

AQF LEVEL	AQF LEVEL 7 CRITERIA – BACHELOR DEGREE	PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES
PURPOSE	The Bachelor Degree qualifies individuals who apply a broad and coherent body of knowledge in a range of contexts to undertake professional work and as a pathway for further learning.	
KNOWLEDGE	Graduates of a Bachelor Degree will have a broad and coherent body of knowledge, with depth in the underlying principles and concepts in one or more disciplines as a basis for independent lifelong learning.	<p>Graduates of the Bachelor of Midwifery will be prepared for practice across the scope of the midwifery continuum. By the end of the program graduates must demonstrate that they meet all the competencies for entry onto the APHRA Register. The Bachelor of Midwifery has a strong focus on promoting women centred, holistic, continuity of midwifery care. By the end of this program graduates will have a broad and coherent body of midwifery knowledge, as a basis for independent lifelong learning and depth of understanding in the underlying principles and concepts of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • midwifery knowledge, skills and attitudes required to provide safe, effective, holistic woman centred midwifery care, including caring for the woman and/or baby with complex and/or urgent needs; • legal, ethical, social, cultural, political and professional context and influences on the role of the midwife, women’s experience of childbirth, and provision of maternity care within Australia and globally; • diverse ways of knowing and evidence to validate and improve midwifery practice, clinical decision-making and evidence-based midwifery care; • midwifery as a primary health strategy based on a social model of health that privileges continuity of care; • childbirth as a normal physiological and transformative experience for the woman, her family, local and global community; • culturally safe midwifery practice for all women, including the values and practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, families and communities; • social justice and the rights of the woman as primary decision maker; • critical reflexivity and critical thinking skills required to evaluate and identify areas for growth and development to foster self-reflexivity, self-determination and lifelong learning.

SKILLS

Graduates of a Bachelor Degree will have:

- cognitive skills to review critically, analyse, consolidate and synthesise knowledge
- cognitive and technical skills to demonstrate a broad understanding of knowledge with depth in some areas
- cognitive and creative skills to exercise critical thinking and judgement in identifying and solving problems with intellectual independence
- communication skills to present a clear, coherent and independent exposition of knowledge and ideas

Graduates of the Bachelor of Midwifery will have:

- cognitive skills to review critically, analyse, consolidate and synthesise comprehensive knowledge of physiological, psychological and pathological factors which influence the wellbeing of women, and to integrate this knowledge within midwifery practice. These skills are supported by critical reflection and thinking skills in inquiry, analysis, evaluation and synthesis of evidence to validate and improve midwifery practice, clinical decision-making and the provision of evidence-based care;
- cognitive and technical skills to demonstrate a broad understanding of midwifery knowledge across the full scope of midwifery practice in accordance with relevant legal parameters and professional standards including collaborative care, and to apply appropriate sources of evidence and information technology to inform midwifery practice;
- cognitive and creative skills to exercise inquiry-based analytical thinking and judgement to identify predict and solve problems with intellectual independence in relation to all aspects of midwifery care. This includes the digital, health and information literacy skills required for provision of safe and quality midwifery care for women, as well as self-determination, autonomy, and creative thinking to generate innovative ideas, develop solutions and exercise leadership skills required to transform provision of maternity services;
- communication skills to present a clear, coherent and independent exposition of midwifery knowledge and ideas, including advocating for the essential role of the midwife in leading and coordinating woman-centred care midwifery models of care in a range of maternity care settings; and to protect the rights of the woman as primary decision maker to be self-determining and autonomous.

**APPLICATION OF
KNOWLEDGE &
SKILLS**

Graduates of a Bachelor Degree will demonstrate the application of knowledge and skills:

- with initiative and judgement in planning, problem solving and decision making in professional practice and/or scholarship
- to adapt knowledge and skills in diverse contexts
- with responsibility and accountability for own learning and professional practice and in collaboration with others within broad parameters

Graduates of the Bachelor of Midwifery will demonstrate the application of knowledge and skills:

- with initiative and judgement in planning, problem solving and decision making to provide woman-centred care representative of a holistic approach across diverse maternity settings within primary and tertiary care;
- with the ability to critically reflect on, evaluate and identify areas for growth and development of self and others, and to foster self-reflexivity and lifelong learning;
- to be an autonomous, accountable, and capable midwife able to work to full scope of midwifery practice and in collaboration with other health professionals;
- to use appropriate reasoning within ethical, legal and resource frameworks to apply this with initiative and judgement to professional practice;
- to identify, respond appropriately, and work collaboratively to provide safe and effective care and referral for the woman and/or baby with complex and/or urgent needs;
- to exercise initiative and judgement in leading and coordinating woman-centred care midwifery models of care across a range of maternity care settings;
- to actively promote midwifery as a primary health strategy based on a social model of health that privileges continuity of care, and to engage with the midwifery profession through active involvement to strengthen the role of the midwife and advancement of the midwifery profession.