

2027 - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Graduate Diploma in Child, Family, and Community Nursing

Welcome

Here are some of the more frequently asked questions, including critical dates, to help you plan your studies. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.



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Applications

Course applications for 2027 are now open. This is the link for all applications: [Apply directly - Postgraduate, Study with us, La Trobe University.](#)

You must be a registered Nurse and Midwife and have at least one year of nursing and one year of midwifery experience (two full-time years). Applicants with at least 5 years of experience in either Nursing or Midwifery may also be admitted. You must also have a confirmed clinical place in a Maternal and Child Health service.

Information about how to apply for a clinical place is available from the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) website. Here is the link to the MAV website – [MCH Resources](#)

Most places at La Trobe are Commonwealth-supported places (CSP), with some domestic fee-paying places available.

Course structure

The Graduate Diploma in Child, Family, and Community Nursing comprises 120 credit points – 90 credit points of core subjects and 30 credit points of Advanced Standing based on cognate clinical experience.

Your subjects in semester 1 are:

- NSM4MCH – Maternal and Child Health
- NSM4CCH – Community Child Health

In semester 2, you will enrol in

- NSM5COM – Complex Care in Maternal and Child Health
- NSM5CAF – Nurturing Child and Family

Semester dates

Semester 1 – 01/03/2027 (Week 10) – 28/05/2027 (Week 22)
Semester 2 – 12/07/2027 (Week 29) – 8/10/2026 (Week 41)

Timetable

Online contact with your lecturers will occur through regular scheduled online “lectures” (via Zoom). Although these sessions are recorded, it is best to attend the live session.

Generally, they are held on Thursdays from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm or from 2:00 to 4:00 pm (not every week).

The three-day workshop in previous years will be replaced by three single days -

Thursday 4th March – 10.00-4.00 via ZOOM

Thursday 25th March – 10.00-4.00 Face to Face, city campus

Thursday 6th May – 10.00-4.00 via ZOOM

Clinical experience requirements

NSM4MCH (semester 1)	HOURS	
Maternal and Child Health Universal	116	May commence from 29/03/2027
Childcare	8	Self-sourced
Early intervention agency	8	Self-sourced
EPC Day stay/Parenting Support	8	Self-selected via InPlace, in an Early Parenting Centre (EPC)
Total	140	
NSM5CAF (semester 2)	HOURS	
MCH client follow-through	20	Self-sourced
Total	20	
NSM5COM (semester 2)	HOURS	
Maternal and Child Health Universal	116	
Early Parenting Support	24	Self-selected via InPlace, in an Early Parenting Centre.
Total	140	

Students should plan to spend 2-3 days per week on placement during the semester.

Placement can start after the first 4 weeks of theory classes - from the 29th of March

