

GRADUATE DIPLOMA OF MIDWIFERY 2020 (CLINICAL PLACEMENTS) FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



the women's
the royal women's hospital
victoria australia

How many clinical placements for the Graduate Diploma of Midwifery program will be available in 2019?

There will be approximately twelve (12) positions available in 2020. This number could change at any time. The placements will be available at The Royal Women's Hospital at Parkville. On a limited number of occasions students may be required to travel to the Women's at Sandringham to complete clinical placement or other learning requirements.

What are my options for midwifery graduate programs at the Women's if I decide to complete my Graduate Diploma of Midwifery clinical placements at the Women's?

Students are encouraged to consider all options for their graduate years in both metro and regional areas. Recruitment for the Women's graduate programs is independent of the clinical placement program and completing a clinical placement at the Women's does not influence the graduate recruitment process in any way. In your decisions about completing midwifery studies it is important to factor in a minimum of 12 months practice consolidation following registration as a midwife.

What are the advantages of a supernumerary (unpaid model)?

The supernumerary model is student-centred. When you are supernumerary (additional) to the workforce it gives us more opportunities to maximise your learning experiences.

How many days a week will I be on placement at the Women's?

Outside of your academic blocks you will be rostered on average three days a week on clinical placement in order to meet your clinical requirements. Your roster will contain a mix of AMs (Mornings) PMs (Afternoons) ND (Night Duty) and weekends.

Will I be able to choose my roster while on clinical placement?

Due to the high volume of midwifery student placements facilitated by the Women's each year from a variety of midwifery pathways e.g. Bachelor of Midwifery (BM), Bachelor of Midwifery/Bachelor of Nursing (BM/BN), you will have a very limited ability to choose your roster particularly when you are rotating into Birth Centre.

I've heard that I might need to be 'on call' for part of my placements. Is this true?

Yes. You may be on call as part of your continuity of care experience requirements. Your health and wellbeing is of paramount importance to us. Our Clinical Support Midwife team work with you to assist you to manage the hours you are on call and ensure you have the appropriate time off.

Can I participate in paid work while completing my Graduate Diploma of Midwifery?

Some of our Graduate Diploma of Midwifery students do continue to hold a casual or part time job during their Graduate Diploma of Midwifery. However, due to the demands of the program (continuity of care, the academic program and clinical placements) combining this with paid work can be challenging.



Why is there only one date for interviews for the program?

The Royal Women's Hospital conducts interactive interviews for all applicants who have been shortlisted for interviews together on the one day. Interviews are in person and are scheduled for Wednesday 3rd September 2019.

Do I have to wear a uniform while on clinical placement?

Yes. You will need to purchase a uniform from La Trobe University ready to wear on your first clinical placement day.

Can I enrol through another university and obtain clinical placements at The Royal Women's Hospital to complete my Graduate Diploma of Midwifery?

No. The Women's only partnership for the Graduate Diploma of Midwifery is with La Trobe University.

When can I submit my application for a clinical placement for 2020?

Applications for the 2020 program open on the 3rd of June 2019 and close on 19th August 2019. Applications can be made from the Women's career page.

What opportunities will I have to take leave during my program?

There are only limited options for short periods of leave available during your program. We cannot accommodate long periods of leave during the program so these should not be planned. Applicants should also be aware that placements may extend into January 2020 so that required hurdles for registration as a midwife (such as birth numbers) can be completed.