

Post Graduate Diploma of Midwifery 2019

Please note that the 2019 Program will now be an unpaid model at St Vincent's Private Hospital Fitzroy

Approximately 2,800 babies are born every year at St Vincent's Private Hospital. Located in Fitzroy, the maternity unit has 9 birth suites, 42 ante/postnatal beds, a Breastfeeding Support Clinic and a 12 cot Level 5 Special Care Nursery with high flow oxygen & CPAP.

Working in collaboration with Latrobe University (Melbourne) and Federation University (Gippsland & Ballarat), St Vincent's Private Hospital Melbourne provides you with the clinical experience required by AHPRA in order to become a Registered Midwife.

Who is eligible?

The Post Graduate Diploma of Midwifery is offered to Registered Nurses who

- Have had at least 12 months working experience as a Registered Nurse prior to the commencement of the program (experience needs to be at least 2-3 shifts per week in a medical/surgical unit or equivalent over the previous 6 months)
- Have successfully enrolled in a 12 month, full time, Post Graduate Diploma of Midwifery course at Federation University or Latrobe University in time for commencement of the program
- Must be available to commence the program in February, 2019.

Aims of the Program

The overall aim of the program is for you to achieve your clinical requirements by AHPRA to become a Registered Midwife. We are completely committed to developing your career and ensuring that your clinical experience will be exciting and rewarding.

Our Program has been designed to:

- Provide rotations in all midwifery areas to ensure you meet the requirements by AHPRA
- Enable you to use your knowledge to achieve quality patient outcomes
- Increase your confidence and strengthen your skills base
- Develop your ability to work independently and as a team member
- Enhance your decision making and critical thinking skills
- Foster the beginnings of your midwifery career

Clinical Experience

In order to achieve the clinical component of your post graduate diploma, students rotate through Birth Suite, Ante/Postnatal ward and Special Care Nursery. To gain your antenatal and community experience, students are allocated days to work with our Obstetricians in their rooms as well as days in the breastfeeding clinic, pre admission clinic and with maternal child health nurses.

All of your rotations will allow you to enhance decision making skills and critical thinking skills across a broad clinical mix.

Post graduate midwifery students are rostered 6 unpaid shifts a fortnight to ensure you obtain your antenatal, birth suite and community requirements.

For example:

- Obstetricians rooms
- Pre admission clinic
- Breastfeeding Support Clinic
- Maternal & Child Health Clinic including enhanced community services
- Childbirth Education
- Birth Suite

Clinical Support

Our students receive **extensive** clinical support on each rotation. **All** of our clinical coaches are willing to assist you and provide hands-on bedside clinical support and education in a friendly and supportive manner. You will be allocated two mentors from the education team who will be there for additional support and guidance as well as provide ongoing feedback over the course of your program.

We understand that commencing a graduate diploma program has the added pressure of orientating to a new unit, consolidating skills and improving ones proficiency of time management. We are acutely aware that each individual will progress at a different pace and accommodate the work load according to level of need.

We offer extensive education programs and we encourage our students to attend our regular in services and twilight seminars, all free of charge.

Application Details

Applications for the 2019 program open on **Monday, August 20th 2018** and close on **Monday, August 27th 2018 at 4pm.**

Applications are to be sent via the post or hand delivered and need to include the following:

- A covering letter
- Succinct Curriculum Vitae, no more than three pages
- Passport sized photo
- Two professional nursing referees
- **Certified** copy of your AHPRA nursing registration
- **Certified** copy of your working with Children's Check
- Proof of identity
- **Certified copy** of your passport

OR

- **Certified** copy of your Australian birth certificate **and** Driver's licence
An email address

Certification of documents

Certification of documents, such as your proof of identity must follow the AHPRA guidelines which can be found on the website below:

<http://www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Registration-Process/Certifying-Documents.aspx>

PLEASE DO NOT SEND PHOTOCOPIED OR SCANNED COPIES OF CERTIFIED DOCUMENTS. EACH INDIVIDUAL DOCUMENT MUST SHOW THE ORIGINAL STAMP/SIGNATURE OF CERTIFICATION.

Please send your application **via the post or hand deliver** to reception at St Vincent's Private Hospital, Fitzroy Campus (59-61 Victoria Pde, Fitzroy, 3065). We do not have an on line application process and there are no application forms to complete. Applications received via email will not be accepted.

Applications close at 4pm on Monday, August 27th 2018.

We do not require you to assemble your application in a particular order and if you wish you can staple or bind your application.

Interview Process

We endeavour to respond to your application within in 48hrs of receiving it. **All** applications will be opened and reviewed by the Midwifery Education Consultant. If you have been selected for an interview you will be contacted via phone. If you have not been selected for an interview you will receive a letter via email. You will have some choice and flexibility when selecting an interview time, **the earlier your application is received the more flexibility you will have in selecting a suitable interview time.**

Interviews consist of a small group interview and an individual interview. We don't ask in depth clinical scenario questions and there are no drug calculation tests or essays. Our individual interviews are conducted in a quiet private room. We know that you will be nervous so we aim to make your interview experience fun, interactive and enjoyable.

Interviews will be conducted the week commencing Monday, September 3rd , 2018.

Frequently asked questions

How do I improve my chances of being selected for an interview?

We know that you have put a lot of time and effort into preparing your application and we will open and review **all** applications. Please pay particular attention to your spelling and grammar. It is a good idea to get someone to check your application. Make sure you send in all of the required information.

Unsuccessful applicants have often sent in incomplete applications, have made a number of spelling and grammar errors or have sent in an application intended for another hospital. Unfortunately, we will not be able to offer unsuccessful applicants the opportunity to resubmit part or all of their application. We are happy to answer any questions you have when preparing your application via phone or email.

Will I get extensive clinical experience as I have heard that opportunities are limited in a private hospital compared to a public hospital?

St Vincent's Private Hospital caters for both women who have low risk and high risk pregnancies. With an onsite adult Intensive Care Unit, our organisation has the facilities to care for women who have additional medical needs or complexities. Additionally, the vast experience of many of our Obstetricians, you will have the opportunity to care for women having vaginal breech births, twins and more complicated instrumental deliveries. The extended length of stay on the postnatal ward will consolidate

your knowledge of breastfeeding and enable you to feel more confident with breastfeeding challenges.
In 2013, high flow

oxygen therapy was introduced into our Special Care Nursery, and in 2014 CPAP was introduced allowing for babies who would have been transferred to a NICU to remain in our nursery.

What is the midwife patient ratio?

Our priority is to ensure that our women receive the highest standard of care and our midwife patient ratio is determined by the acuity and complexity of the care required. As a student midwife you will generally care for 3-5 patients under the supervision and guidance of a registered Midwife. (Please note birth suite ratio is 1:1)

What level of Medical support is available to assist me with caring for my patients?

Our Obstetricians & Pediatricians actively liaise with the midwives looking after their women and babies. For patients with co morbidities and complicated pregnancies, we also have the support of medical and surgical residents/registrars and after hours onsite HMO's. Our ICU, Cardiac and HDU units are available for patients who need extensive monitoring and support. You will always have access to the support you need to provide highly quality care for your patients.

What level of allied health support is available?

Our patients have access to full allied health support such as onsite physiotherapy, dieticians, lactation consultants, diabetes educator and social work. We also have onsite CTG monitoring, x-ray departments, ultrasound and pathology. These services also offer great support to midwifery and nursing staff and are always willing to answer any questions you have regarding their service and also patient care.

Will I have to do night duty?

In order to gain a varied experience, you *may* be allocated 2 weeks of night duty in birth suite during your 12 month program.

For further information:

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