site Suitability Checklist form**

## APPLY

Postgraduate applications can be submitted **online**.

Applicants must supply all the required documents by uploading them to the online application portal. In the event that you email the University regarding your application, you must use the same primary email address nominated in your postgraduate application.





**TABLE 1: ADMISSION AND DOCUMENT REQUIREMENTS**

ADMISSION REQUIREMENT	DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED
<b>GENERAL</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proof of identity and residency / citizenship.</li> <li>• Evidence of name change/s (if applicable).</li> </ul>	<p>Colour or <b>certified</b> copies of <b>100 points of identification</b>  <i>Must include a Passport or Birth Certificate. Australian permanent residents must provide a copy of the passport linked to their visa.</i></p> <p>Colour or <b>certified</b> evidence of name change(s)  <i>eg., official marriage/change of name certificate issued by Births Deaths and Marriages</i></p>
<b>ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IELTS overall minimum 7.0 which cannot be met by accumulation.</li> </ul>	<p>Please review the <b>English Language Proficiency for Admission Policy</b> in conjunction with the <b>English Language Proficiency Procedure</b> for information on qualifications and English exams that satisfy the requirement.</p>
<b>EDUCATION</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A minimum of one-year full-time (or equivalent part-time) postgraduate qualification(s) in a relevant clinical field to your chosen field/ metaspecialty at AQF Level 8 or higher.  <i>(ie, 2x relevant clinical Graduate Certificates, or a Graduate Diploma or a Masters degree)</i></li> </ul>	<p>Colour or <b>certified</b> copies of your official academic transcripts.  <i>Your official academic transcript must also confirm completion of your qualification. If your transcript does not confirm completion, you must also include a colour or certified copy of your testamur or completion certificate.</i></p>
<b>AHPRA, WORK EXPERIENCE AND REFEREES</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current AHPRA registration as a division 1 registered nurse without restrictions, notations, or conditions.</li> <li>• A minimum of two years full time equivalent (FTE) experience as a division 1 RN in a specialised clinical field.</li> <li>• A minimum of two years (FTE) of current <b>Advanced Nursing Practice</b> (as defined by NMBA), experience in the same clinical field (required in addition to the initial 2 years experience).</li> <li>• 2 References to evidence 2 years (FTE) of current <b>Advanced Nursing Practice</b> in a clinical field.</li> </ul>	<p>Complete the <b>Master of Nurse Practitioner Applicant Proforma</b> to provide a summary of your AHPRA registration, clinical metaspecialty and supervision and respond to three questions in relation to your metaspecialty and experience.</p> <p>Detailed CV outlining experience in relation to admission requirements.  <i>Please include a thorough employment history that lists position titles, duties, start/end dates (dd/mm/yy), employment type (i.e., full-time, part-time, casual/contract) and hours worked per week (or to date).</i></p> <p>2 x <b>Referee Confirmation of Advanced Nursing Practice form</b> (one form for each referee).  <i>The forms must demonstrate a cumulative period of 2 years full time (or part time equivalent) advanced nursing practice experience within the previous 5 years.</i></p>
<b>NOMINATION OF CLINICAL SUPERVISION</b>	
<p>All applicants must nominate two clinical supervisors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Primary supervisor who is an endorsed Nurse Practitioner (or a senior clinical nurse with a Masters degree within the area of practice).</li> <li>2. Second supervisor who is a Medical Practitioner and an expert in your area of practice.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Primary Clinical Supervisor (Endorsed NP) Nomination form</b></p> <p><b>Medical Practitioner Supervisor Nomination form</b></p>
<b>INTEGRATED PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE (IPP)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirmed workplace support to complete all professional experience requirements of the program, including a minimum 300 hours of integrated supernumerary integrated professional practice (IPP). Students must verify placement agreements and associated fees with their selected IPP site before applying to the program. Students are responsible for covering any placement-related costs, and these agreements can potentially impact commencement of IPP.</li> </ul>	<p>For more information on IPP requirements, please see the IPP section of this document.</p> <p>Complete <b>Organisation Offer of IPP form</b></p> <p>Complete <b>IPP Site Suitability Checklist form</b></p> <p><i>Note: If IPP is being completed at multiple sites, an Organisation Offer of IPP form and IPP Site Suitability Checklist form is required for each site.</i></p>

# PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The Master of Nurse Practitioner is an 80-unit Masters degree, comprised of 5 core courses. The program is delivered in three teaching periods a year, called trimesters.

For each course you are enrolled in, you will need to allocate approximately 20 hours of study per week to complete the course related learning activities (including reading, literature searching, assignment writing and engagement in direct teaching-learning activities).

The Course Coordinator for each course will be your first point of call for any course related questions and support. Course Coordinator contact details will be available in the course outlines for each of your enrolled courses.

For further details on the program structure and requirements, please refer to the [program handbook](#).

**TABLE 2: COURSES WITHIN THE MASTER OF NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAM**

COURSE CODE	COURSE NAME	RELATIONSHIP OF CLINICAL CONTENT TO STRENGTHENING CLINICAL PRACTICE	UNITS
<b>NURS6101</b>	<b>Nurse Practitioner Professional Practice</b>	Students enhance their understandings of the legal, political, geographical, social and health factors underpinning the evidence-informed health service provision of advanced clinical practice.	20 units
<b>PHAR6701</b>	<b>Intro to Pharmacotherapeutics and Prescribing for Health Care Professionals</b>	Specific knowledge of Quality Use of Medicines (QUM), principles of pharmacotherapeutics and prescribing as related to the NP's scope of practice.	10 units
<b>NURS6102</b>	<b>Advanced Practice: Diagnostics and Interventions</b>	Students grow their advanced capabilities in making evidence-informed, preventative, diagnostic, and therapeutic responses, including referrals.	20 units
<b>PHAR6702</b>	<b>Integrated Pharmacotherapeutics for Clinical Practice</b>	Case based scenarios to further develop the knowledge of the mechanism of action of drugs and QUM required to safely prescribe medications.	10 units
<b>NURS6103</b>	<b>Nurse Practitioner Identity</b>	Students will engage with specialist theory and final skills development to enhance their growth as an advanced clinician.	20 units

## NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAM EXTERNAL ADVISORY GROUP

This program has been developed in consultation with an advisory group comprising industry partners, academics, professional advisors, students, and Nurse Practitioners. The Master of Nurse Practitioner Program External Advisory Group meets on a bi-annual basis and communicates by email as necessary. The purpose of this Advisory Group is to evaluate and advise on the quality, structure and delivery of the program. Students are welcome to nominate themselves for this advisory group. Please forward enquiries to the Program Convenor.

# INTEGRATED PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE (IPP) AND CLINICAL SUPERVISION

## INTEGRATED PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE OVERVIEW

Integrated professional practice (IPP) provides a supported learning environment for the development of clinical skills and capability in episodes of care. The student requires a range of health care experiences that supports knowledge and skills development in patient centred care that is consistent with the principles of primary health care and complements the student's specialty skills and knowledge.

Throughout the program, students are required to gain 300 hours of supernumerary integrated professional practice which includes 20 hours of one-on-one reflective clinical supervision as a program requirement.

Under the ANMAC Nurse Practitioner Accreditation Standards (2015), students are required to undertake a minimum of 300 hours supernumerary integrated professional practice (IPP) as part of the program requirements, spread across the time of study. IPP can be undertaken during the program in 3 ways:

1. Undertaking scheduled and supervised integrated professional practice in the clinical setting where they are employed, but not rostered at that time. The service provided in the healthcare setting could continue to be delivered without the nurse practitioner student's presence.
2. Undertaking unscheduled, opportunistic, and supervised integrated professional practice in the clinical setting where they are employed and counted in the roster of the clinical setting. In this circumstance the normal provision of rostered duty care cannot be compromised.
3. Undertaking supervised practice in a clinical setting where they are not employed.

IPP cannot be completed at a site where a conflict of interest may be present, such as at a facility the student wholly or partially owns. Applicants are required to provide approval (i.e., complete [Organisation Offer of IPP form](#)) from their employer (and/or any external organisations offering IPP) to undertake IPP at that site. Please see Organisational Offer of IPP form for additional details on students' responsibilities concerning placement agreements and fees prior submitting your application.

IPP can only be undertaken in the student's chosen venues when a [IPP Site Suitability Checklist form](#) has been completed by the student. In addition, the site must be approved by The University of Newcastle and an agreement must be place which clearly outlines the responsibilities of the student, the University, and the organisation prior to engaging in IPP within any facility (including the management of indemnity and insurance).

Students are advised to contact their Course Coordinator or Program Convenor for any questions about sites for IPP, site suitability and agreements.

At the commencement of the program, students are advised of their responsibilities in meeting IPP and supervision requirements. The course outline clearly articulates what is required of the student in the coming trimester. In each trimester, the first lecture in each course covers course assessments including Integrated Professional Practice and supervision requirements to successfully complete the course.

## RURAL AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER IPP EXPERIENCES

Our program has contacts for sites that students can approach for IPP and Nurse Practitioners and Medical Practitioners who may be approached to be supervisors. [The University of Newcastle Department of Rural Health](#) provides student orientation, cultural awareness training and other supports, including linking students to suitable accommodation. We have facilities located in NSW at Tamworth, Taree, Armidale, Moree, Port Macquarie and Coffs Harbour. These areas can provide a range of suitable IPP experiences e.g., Aboriginal Medical Services, primary care, and mental health services - giving students the opportunity to enjoy a unique lifestyle while completing IPP in minimum blocks of 2 weeks. The University of Newcastle Department of Rural Health can provide information on the support they offer to enrolled students to gain a range of IPP.

## INTER-PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT NETWORK

The Inter-professional support network is a multi-disciplinary group nominated by the student in consultation with their supervisors and the Program Convenor after enrolment in the program to support the student's learning and development in an advanced nursing practice role. The group should be formed by the student.

The composition of the Inter-professional support network is to be determined in the context of the student's practice setting and will include the student, the supervisors, a pharmacist (or pharmacologist) and other members as required (for example a clinical psychologist, a psychiatrist, an emergency physician, a consumer or carer consultant, and wherever possible a nurse practitioner).

The Inter-professional support network should arrange a meeting schedule, which can comprise formal and informal meetings of the whole group (where this is possible) and one-on-one meetings with the student when considered necessary. Meetings can be conducted via videoconference if required. Members of the Inter-professional support network will have ongoing access to the Course Coordinators and Program Convenor for the duration of the program.

## CLINICAL SUPERVISION OVERVIEW

Students require 20 hours of one-on-one reflective clinical supervision (as part of the 300 IPP hours) as a program requirement. Supervision can be face-to-face, by phone or via videoconference. Supervisors will also provide supervision and assess your clinical practice during Integrated Professional Practice experiences.

All applicants are required to have a minimum of two clinical supervisors for the duration of the program, however it is also recommended that you have a Pharmacist Supervisor to mentor you when enrolled in the two pharmacotherapeutics courses, [PHAR6701](#) and [PHAR6702](#).

The two mandatory Clinical Supervisors must be:

1. A primary clinical supervisor who is an endorsed nurse practitioner
2. A second clinical supervisor who is a medical practitioner in your specialty area of practice

Clinical supervisors must be approved by the [School of Nursing and Midwifery](#) and will receive support from the Program Convenor and Course Coordinators. If you are having trouble organising suitable supervisors, please [contact the Program Convenor for advice](#).

## SUPPORT AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CLINICAL SUPERVISORS

Clinical supervisors will be provided with a Supervisors Handbook detailing the IPP and clinical supervision requirements. Supervisors are encouraged to contact the Course Coordinator or Program Convenor (contact details will be available in the handbook provided) with questions or concerns regarding the clinical supervision process and requirements or further resources to support the role.

Supervisors are required to report unusual, illegal and/or unethical practice by the student disclosed during supervision. Avenues for reporting such practice will be discussed with the Program Convenor.

In accordance with the National Law (NSW), the University is required to notify AHPRA if the University reasonably believes that:

- A student enrolled in a program of study offered by the University has an impairment that, in the course of the student undertaking clinical training as part of the program of study, may place the public at substantial risk of harm; or
- A student for whom the University has arranged clinical training has an impairment that, in the course of the student undertaking the clinical training, may place the public at substantial risk of harm.

The AHPRA Mandatory Notification and Complaint Reporting Procedure outlines the procedure to be followed if a notification is required.

## DIRECT AND INDIRECT CLINICAL SUPERVISION MODEL FOR IPP

The direct and indirect clinical supervision model for the Master of Nurse Practitioner program is underpinned by an experiential learning framework. The aim of reflective practice is that the student will learn from these reflections and review their perspectives to act differently in the future. Supervision of the Nurse Practitioner student can be direct or indirect.

**At all times, the Master of Nurse Practitioner student remains accountable for their own actions and is responsible for all delegated functions.**

**Direct Supervision** is when the supervisor is present to observe, work with and direct the student being supervised.

**Indirect Supervision** is when the supervisor does not observe the student's activities. In these instances, the student is supervised by a senior clinician and the primary supervisor must be available for reasonable access. What is reasonable will depend on the context.

### Example 1.

The student may spend IPP time under direct supervision (supervisor present), in an acute admission center in the morning and then attends a group health promotion activity or home assessments with another staff member for the afternoon (e.g., an NP or medical officer).

Supervision has been delegated. The student is now under indirect supervision. Arrangements can be made as the primary supervisor to be reasonably available e.g., via phone, videoconference or at a 1:1 supervision session later.

### Example 2.

The student may be undertaking IPP for a week in a clinic setting. The supervisor is only working for a short session (half a day) in this setting. Arrangements can be made as the primary supervisor to be reasonably available e.g., via phone, videoconference or at a 1:1 supervision session later. In this case, arrangements are made so that a senior clinician (e.g., an NP or medical officer) in the workplace is accessible to the student for temporary oversight, when the primary supervisor is not present. This model is particularly applicable to student IPP, located in rural or remote settings, or where IPP is being undertaken across multiple sites or geographical distances. It is the responsibility of the student to alert the Program Convenor of the need to nominate an alternate supervisor(s) in periods of absence of the primary supervisor (e.g., supervisor on leave or IPP conducted in a different organisation).

To assist with the indirect and direct model of supervision students should select one or two cases under indirect IPP, to present at 1:1 supervision.

**SONIA** is the student placement management system. It is available as a web-based platform to students. Students complete electronic time sheets in SONIA to record their IPP supervised time, allowing the Course Coordinator and Program Convenor to check the hours completed.

More information on the model of supervision and IPP requirements will be provided in the MNP online learning platform.

## ASSESSMENT OF SATISFACTORY CLINICAL PRACTICE (ANSAT)

The ANSAT tool (adapted for NP practice) is completed by the clinical supervisor as a formative assessment of satisfactory practice, at intervals of completion throughout the program. The ANSAT tool demonstrates evidence of satisfactory practice and achievement against the NP Standards of Practice.

The completed ANSAT tools can be scanned into SONIA.

## UNSATISFACTORY CLINICAL PERFORMANCE

Where unsatisfactory clinical practice is identified on the ANSAT, the clinical supervisor will notify the student and the Course Coordinator and/or Program Convenor. The ANSAT tool will form the basis of the practice development plan that is developed by the clinical supervisor(s) in consultation with the student and the Course Coordinator, to address any unsatisfactory practice issues.

In consultation with the student and the Course Coordinator, the clinical supervisor should develop a practice development plan following the guidelines given below:

1. Detail the major area(s) of unsatisfactory clinical performance (identified in the ANSAT tool).
2. Specify the aims to demonstrate satisfactory performance in the area(s) identified.
3. Develop a range of methods/activities/resources which the student can use to achieve the aims.
4. If the student and/or clinical supervisor have reason to believe they cannot work together in the preparation and execution of the plan, the clinical supervisor or student will contact the Course Coordinator and/or Program Convenor to discuss alternative arrangements.
5. Review date(s) for the plan will be set and feedback on progress given to the student and Course Coordinator by the supervisor(s).
6. Where the student has not been able to meet the aims identified in the practice development plan, and clinical practice remains unsatisfactory, the clinical supervisor consults with the Course Coordinator before any unsatisfactory IPP assessment is determined.
7. University of Newcastle student support services will be offered to the student by the Course Coordinator.
8. Practice improvement plans will be incorporated into future IPP as required.

## STUDENT PORTFOLIO FOR IPP

At the end of each IPP session (day, hours, or minutes) the supervisor signs the time sheets in SONIA. At the end of each course, the supervisor(s) sign the outcomes of the student's learning plan and the supervision activities in the student's Portfolio.

It is the student's responsibility to submit their IPP evidence to SONIA. The student's grade for the course cannot be finalised until all IPP and related forms are signed by the supervisor.



# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## SCHOLARSHIPS

A range of scholarships are available to assist with the costs involved in postgraduate study.

For information about possible scholarships please check the [University of Newcastle Scholarships page](#), [External Scholarships page](#) and [NSW Health Nursing and Midwifery Scholarships](#) (or the government Health website in your state).

## CREDIT

Students who have received an offer to the Master of Nurse Practitioner program can apply for academic credit on the basis of relevant postgraduate studies completed within 5 years of admission to the program. Credit will not be granted on the basis of work experience.

To apply for credit, you must demonstrate that you have previously completed studies that are at least 80% equivalent to the Master of Nurse Practitioner course(s) you would like credit toward. When applying for credit, you will need to provide a colour or certified copy of your official academic transcript and course (subject) outlines.

Please visit the [Postgraduate Credit page](#) for more information.

## ONLINE STUDY

Courses in the Master of Nurse Practitioner program will be delivered online via the Master of Nurse Practitioner (MNP) online learning platform. Access to the learning platform will be available to students via the university's Learning Management System, [Canvas](#).

If you have not previously studied online, you can view the [online resources page](#) for more information.

Once you have enrolled in a course, you will need to purchase (or borrow from the library) any prescribed textbooks (identified within the course outlines). All other course materials will be available through the online learning platform. To avoid late identification of required texts, please ensure you complete your [enrolment](#) for each course as far in advance as possible.

Successful completion of an online [Academic Integrity Module \(AIM\)](#) is mandatory during your first course of study. The AIM covers methods of referencing and the University's policy on plagiarism.

## STUDENT SUPPORT

Students are informed of services available via the online learning platform and will be directed to the [student support webpage](#).

Students with a permanent or temporary disability or medical condition can access the [AccessAbility Service](#) for practical assistance and advice.

There is also support available for carers of someone with a disability or medical condition. Please see the [AccessAbility](#) page for more information.

Information regarding academic, IT support and more can be found [here](#).

## FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT NP IN AUSTRALIA

Further information about Nurse Practitioners in Australia can be accessed from AHPRA or NMBA: [Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia, Nurse Practitioner Standards for Practice](#).

## CONTACT FOR FUTURE STUDENTS

If you have any questions or require clarification of the requirements outlined in this document, please don't hesitate to contact:

[futurestudentssupport@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:futurestudentssupport@newcastle.edu.au)

Students in remote locations are advised to contact the Program Convenor prior to completing their application to discuss the completion of the IPP site suitability checklist, including access to supervision and suitable IPP experiences, and access to academics.

On successful enrolment to the program, please contact the Program Convenor via email to arrange a time to introduce yourself and to discuss your study, supervision and IPP plans.

**Learn more**  
**[newcastle.edu.au](https://newcastle.edu.au)**