



Graduate Diploma of Health (Child and Family Health Nursing)

2025-2026 Frequently Asked Questions

The following document outlines some of the frequently asked questions that will help you commence your journey to becoming a Maternal and Child Health practitioner.

If you have any queries about the program, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Leola Moore-Coulson

Course Coordinator, Child and Family Health

Email: l.moorecoulson@federation.edu.au

+61 3 8768 5527

Pre-requisites

Students seeking admission to the Master/Graduate Diploma of Health (Child and Family Health Nursing) must hold a current registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) as **both** a Nurse and a Midwife with no conditions.

In addition, you have a minimum of 12 months full time experience in both Nursing and Midwifery, with recency of practice as per the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia.

Course Structure

The Graduate Diploma of Health (Child and Family Health Nursing) comprises 120 Credit Points made up of eight 15 Credit Point units. The structure of the full-time course is outlined in the table below.

SEMESTER 1			SEMESTER 2		
HEALM6301	Child & Family Health Assessment 1	15	HEALM6304	Child & Family Health Assessment 2	15
HEALM6302	Family & Community Studies	15	Elective	Choice of 3 units	15
HEALM6303	Working in Partnerships with Families	15	HEALM6306	Infant & Child Nutrition	15
HEALP6202	Perinatal & Infant Mental Health 2	15	HEALM6307	Applied research for child and family health	15
ELECTIVES					
BUHEA6903	Leadership in Health Services Management				15
HEALN6106	Advanced Human Lactation				15
HEALM6308	Working in collaboration with First Nations Peoples				15

Students can undertake the program part-time over 2 years or 18 months with credit or RPL for units.

Mid-year entry is available for part-time applicants who complete over 18 months or 2 years with initial non-clinical units within their first semester. Clinical placement is to be secured and commenced the following year.

Note: To have an individual discussion about the program pathway most suitable for you, please contact the Course Coordinator.

To proceed with the Master/Graduate Diploma of Health (Child and Family Health Nursing), you must first have a confirmed placement with a Victorian Council - Maternal and Child Health service. Please see below under Clinical Practicum.

Students undertaking the Master/Graduate Diploma of Health (Child and Family Health Nursing) at Federation University are eligible to receive a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP). For all information about CSP eligibility, please contact Federation University studentfees@federation.edu.au.

The course at Federation University offers students an avenue to pursue Master's level study following the successful completion of the Graduate Diploma of Health (Child and Family Health Nursing). This pathway provides a platform for developing advanced level skills in the application of evidence-based practice that will be used to inform practice and advance knowledge in the field of Maternal and Child Health.



SEMESTER 1			SEMESTER 2		
HEALT6001	Research Methods for Health	30	HEALT7002	Research Thesis A	30
HEALT6002	Inquiry and Analysis of Literature	30	HEALT7003	Research Thesis B	30

For a brief overview of each of the units, please follow the link below for Federation University 'Unit Finder' and search for Child and Family Health Nursing [click here](#) please.

Clinical Practicum

The Graduate Diploma of Health (Child and Family Health Nursing) course requires that students complete 300 hours of clinical experience.

Applicants can begin the admission process to Federation University whilst awaiting EOI outcome. Once placement is secured, a letter confirming placement is uploaded to Federation University Admissions which will progress your application to enrolment.

Confirmation of placement with an MCH service at a Local Council is a requirement for consideration for acceptance into the Graduate Diploma of Health (Child and Family Health) at Federation University.

Information about how to apply for a clinical place is made available from the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) website. We recommend you start submitting Expressions of Interest (EOI) to councils as early as February – March for the Mid-Year Intake and in July – August for the following year semester one intake. The Prospective MCH Applicant Information Pack and EOI have a list of Councils with their available places on the MAV website under ‘For Prospective Students.’ Please [click here](#).

Clinical experience will be undertaken in Local Council MCH services (240 hours) and specialty services closely associated with the role of the MCH Nurse (60 hours). The table below outlines the Courses within the program that have clinical practicum associated with them and the hours required.

SEMESTER 1			SEMESTER 2		
HEALM6301	Child & Family Health Assessment 1 (120 Hours)	15	HEALM6304	Child & Family Health Assessment 2 (120 hours)	15
60 Hours of Specialty Placement across both Semesters.					

Credit

Where a student can demonstrate that they have undertaken an equivalent course within the last 5 years at a post-graduate level, either at Federation University or another Higher Education provider, an application can be made for Credit.

Course Fee Structure

At Federation University, students are eligible to apply for a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) to undertake the Graduate Diploma of Health (Child and Family Health Nursing).

*For all information about CSP eligibility, please contact Federation University Student Fees via email studentfees@federation.edu.au or for more information about Commonwealth Assistance with fees, please [click here](#).

Course Delivery

Each of the units is offered in a ‘blended’ mode of delivery. This is where there is an online component as well some face-face interaction with academic staff and students during the periods of on-campus residential blocks of learning. Federation University has a long history of delivering successful online learning, using a range of strategies to engage and support learners with their journey. Using the flipped-classroom model of active learning, students engage in a series of academic set exercises and then attend the active learning sessions with their responses and questions to



engage in dialogue with their peers under the guidance of an academic expert. Case study-based learning also supports the immersion of students into the role of the MCH nurse and is a strong theme throughout the course.

Periods of residential block learning are conducted on campus, where students not only engage with their peers but also undertake clinical skill development.

Making an application

For information about enrolling in either the Diploma or Masters at Federation University, please click this link

<https://study.federation.edu.au/search/?term=child+and+family+health>

Additional Requirements

Students will not be permitted to undertake an MCH clinical experience without the completion of the mandatory documentation, including:

- Mandatory requirements for InPlace
- Certification of immunisation status
- A contemporary Working with Children Check
- A contemporary Police Check

NB: It is the responsibility of the student to arrange the necessary documentation. Any costs associated with these checks are the responsibility of the student.

