Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC)

Accreditation Assessment Summary Report Griffith University

Last updated: 22 October 2026

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Griffith University

Higher education provider	Griffith University (Griffith)
Academic organisational unit (AOU)	School of Applied Psychology (School)
Campus	Nathan
Assessment type	Monitoring Visit (out of cycle follow up)
Accreditation period	01 January 2025 to 31 December 2029
Accreditation Standards	Accreditation Standards for Psychology Programs (effective 1 December 2019)

Assessment timeline

Dates	Assessment activities
30/06/2025	Griffith submits material change notification form to advise change of campus from Mt Gravatt Campus to Nathan Campus for all programs
12/11/2025	Supporting evidence submitted to support material change notification forms, specifically for Level 3, Level 3-4 Clinical and Level 4 Clinical programs
13/11/2025	Griffith submits Change of campus notification forms for Level 3, Level 3-4 Clinical and Level 4 Clinical programs
13/11/2025	APAC conducts on paper assessment
01/12/2025	AAC determines assessment outcome
03/03/2026	Griffith submits progress report to address outstanding conditions
11/05/2026	APAC assessment team meeting 1 (align on-paper assessment)
05/06/2026	Griffith hosts site visit
10/08/2026	Accreditation Assessment Committee (AAC) reviews draft assessment report
24/08/2026	Griffith receives draft assessment report
11/09/2026	Griffith confirmed acceptance of the draft report and will not submit a rejoinder
12/10/2026	AAC determines assessment outcomes

Background and overview

In April 2024, the Griffith University (Griffith) School of Applied Psychology's (School) suite of psychology programs was assessed for the purpose of re-accreditation. The assessment included Level 1 undergraduate, Level 2 Honours, packaged Level 1-2, Level 3 Master of Professional Psychology (MPP), Level 3-4 Master of Clinical Psychology and Level 4 Master of Clinical Psychology Practice programs delivered at the Gold Coast and Mt Gravatt campuses. Following the assessment, the programs were re-accredited with conditions and monitoring requirements. Following the re-accreditation assessment, all reporting requirements were addressed and the programs were accredited without conditions.

In June 2025, Griffith submitted a material change notification to formally notify APAC the closure of its Mt Gravatt Campus and relocation of accredited programs to its Nathan Campus. This includes a refurbishment of existing buildings at the Nathan Campus to relocate the Psychology Clinic offering placement opportunities for students in the Level 3, Level 3-4 Clinical and Level 4 Clinical programs providing provisional psychological services. All facilities, staffing and processes for the Griffith University Psychology Clinic Nathan would remain consistent with those in place for Griffith University Psychology Clinic Mt Gravatt.

A staged rolled out approach would be undertaken to relocate the programs with Level 1, Level 1-2 and Level 2 programs commencing delivery at the Nathan Campus in Trimester 2, 2025, and the Level 3, Level 3-4 Clinical and Level 4 Clinical programs commencing delivery in Trimester 1, 2026. During this time, the Griffith University Psychology Clinic Mt Gravatt would continue operating until December 2025 when the new Griffith University Psychology Clinic Nathan Campus is operational in 2026.

The monitoring site visit focussed on the conditions of accreditation against criteria under Standard 1 Public safety and Standard 3 Program of study relevant to the relocation Level 3, Level 3-4 Clinical and Level 4 Clinical programs to the Nathan Campus, specifically the internal placement delivered at the refurbished Griffith University Psychology Clinic Nathan Campus.

Accreditation status

Accredited

The following programs remain accredited until **31 December 2029:**

Program title	Campus	Level	Sequence	Program status
Master of Professional Psychology	Nathan	Level 3	5th year	Accredited with conditions
Master of Clinical Psychology	Nathan	Level 3-4	5-6 years	Accredited with conditions
Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology	Nathan	Level 3-4	5-6 years	Accredited with conditions
Master of Clinical Psychology Practice	Nathan	Level 4	6th year	Accredited without conditions

Summary of findings

Standard 1: Public safety is assured		
Level 3	**Level 3-4 Clinical**	**Level 4 Clinical**
Standard is substantially met	Standard is substantially met	✓
Standard 2: Academic governance and quality assurance processes are effective		
Level 3	**Level 3-4 Clinical**	**Level 4 Clinical**
✓	✓	✓
Standard 3: Program of study, design, delivery and resourcing enable students to achieve the required graduate competencies		
Level 3	**Level 3-4 Clinical**	**Level 4 Clinical**
Standard is substantially met	✓	✓
Standard 4: Students are provided with equitable and timely access to information and support		
Level 3	**Level 3-4 Clinical**	**Level 4 Clinical**
✓	✓	✓
Standard 5: Assessment is fair, reliable and valid		
Level 3	**Level 3-4 Clinical**	**Level 4 Clinical**
✓	✓	✓
Standard 6: Cultural Safety		
Level 3	**Level 3-4 Clinical**	**Level 4 Clinical**
✓	✓	✓

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Conditions

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

Program levels	Criteria	Condition	Rationale	Due dates
Level 3 Level 3-4 Clinical *Nathan Campus only*	1.8	Griffith University must provide evidence demonstrating that supervision arrangements provide adequate access to suitably qualified psychologists to ensure timely support, oversight and intervention during placements.	Evidence raised concerns that staffing pressures and competing responsibilities are limiting the capacity of appropriately qualified staff to provide timely support and intervention in high risk situations involving clients or students.	30/10/2026
Level 3 Level 3-4 Clinical	1.10	Griffith University must provide evidence demonstrating that placement supervision arrangements provide appropriate oversight, support and feedback to enable students to develop safe and competent practice.	Evidence indicated that students initially participate in paired supervision, with individual supervision introduced only later in placement. Evidence indicates that students do not receive sufficient individualised support and feedback in the early stages of first placements to enable the development of safe practice.	30/10/2026
Level 3 *Nathan Campus only*	3.5	Griffith University is to provide evidence demonstrating that there is learning and assessment resources available to sustain the quality and education required to ensure the achievement of the program learning outcomes.	A dedicated learning space is not available at the Nathan Campus for students in the Master of Professional Psychology program, limiting opportunities for collaborative learning and the secure use of confidential psychological test materials.	30/04/2027

Closed conditions

Evidence confirms that the following conditions have been met:

Program levels	Criteria	Issues identified	Information required	Outcome
Level 3 Level 3-4 Clinical Level 4 Clinical *Nathan campus only*	1.3, 3.5	Effective management processes & learning and assessment resources	A report and evidence demonstrating that the new Psychology Clinic facilities at the Nathan Campus are suitable and appropriate to support student achievement of the graduate competencies and ensure that students are able to practise competently and safely.	Met

Closed monitoring requirements

Evidence confirms that the following monitoring requirements have been met:

Program levels	Criteria	Issues identified	Information required	Outcome
Level 3 Level 3-4 Clinical Level 4 Clinical *Nathan campus only*	3.4	Sufficient staffing	An update on the staffing profile when the new Psychology Clinic at the Nathan Campus opens, including details of any increases to student intakes and information on any new planned appointments to ensure sufficient staffing.	Met
Level 3 Level 3-4 Clinical Level 4 Clinical *Nathan campus only*		Monitoring site visit	A monitoring site visit is undertaken by mid-2026 at the new Psychology Clinic at the Nathan campus to ensure that the programs continue to meet the Accreditation Standards.	Met

Key findings

The Assessment Team considered evidence against the 2019 APAC Accreditation Standards for Psychology Programs and the APAC Evidence Guide, including evidence relating to:

- clinic operations
- placement supervision
- placement governance
- updates to staff profile

The Assessment Team identified a number of strengths in the Griffith University Psychology Clinic Nathan Campus, including:

- the strong administrative support that enhances student learning and effective clinic operations.
- the modern, well-equipped Psychology Clinic with high-quality amenities that support student learning, professional practice and client care.
- the thoughtfully designed clinic environment that promotes a positive and inclusive experience through Indigenous-led designs creating a welcoming and culturally responsive space for students, staff and clients.

The Assessment Team also identified a small number of concerns requiring further action. Key concerns relate to:

- the lack of individual supervision in the early stages of students' first placements to enable the development of safe and competent practice.
- supervisor workload pressures that may impede timely and responsive support and intervention for high risk situations.
- insufficient learning space at the Nathan Campus for students in the Master of Professional Psychology program limiting opportunities for collaborative learning and the secure use of confidential psychological test materials.

The Assessment Team formed the view that while Griffith University demonstrates a strong commitment to meeting the Accreditation Standards and ongoing contemporary developments for quality improvements, further implementation work and additional evidence are required to meet criteria within Standard 1 Public safety and Standard 3 Program of study.

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Recommendations

The Assessment Team recommends that the School of Psychology (School) considers strategies to minimise the impact of external noise and activity on psychological service delivery and student learning experiences.

Additionally, the team recommends that the School considers ways to further embed digital competencies, including ethical use of artificial intelligence in the Clinic, and strengthening training opportunities for students to develop culturally safe practice.

Commendations

The School is commended for the development a well-equipped, purpose-built Psychology Clinic with high-quality amenities and effective administrative support that enhances the student learning experience and client care.

Further, the School's commitment to cultural safety is demonstrated through the thoughtful incorporation of Indigenous-led contributions in the interior design and waiting areas of the Clinic, creating a welcoming and culturally safe environment for clients, students and staff.

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