

Frequently Asked Questions

Dear applicant,

The following pages outline some of the more frequently asked questions, including key dates, to help you plan for next year.

To proceed with the Graduate Diploma in Child, Family and Community (CFC) Nursing, you must have confirmation of a clinical place in a Maternal and Child Health Service for the duration of your course

The Graduate Diploma is a full-fee paying course at La Trobe University (approximately \$25,000). Fees can be deferred, taking out a FEE-HELP loan or you can pay 'up front'. The Department of Health and Human Services is planning to offer scholarships up to \$10,000 to assist with the cost of your education. These scholarships will be administered by the universities, as part of your course application.

If you have any queries about the course, the best way to contact me is via email. If your query relates to enrolment and administration, please contact ASK La Trobe via the LTU website <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/students/getting-started/new-students>. I recommend you explore this page and the library before commencing your studies to familiarise yourself with La Trobe University processes and the website.

Best wishes for the start of your Child, Family and Community Nursing studies.

Regards,

Catina Adams
Course Coordinator
Graduate Diploma in Child, Family & Community Nursing
T: +61 3 9479 5930
E: mch@latrobe.edu.au



July 2019

Enrolment

Part time

	Semester 1	Semester 2
Year 1	NSM4MCH (30 credit points)	Elective (15 credit points) * Elective (15 credit points) *
Year 2	NSM5CAF (15 credit points) NSM4CCH (15 credit points)	NSM5COM (30 credit points)

Full time

	Semester 1	Semester 2
Year 1	NSM4MCH (30 credit points) NSM4CCH (15 credit points) NSM5CAF (15 credit points)	NSM5COM (30 credit points) Elective (15 credit points) * Elective (15 credit points) *

* Elective options may include:

- NSM4IPH – Indigenous Perinatal Health subject (15 credit points);
- NSM4REM – Research and Evidence in Midwifery (15 credit points)
- NSM5RES – Research in Nursing & Midwifery subject (30 credit points)
- Nurse Immuniser Program – Short Course (Advanced Standing 15 credit points)

You can also apply for credit if you have completed any of the following within the last 7yrs:

- Infant Mental Health (15 credit points)
- IBCLC (15 credit points)
- Family Planning Part 1 & 2 (15 credit points)

Students with credit for previous studies – mid-year completion

If you are granted credit for electives already completed prior to entry to the course, you can complete the course in 18 months, with a mid-year graduation in the second year.

	Semester 1	Semester 2
Year 1	NSM4MCH (30 credit points)	NSM5COM (30 credit points)
Year 2	NSM5CAF (15 credit points) NSM4CCH (15 credit points)	

Subject information:

Study guides

You are required to attend the Bundoora campus for the **compulsory clinical workshop days on 3rd to 5th February 2020.**

The core subject – **NSM4MCH** – will be available online from 13th January 2020. From this date you are encouraged to become familiar with the Learning Management System (LMS) subject site, including the Subject Guide and view the ‘orientation’ video. An online welcome webinar (via Zoom) is scheduled on **Wednesday 22nd January, 11am – 12pm**. The webinar will be recorded, but you are encouraged to attend the live session if possible. Details about the course and subject will be provided in that session.

Subject resources are accessed via the LMS at <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/lms>. Broadband internet is required to enable optimal use of the teaching resources and course content. If you have not been granted access to your study materials for NSM4MCH by 13th January, please check your enrolment and, if you are correctly enrolled, email ASK La Trobe (ASKLatrobe@latrobe.edu.au) for help.

Resources

Most textbooks are available as electronic or hard copy. Textbooks are available through a range of suppliers and may be purchased from the bookshop on campus or online at <http://www.coop-bookshop.com.au/bookshop/home/homepage.html>. The library also holds copies of your textbooks on reserve. Your textbooks for the clinical subjects will be used throughout the entire course.

Prescribed Resources:

Textbook	<i>Pediatric Physical Examination (2nd or 3rd Ed)</i>	Duderstadt, K. G.	2014
Textbook	<i>From Birth to Five Years: Practical developmental assessment</i>	Sharma, A. & Cockerill, H. (*consider purchasing as a package with recommended text below by the same authors)	2014
Professional Standard	<i>Competency Standards for the Victorian Maternal and Child Health Nurse</i>	VAMCHN (ANMF) Order from http://www.vamchn.org.au/	2009 Included in student membership of \$15
Professional Standard	<i>Documentation Standards for Maternal and Child Health Nurses in Victoria</i>	VAMCHN (ANMF) & VMCHCG Order from http://www.vamchn.org.au/	2016
Online Resource	<i>PEDS eLearning Foundation (Course 1)</i>	CCCH Cost Approx. \$55 - enrol online at: https://www.rch.org.au/ccch/peds/Training_and_eLearning/	
Practice Guide	<i>PEDS Brief Administration and Scoring Guide</i>	Glascoe, F. P. & CCCH Available free from http://www.rch.org.au/ccch/peds/materials/	

Recommended Resources:

You aren't required to have these, but you may find them useful. Consider your own learning style and needs and see if they are available online/second-hand.

Textbook	<i>Mary Sheridan's From Birth to Five Years: Children's developmental progress (4th Ed)</i>	Sharma, A. & Cockerill, H. (*consider purchasing as a package with text above)	Routledge 2014
Textbook	<i>Promoting Health: The primary care approach (6th Ed)</i>	Talbot, L. & Verrinder, G.	Elsevier 2018
Textbook	<i>Motivational Interviewing: Helping people change (3rd Ed)</i>	Rollnick, S. & Miller, W. R.,	Guildford Press 2013
Textbook	<i>Communicating in the Health Sciences (2nd Ed)</i>	Higgs, J. Ajjawi, R. McAllister, L. Trede, F. & Loftus, S.	Oxford 2012
Textbook	<i>Paediatric Handbook (9th Ed)</i>	Thomson, K., Tey, D. & Marks, M.	RCH 2015 https://shop.rch.org.au/product/paediatric-handbook-2/

Academic study support

If you have not studied at University recently, I recommend you access the online support modules <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/students/getting-started/orientation/ready4uni>. Previous students have also found the recommended textbook 'Communicating in the Health Sciences' by Higgs, et al (2012) useful in supporting you in assignments and academic writing.

Other resources, written specifically for Maternal and Child Health students are available at <http://latrobe.libguides.com/maternalchildhealth> and <http://latrobe.libguides.com/MCHNacademicwriting>. I particularly encourage you to work through the reflective practice and critical appraisal modules under the Help link. You will be directed to these modules in the first weeks of semester and accessing them early can lighten your early workload.

The Academic Calendar is available from <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/calendar>.

Timetable

Compulsory workshops

In this course, there are a few compulsory workshops to be held at the Bundoora Campus.

These include:

NSM4MCH:	Monday 3rd February to Wednesday 5th February 2020	9am to 5pm
NSM5CAF:	TBC – October 2020	
NSM5COM:	Monday 20th July to Wednesday 23rd July 2020	9am to 5pm

Rooms to be confirmed – please see your timetable and LMS for details

Parking tip: Arrive early and grab a coffee!

There is a fee for parking at the University (unless otherwise indicated), which is paid electronically. Do not park in the coloured bays as you could receive a parking fine. Parking is at a premium in the first weeks of semester, so please use public transport where possible, or allow additional time to find a spot. Buses run regularly from Reservoir and Macleod train stations. See more information at <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/melbourne/location>.

Tutorials

Online and on campus

Online contact with your lecturers will occur through regular scheduled online 'webinars' (via Zoom) where we can talk in real time. The first Zoom session will be held on **Wednesday 22 January, 11am-12pm**. Subsequent dates to be confirmed (printed in the Subject Guide). These sessions will be recorded, however work best if students can attend the live session.

Two on-campus tutorials are scheduled for NSM4MCH and NSM5COM. You are encouraged, but not required to attend these. There is often a guest speaker at these sessions, as well as face to face contact with the subject coordinator. Dates will be printed in the Subject Guide.

You also have an opportunity to attend the free State-wide MCH conference (1st March and 1st November) as part of the course. This conference is held in Melbourne and is also broadcast to the regional centres. Information regarding these conferences will be posted on LMS.

You are advised to check the final timetable prior to the start of semester for any timetable changes and to confirm room bookings. Timetable information is available from: <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/timetable/>

Clinical placements

A total of **at least** 310 clinical hours for the course is required. Clinical placement requirements vary between the subjects. When arranging placements, please note the 'commence from' and 'complete by' dates for each subject (as outlined below). It is a requirement that you have completed **at least** the first three (3) modules of the subject prior to commencing placement.

NSM4MCH

Hours required: 130hrs placement
 Commence from: 30th March 2020
 Complete by: 22nd June 2020

NSM5CAF

Hours required: 30hrs placement
 Commence from: 30th March 2020
 Complete by: 22nd June 2020

NSM4CCH

Hours required: 10hrs placement
 Commence from: 30th March 2020
 Complete by: 22nd June 2020

NSM5COM

Hours required: 140hrs placement
 Commence from: 16th July 2020
 Complete by: 26th October 2020

You are responsible for securing and organising your placements. You should commence this process as soon as possible. **Failure to do so may lead to the offer of a provisional place being withdrawn.**

It is important to note availability for placement depends on the local council's capacity to accept students and you may need to travel outside your local community to meet the placement requirements. Interstate students are encouraged to undertake at least some practicum in Victoria. This will be negotiated individually.

Clinical practicum arrangements for non-MCH service placements will be discussed in more detail at the February 2020 workshop.

Additional requirements

All students are required to complete an immunisation status certification, Working with Children Check and Police Check prior to commencing placement. It is your responsibility to complete the necessary documentation prior to 28th January 2020. **Failure to do so may lead to the offer of a provisional place being withdrawn.**

Any costs associated with these checks are the responsibility of the student. Further information will be sent out from the placements team shortly.

Police checks will be arranged through 'Fit to work' by the University. You will receive more information about this from the placements team. You may need to apply for a second police check, depending on your placement timing.