MASTER OF NURSING (GRADUATE ENTRY)

SYDNEY NURSING SCHOOL
ADMISSION GUIDE, 2017

CAMPERDOWN AND WESTMEAD CAMPUSES

DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS
INTRODUCTION
The Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry) at Sydney Nursing School is for students with a previous bachelor level qualification who want to become a registered nurse in Australia. The program is two years full-time or four years part-time. Places in this program are capped and the admission process is highly competitive.

Commencing in 2017, the Master of Nursing will be delivered in two distinct, comparable cohorts: one based at the University’s Mallet Street campus, Camperdown, and one based at the Westmead health precinct, Westmead. Students based at Westmead will attend the majority of their lectures within the Westmead precinct, which includes teaching hospitals and university facilities, and will undertake most clinical placements with partner institutions at Westmead or elsewhere in western Sydney. Students based at Camperdown will attend lectures at the Mallet Street campus and will have the opportunity to undertake clinical placements at many partner institutions, including those at Westmead.

NOTE: Applicants who are registered as a nurse with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia are not eligible to apply for this course.

Sydney Nursing School’s admission guide for entry into the Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry) program in 2017 has been developed to help you understand the admission process. We aim to answer some of the most commonly asked questions, explain the admission criteria, help you develop a strong application and prepare you for the selection process.

Before you proceed with your application, please check that you meet the admission requirements for the Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry) at Sydney Courses:

sydney.edu.au/courses/master-of-nursing

This admission guide is only applicable for entry into the Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry).

Applications for the combined degree/Master of Nursing programs are through the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC): uac.edu.au. International applicants completing an overseas secondary qualification may apply direct to the University.

As the Associate Dean (Education) at Sydney Nursing School, I am proud to be part of Australia’s most highly regarded nursing school¹ and am delighted that you have chosen to apply for entry.

Dr. Jacqueline Bloomfield
Associate Dean (Education)

¹ The University of Sydney has been ranked first in Australia and 13th in the world for nursing in the 2016 QS World University Rankings, reflecting our status as a leading nursing school.
HOW TO APPLY: DOMESTIC APPLICANTS

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

If you are an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident, a New Zealand citizen or a holder of a permanent humanitarian visa you are considered to be a domestic applicant. Admission will be at the discretion of the Dean. If you do not meet this criterion, you will need to undertake a tertiary unit of study prior to admission. It is recommended that applicants complete Human Health HEA110, an enabling tertiary unit of study from Open University. This subject has been approved by the Director of Pre-registration Nursing Programs. If you want to complete a different subject you must provide a detailed unit of study outline of the subject you wish to undertake. This MUST be approved first by the Director of Pre-registration Nursing Programs. Please contact the Faculty to discuss this further or email the Faculty at nursing.info@sydney.edu.au

Domestic applicants applying for admission to the Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry) must complete the following steps:

1. Submit an application to the University of Sydney using the online application portal. Go to sydney.edu.au/courses/master-of-nursing and click on the ‘apply now’ button.

Remember to upload all required documents with your application. When you have submitted your application, you will receive a confirmation email from the University.

2. Applicants who meet the admission criteria will receive a conditional offer and an invitation to attend a group interview and testing session at Sydney Nursing School. Testing will consist of two short tests in literacy and numeracy. You will be required to attend this session in-person at Sydney Nursing School, Mallett Street Campus on the date listed in the table below. For directions to the Mallett Street campus visit: sydney.edu.au/about/campuses/mallett_street

The interview and testing session is by invitation only.

3. The admission process for the Master of Nursing program is highly competitive. Applicants who successfully meet all admission criteria (including successful completion of the

Domestic applicants are required to submit a completed application as early as possible. This is due to the high level of competition for places in the program. You are encouraged to submit a completed application as early as possible. This is due to the high level of competition for places in the program. To be considered for numeracy and literacy testing and an interview, your application must be complete and include all the required documents. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

NOTE: Applicants invited to the interview and numeracy and literacy testing are required to complete the online registration page which provides applicants with a dropdown menu. Applicants are to select either the Westmead Health Precinct or Mallett Street (Camperdown) campus. Duplicate applications will not be accepted. The campus selected is a preference but not guaranteed. Students will be allocated to a campus after successfully passing the interview and numeracy and literacy testing process.

It is expected that applicants wear smart casual attire for the interview and numeracy and literacy testing process.

NOTE: Places are limited at both campuses. If your application is successful and Westmead is your first choice but oversubscribed, you will automatically be considered for admission into the Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry) at the Mallett Street campus.

Domestic applicant document checklist
(Certified copies not required)

- Bachelor Degree Testamur*
- Academic Transcripts
- Identification (passport, driver licence, birth certificate, etc)

* Qualifications older than 10 years will be considered subject to you providing further information substantiating appropriate further education and development. In these cases,
literacy and numeracy tests and interview) will be ranked and may be made a formal offer of a place in the program. Commonwealth supported places in this program are capped and if the cap is reached, applicants may be offered a full fee paying place instead.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application deadline</td>
<td>Thursday 20 October 2016, 5pm AEST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invitation for interviews and testing</td>
<td>Thursday 27 October 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>emailed to applicants</td>
<td>RSVP date: Tuesday 1 November 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interviews and Literacy and Numeracy</td>
<td>Tuesday 8 November 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tests</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notification of application outcome</td>
<td>Friday 18 November to Friday 25 November 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**HOW TO APPLY:**

**INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS**

**THE APPLICATION PROCESS**

If you are NOT an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident or New Zealand citizen or the holder of a permanent humanitarian visa you are considered to be an international applicant.

Dates for international applicants to submit an application for admission to the Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry) are listed below:

- Round 1 - Friday 27 May 2016
- Round 2 - Friday 19 August 2016
- Round 3 - Friday 7 October 2016
- Round 4 – January 2017

Applicants are encouraged to accept their offer as soon as possible. This is due to the high level of competition for places in the program.

We encourage you to apply well in advance of the closing date. Doing so ensures that you receive a timely response to your application which allows adequate time for you to organise the necessary visa and travel arrangements, and for you to arrive in time to commence your studies.

Incomplete applications will not be processed.

**NOTE:** Applicants invited to the interview and testing are required to complete the online registration page. This provides applicants with a dropdown menu for the interview and testing process. Applicants are to select either the Westmead Health Precinct or Mallett Street (Camperdown) campus. Duplicate applications will not be accepted. The campus selected is a preference but not guaranteed. Students will be allocated a campus after successfully passing the interview and testing process.

It is expected that applicants wear smart casual attire for the interview and testing process.

**NOTE:** Places are limited at both campuses. If your application is successful and Westmead is your first choice but oversubscribed, you will automatically be considered for admission into the Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry) at the Mallett Street (Camperdown) campus.

Offers will be made in three rounds as set out in the table on page 5 with a possible late round in January.

### International applicant document checklist

- Bachelor Degree Testamur*
- Academic Transcripts
- Explanation of Grading System
- Identification - current and valid passport, if you do not have a valid passport then a copy of your birth certificate is required
- Evidence of English Language Proficiency:
  - IELTS Academic test (score of 7 in each Band with an overall score of 7)
  - Meet the Faculty’s English language requirements as follows:

Evidence of English language proficiency may be provided through a record of satisfactory achievement in tertiary studies in which the language of the institution was English and the language of instruction, examination and assessment was English. Tertiary studies must have been undertaken no more than 5 years prior to the date of application for admission to the University of Sydney. The Faculty defines satisfactory achievement as:

- A 3-year degree completed no more than 5 years prior to commencement; or
- A degree of 2 or more years duration, completed no more than 3 years prior to commencement.

* Qualifications older than 10 years will be considered subject to the applicant providing further information substantiating appropriate further education and development. In these cases, admission will be at the discretion of the Dean. If you do not meet this criterion, you will need to undertake a tertiary unit of study prior to admission. It is recommended that you complete Human Health HEA110, an enabling tertiary unit of study from Open University. This subject has been approved by the Director of Pre-registration Nursing Programs. If you want to complete a different subject you must provide a detailed unit of study outline of the subject you wish to undertake. This MUST be approved first by the Director of Pre-registration Nursing Programs. Please contact the Faculty to discuss this further.
International applicants applying for admission to the Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry) must complete the following steps:

1. Submit an application to the University of Sydney through our online application portal or through an international representative. Go to sydney.edu.au/courses/master-of-nursing and click on the ‘apply now’ button.

   Remember to upload all required documents with your application.

   Documents submitted in a language other than English must be accompanied by a complete English translation. The University accepts translations to English made by an accredited translator with a government body, or the Registrar of the issuing institution. Applicants from the Peoples’ Republic of China may have their academic transcripts referred to the Ministry of Education’s China Academic Degrees and Graduate Education Development Centre (CDGDC) for authentication.

2. The University of Sydney charges an application processing fee (APF) for applications from international applicants. This fee is AUD$100 and is non-refundable. For further information on the APF visit sydney.edu.au/future-students/international/postgraduate/coursework/apply/application-processing-fee.shtml

3. When you have submitted your application, you will receive a confirmation email from the University.

4. Applicants who meet the admission criteria will receive a conditional offer and an invitation to undertake an online literacy and numeracy test. Applicants who successfully pass both the literacy and numeracy tests will be invited to attend an interview.

5. Interviews for international applicants will be held via Skype or face to face. Applicants residing in Sydney will be invited to Sydney Nursing School for a group interview scheduled for Tuesday 8 November at Mallett Street campus. Applicants residing overseas will be invited to attend a Skype interview. The dates for interviews are listed in the table on page 5 and are by invitation only.

6. The admission process for the Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry) is highly competitive. Applicants who successfully meet all admission criteria (including successful completion of the literacy and numeracy tests and interview) will be ranked and may be made a formal offer of a place in the program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Application deadlines</th>
<th>Online Numeracy and Literacy test dates</th>
<th>Skype interview’s</th>
<th>Offers made</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Friday 27 May 2016</td>
<td>22 June 2016 (site open for 24 hours only)</td>
<td>12 July 2016</td>
<td>15 – 18 July 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Friday 19 August 2016</td>
<td>13 September 2016 (site open for 24 hours only)</td>
<td>30 September 2016</td>
<td>10 – 12 October 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Friday 7 October 2016</td>
<td>27 October 2016 (site open for 24 hours only)</td>
<td>11 November 2016</td>
<td>25 – 28 November 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Possible round January 2017</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*NOTE:* Applicants residing in Sydney will be invited to the group interview and testing scheduled for Tuesday 8 November 2016. Applicants residing overseas will be invited to a Skype interview and the online testing as tabled above.

*Centre for English Teaching website sydney.edu.au/cet/
ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR
DOMESTIC & INTERNATIONAL
APPLICANTS

All applicants must be able to meet the following criteria in order to receive a firm offer of a place in the program.

NOTE: Applicants who are registered as a nurse with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia are not eligible to apply for this course.

Admission criteria

Have qualified for the award of a Bachelor's degree from the University of Sydney or equivalent prior to 1 January of the relevant academic year (2017).

OR

Have a Diploma of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health or equivalent and relevant work experience.

AND

Meet English language requirements.

AND

Achieve a score deemed satisfactory by Sydney Nursing School in the numeracy and literacy tests.

OR

Have an IELTS overall band score of 7.0 with a minimum of 7.0 in each band, or equivalent score in another recognised test.

AND

Perform to a level deemed satisfactory by Sydney Nursing School in an interview.

OR

Have satisfactory achievement in tertiary studies in which the language of the institution was English and the language of instruction, examination and assessment was English;

Satisfactory achievement is defined as: (i) a three year degree, completed no more than five years prior to commencement; or (ii) a degree of two or more years’ duration, completed no more than three years prior to commencement.

NOTE: Regarding registration for pre-registration nursing degrees, external bodies such as the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency may specify additional English language proficiency requirements for professional registration.
THE INTERVIEW & TESTING PROCESS

LITERACY AND NUMERACY TESTS
It is essential that Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry) students are able to demonstrate satisfactory numeracy and literacy skills. As part of the admission process, you will be asked to complete two short tests in literacy and numeracy. International applicants will be provided with instructions for completing the tests online.

The numeracy test will assess fundamental mathematical ability and will consist of 15 questions addressing addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, percentages and units of measurement. Calculators will be permitted and you may bring a calculator with you on the day. Applicants are given 15 minutes to complete the numeracy test.

The aim of the literacy test is to provide applicants with the opportunity to demonstrate their comprehension of written English, and writing skills including spelling, punctuation and grammar. Your ability to critically analyse and think independently will also be assessed. To facilitate this, you will be provided with a short reading and asked to write a brief critical appraisal. Applicants are given 20 minutes to complete the literacy test.

Taking into consideration all test elements, a global rating of “satisfactory” or “unsatisfactory” will be awarded. For consideration for entry into the program, applicants are required to achieve a “satisfactory” rating.

INTERVIEWS
Individual (Skype) or group interviews are used as a valuable assessment tool to enable Sydney Nursing School to offer places to applicants who not only present well on paper but who can also demonstrate they have the required communication skills, motivation, attitude and insight necessary to succeed in nursing.

The admission interview is designed to assess your suitability for the Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry) based on qualities and attributes important for success in nursing, including:

- interpersonal and communication skills
- intelligence and cognitive ability
- team work
- decision-making ability
- respect for diversity
- a sense of caring, empathy and sensitivity; and
- motivation and commitment within the context of nursing.

Your admission interview will be conducted individually or on a group basis with up to eight applicants, and will be facilitated by two academic staff members. It is envisaged that the interview process will take approximately 45 minutes. In individual interviews, you will be asked a series of questions.

In group interviews, the group will be set a task which you will work together to complete within a 30-minute timeframe. Examples of issues that the group may need to consider include allocation of roles, available talents or skills of individual group members that could be useful, and resource issues.

Clear written and verbal instructions will be provided and there will be an opportunity to ask questions before the task begins. At its completion, group members will be required to report back to the facilitators. This will be followed by a 15-minute group discussion, facilitated by the academic staff, in which applicants will have the opportunity to reflect on their experiences of the group task.

The way in which candidates present themselves will also be taken into consideration and it is expected that smart-casual attire is worn.

During the group task and reflection, facilitators will individually rate each applicant’s performance according to set criteria. Some applicants may also be invited to a brief one-on-one interview. Following this, facilitators will briefly confer to assess each individual’s performance in order to reach agreement on score and suitability for entry to the program.

Although the group interview and literacy and numeracy tests are expected to take less than two hours, the entire process including introductions, orientation and possible delays, may take up to 3 hours and it is recommended that you allocate this amount of time on the day.