



Australian National University - APAC Accreditation Assessment Summary Report

Higher education provider	Australian National University
Name of the Psychology AOU	Research School of Psychology
Standards version	Version 1.2, 1 January 2019
Purpose of assessment	Initial accreditation (out of cycle)
Programs and level of study assessed	Graduate Diploma of Professional Psychology (Level 2) <i>*exit degree only</i> Master of Professional Psychology (packaged Level 2 and Level 3)
Campus	Canberra
Date of assessment	July 2020
Date of APAC Board Determination	19 October 2020
Accreditation start date	1 June 2020
Accreditation end date	31 December 2022



Background and overview

This is an on-paper assessment for initial accreditation of a packaged Level 2 and 3 program, leading to a Master of Professional Psychology at the Australian National University (ANU). An exit degree at the end of Level 2 is provided in the form of a Graduate Diploma of Professional Psychology if required. Students are currently enrolled in the Level 2 program. Designed in part to avoid future workforce issues as the 4+2 program is retired, both components of the combined program have been designed to offer a solid foundation in the theory and practice of professional psychology, providing the opportunity in future to gain registration through the 5+1 pathway.

The proposed program is based on a face to face teaching format, at the Canberra Campus.



Key findings

The proposed program meets the majority of the criteria of the APAC Standards. As the program is still in the planning stages, some Standards and criteria will require further monitoring to ensure that the program continues to run in the way envisaged, and for a subset of these a site visit will be required.



APAC Board determination

That the Australian National University's **Graduate Diploma of Professional Psychology** (Level 2) (Campus: Canberra) program is accredited without conditions from **1 June 2020** until **31 December 2022**. **exit degree only*

That the Australian National University's **Master of Professional Psychology** (packaged Level 2 and 3) (Campus: Canberra) is accredited from **1 June 2020** until **31 December 2022** subject to the following conditions:

By **31 January 2021**:

1. To ensure Standard 1 Public safety, criterion 1.5 is met, the School is to submit evidence demonstrating that clients' informed consent is obtained prior to receiving services from a provisionally registered psychologist.
2. To ensure Standard 1 Public safety, criterion 1.6 is met, the School is to submit evidence demonstrating that the processes in place to ensure students have gained all relevant checks and registration requirements prior to beginning the Level 3 component of the program are appropriate.

By **30 June 2021**:

3. To ensure Standard 1 Public safety, criteria 1.9 and 1.10 and Standard 3 Program of study, criterion 3.7 are met, the School is to submit copies of completed student logbooks to show students achieve minimum number of placement hours, direct client hours, client related hours and supervision hours appropriately.
4. To ensure Standard 2 Academic governance and quality assurance, criteria 2.2, 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5 are met, the School is to submit evidence demonstrating that the relevant governance and quality assurance processes have been met.
5. To ensure Standard 5 Assessment, criterion 5.1 is met, the School is to submit evidence demonstrating that the application of the principles of inter-professional learning and practice (criterion 3.9) are being assessed within the program. In addition, examples of the Level 3 research capstone experience is required to ensure that *Professional Competency 3.17* is met.

As a monitoring requirement, a site visit is to be undertaken when the first cohort of students has completed at least six months of the Level 3 component of the program to ensure that the program is being implemented as intended and continues to meet the Accreditation Standards.



Table 1: Summary of findings regarding each criterion for each Standard

	Level 2	Packaged Level 2 and 3
Domain 1: Public safety	Standard Statement 1: Public safety is assured	
	Standard is met	Standard is substantially met
Domain 2: Academic governance and quality assurance	Standard Statement 2: Academic governance and quality assurance processes are effective	
	Standard is met	Standard is substantially met
Domain 3: Program of study	Standard Statement 3: Program of study, design, delivery and resourcing enable students to achieve the required graduate competencies	
	Standard is met	Standard is substantially met
Domain 4: The student experience	Standard Statement 4: Students are provided with equitable and timely access to information and support	
	Standard is met	Standard is met
Domain 5: Assessment	Standard Statement 5: Assessment is fair, reliable and valid	
	Standard is met	Standard is substantially met



Commendations

A commendation refers to a particularly significant achievement by the education provider with regard to the program.

The Assessment Team have made the subsequent commendations following the evaluation of the program.

The Research School of Psychology, College of Health and Medicine at the Australian National University is commended for their:

1. very high-quality application, which was succinct, comprehensive and easy to follow
2. innovative approach to tackling local workforce issues that are likely to be exacerbated by the forthcoming closure of the 4+2 program