



Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC)

Accreditation assessment summary report Deakin University

10 September 2024



Contents

Context	3
Assessment timeline	4
Findings	5
Accreditation status	5
Accredited	5
Summary of findings	6
Conditions.....	7
Monitoring.....	8
Commendations	9
Observations.....	9
Diversity and cultural responsiveness	9
Staffing	9



Deakin University – 2021 to 2025 Cycle

Context

Higher education provider	Deakin University
Academic organisational unit (AOU)	School of Psychology
Campus	Online
Assessment type	Out of cycle initial assessment
Accreditation period	1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025
Accreditation standard	Accreditation standards for psychology programs (effective 1 January 2019, version 1.2)



Assessment timeline

Dates	Assessment activities
21/12/2023	Provider submits accreditation submission to APAC
09/01/2024–01/03/2024	APAC conducts on-paper assessment
08/02/2024	Provider submits further information
06/05/2024	Accreditation Assessment Committee (AAC) endorses draft assessment report
03/06/2024	Provider receives draft assessment report
18/06/2024	Provider submits rejoinder to draft assessment report
29/07/2024	AAC determines assessment outcomes



Findings

APAC thanks Deakin University for their cooperation through the accreditation process.

Accreditation status

Accredited

The following programs are accredited from **1 January 2024** until **31 December 2025**:

Program title	Campus	Level	Sequence	Program status
Master of Clinical Psychology (Post-Registration)	Online	Level 4	6 th year	Accredited with conditions



Summary of findings

Standard 1: Public safety is assured

Level 4 Clinical

Substantially met

Standard 2: Academic governance and quality assurance processes are effective

Level 4 Clinical

Substantially met

Standard 3: Program of study, design, delivery and resourcing enable students to achieve the required graduate competencies

Level 4 Clinical

Substantially met

Standard 4: Students are provided with equitable and timely access to information and support

Level 4 Clinical

Met

Standard 5: Assessment is fair, reliable and valid

Level 4 Clinical

Substantially met



Conditions

Further evidence is required to demonstrate the Accreditation Standards are met.

Program levels	Criteria	Issues identified	Information required	Due dates
Level 4	1.6	Unclear if ethics education and training are provided prior to placement	Evidence demonstrating that ethics education and training are provided within the program prior to the first placement. Evidence may include: - revised curriculum, - de-identified samples of students' assessments and work.	31/12/2024
Level 4	1.7, 3.3, 3.4	Some staff still to be appointed	CVs of the placement coordinator and the other academic staff should be provided when they have started.	31/12/2024
Level 4	1.8	Appropriately qualified placement supervisors	A list of appointed placement supervisors and their qualifications.	31/12/2024
Level 4	1.8, 1.9, 1.10, 3.7	Logbooks not available yet, recognition of prior learning for placements guidelines not available yet	Logbooks should be provided to demonstrate students are receiving sufficient hours of supervision, and placements are sufficient in duration. Guidelines for recognition of prior learning in relation to placement should be provided.	31/12/2025



Program levels	Criteria	Issues identified	Information required	Due dates
Level 4	2.2	Outcome of benchmarking exercises	A report detailing the outcome of the benchmarking exercises.	31/12/2024
Level 4	5.1, 5.2 (related to 3.8)	Unclear how cultural responsiveness, including with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, is assessed	Evidence detailing assessment tasks and rubrics that demonstrate assessment of cultural responsiveness, including with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.	31/12/2024

Monitoring

Monitoring is required to ensure the Accreditation Standards continue to be met.

Program levels	Criteria	Issues identified	Information required	Due dates
Level 4	4.3	Information about the program is not yet on the website	When the website is live, evidence of the information provided about the APAC accreditation status of the program.	31/12/2024



Commendations

The assessment team commends Deakin University for offering electives focussed on the expected specific needs of experienced psychologists, returning to study to obtain Level 4 clinical psychology competencies.

Observations

This program has been designed for psychologists including those in rural Australia who are practicing and so is structured to be undertaken part time over two years, primarily online with on campus intensive teaching. The program comprises of four core units, two electives and two placements.

Diversity and cultural responsiveness

This has been an underlying principle as the program has been developed. However, additional evidence is required for how cultural responsiveness, including with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures will be assessed.

Staffing

The Director of Clinical Psychology post-graduate programs will have responsibility for the overall management of all Level 3-4 programs and this new Standalone Level 4 Clinical psychology program. Three new fractional appointments are planned, including a new placement coordinator role to add to existing clinical psychology academic staff, with a student cohort of up to 15 expected.