

Master of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner)

Statement of Support

Erin Tanti – Course Coordinator. Contact details: e.tanti@federation.edu.au

Applicants Details	
Applicants Name:	
Applicants' area of clinical practice:	
Applicants preferred email:	

Please complete this form and upload it with your application documents.

A mandatory component of the Master of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner) Program is the professional practice experience. Clinical practice forms an essential element in preparing nurse practitioners to achieve the Nurse Practitioner Standards for Practice (NMBA 2021). It is important that students are provided with opportunities to practise in the required clinical contexts to develop advanced skill sets and to be exposed to a variety of experiences to develop capability.

It is therefore important that students are provided with organisational support to successfully complete all the professional experience requirements of the course both at the applicant's place of employment and at other agencies, if required. Whilst evidence of organisational support is required, employers are not obliged to create a Nurse Practitioner/Candidate position for the applicant, only asked to confirm support for the applicant to undertake the professional experience component of the course within their workplace. The support is required to enable the student to engage in clinical learning and practice at the level required to achieve the learning outcomes which align with the NP Standards for Practice (2021).

Applicants must be working in the meta speciality of practice in which they intend to work as a Nurse Practitioner and have a minimum of 2 years FTE as an RN in this area of practice **plus** 2 years FTE of 'advanced nursing practice'* in this same area of practice. In addition, they should already be recognised as an expert in their chosen area of practice. As a prerequisite to enter the course, the applicant must already have a Graduate Certificate (or equivalent) in meta specialty practice they intend to work as a Nurse Practitioner.

It is a requirement prior to enrolment, that this Statement of Support be completed by the applicant's Clinical Manager (i.e. Director of Nursing or equivalent). It is recommended that you read the Nurse Practitioner Standards for Practice (NMBA 2021) which can be accessed [here](#), prior to signing the agreement.

To enable the applicant to complete the professional experience requirements of the Master of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner) Program within the workplace, they will require the following support:

- Employment (approximately 3 days per week) in an appropriate environment to enable achievement of course objectives
- Access to a minimum of 300 hours of paid or unpaid Supernumerary Integrated Professional Practice (SIPP) a definition can be found [here](#)
- Assistance with choice of mentors in the clinical area
- A supportive roster, and study leave, if applicable
- Supervision of the acquisition of the necessary advanced clinical skills linked to the Nurse Practitioner standards for practice (NMBA 2021)
- Role development support as required

***Advanced practice** is where nurses incorporate professional leadership, education, research and support of systems into their practice. Their practice includes relevant expertise, critical thinking, complex decision-making, autonomous practice and is effective and safe. They work within a generalist or specialist context, and they are responsible and accountable in managing people who have complex healthcare requirements.

Advanced practice in nursing is demonstrated by a level of practice and not by a job title or level of remuneration.

Advanced practice for the purpose of the nurse practitioner endorsement requires 5,000 hours clinically based advanced practice in the past six years.

(NMBA: NP Standards for Practice 2021 <http://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/Codes-Guidelines-Statements/Professional-standards/nurse-practitioner-standards-of-practice.aspx>)

Applicants' manager to please complete the following:

I confirm that the applicant is recognised as having undertaken 2 years Full Time Equivalent (or 2000hrs) of 'advanced nursing practice' within their chosen specialty within the last 6 years, consistent with the NMBA definition of Advanced nursing practice which can be accessed [here](#).

YES NO

I confirm that the organisational support required for the applicant to complete all the clinical/professional experience requirements of the course will be provided, as detailed above.

YES NO

I confirm that the applicant has sufficient organisational Professional Indemnity Insurance when practicing in an extended scope of a nurse practitioner student in a supernumerary capacity.

YES NO

Mentors

Students are required to nominate at least one clinical mentor and one professional mentor to guide them during their course, (if the students have more than one clinical/professional mentor, they need to nominate a 'primary' mentor who will be accountable for feedback to the University regarding student progress)

The Clinical Mentor/s must be:

- An endorsed Nurse Practitioner working in the relevant area of practice with at least 3 years' experience.

OR

- An experienced medical practitioner in the relevant area of practice (examples include consultant, fellow, general practitioner, psychiatrist, physician, surgeon)

The Professional mentor/s must be:

- A nurse practitioner or senior nurse recognised as a leader within the workplace who has influence over organizational policy development. (In hospital settings, a professional mentor is often an executive or deputy director of nursing or director of clinical operations; we do not accept Nurse Unit Managers. In primary care or aged care settings, a professional mentor is a senior nurse involved in policy in head office)

Each mentor will receive a Mentor Handbook which outlines the requirements of mentorship.

Please Note: For those applicants who are working in an isolated, single or private practice environment, please contact the course coordinator as soon as possible so that mentor arrangements can be made which are best suited to the applicants learning needs and work environment. The Australian College of Nurse Practitioners also offer further information and support on finding a mentor [here](#).

Primary Clinical Mentor

Name of proposed clinical mentor:	
Designation/Title:	
Preferred email address for contact by the University:	

Primary Professional Mentor

Name of proposed professional mentor:	
Designation/Title:	
Preferred email address for contact by the University:	

By signing this form, the organisation agrees to:

1. provide the student with a **minimum** of 300 supernumerary hours (paid or unpaid) over the duration of their course to enable them to solely undertake clinical and professional experience as a Nurse Practitioner student
2. Allocate or assist with the choice of suitable clinical and professional mentors.
3. Provide a supportive roster and available study leave when required
4. Complete an Organisational Placement Agreement (this will be sent once the applicant is enrolled)

Organisational Support

Organisation name:	
Manager's name:	
Manager's designation: *Please ensure the correct person completes this form - usually requires sign-off by the Director/Chief Nurse of your organisation or whomever they delegate to	
Date:	
Manager's signature:	

Clinical Placement Agreement

If the prospective student is accepted into the course, they will require an organisational placement agreement for any SIPP (supernumerary interprofessional practice). This agreement occurs between Federation University and the organisation where the student will be undertaking SIPP hours during the course. Please confirm whether:

- The student will have all their 300 hours SIPP at the primary organisation OR
- The student will split their 300 hours SIPP at a primary and secondary organisations.

Please state below who is the best contact person within those workplaces to approve organisational placement agreements.

* Prospective students should note that an organisational placement agreement requires student to provide additional documents required under the Department of Health standardised student induction protocol. Once enrolled, students will be contacted by the Clinical & Work Placement team to support uploading of the required documents.

Applicant's Details

Applicant's Name:	
Applicant's designation or current role:	
Date:	
Applicant's signature:	

Primary Clinical Placement Agreement contact

Name:	
Designation:	
Email:	
Phone:	

Secondary Clinical Placement Agreement contact (if required)

Name:	
Designation:	
Email:	
Phone:	