

AQF LEVEL	AQF LEVEL 8 CRITERIA – GRADUATE DIPLOMA		PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES
<b>PURPOSE</b>	The Graduate Diploma qualifies individuals who apply a body of knowledge in a range of contexts to undertake professional/highly skilled work and as a pathway for further learning.		
<b>KNOWLEDGE</b>	Graduates of a Graduate Diploma will have advanced knowledge within a systematic and coherent body of knowledge that may include the acquisition and application of knowledge and skills in a new or existing discipline or professional area	Graduates of the Diploma of Primary Maternity Care will have a coherent and systematic body of specialised theoretical and professional knowledge that underpins theory, practice and professionalism within the field of primary maternity care. Specifically, this includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• national and international developments in maternity care reform</li> <li>• educational theories and practices; principles of primary health care</li> <li>• the role of the health care professional in advanced practice within the midwifery reform agenda from a political and professional context</li> <li>• the development and management of different models of holistic care centred on the woman and her family</li> <li>• the multiple legal, social, ethical, organisational and scope of practice implications and considerations for effective and informed advanced midwifery practice and professional role development</li> <li>• contemporary concepts of leadership and management relevant to primary health services including professional standards, policies and legislation</li> <li>• research and evidence-base knowledge that informs quality and evidence based practice</li> <li>• cultural diversity and its impact on practice.</li> </ul>	
<b>SKILLS</b>	Graduates of a Graduate Diploma will have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cognitive skills to review, analyse, consolidate and synthesise knowledge and identify and provide solutions to complex problems</li> <li>• cognitive skills to think critically and to generate and evaluate complex ideas</li> <li>• specialised technical and creative</li> </ul>	In the context of primary maternity care, graduates of the Graduate Diploma in Primary Maternity Care will have advanced cognitive, technical and creative skills that demonstrate their ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• investigate, analyse and synthesise information, and concepts of interdisciplinary bodies of knowledge to inform practice</li> <li>• design, evaluate and implement, the use of techniques, materials, processes, and contemporary practices</li> <li>• evaluate the primary health approach to midwifery practice within an interdisciplinary environment when supporting families facing challenges</li> <li>• incorporate principles of primary health care into midwifery practice</li> <li>• promote synergy in practice to meet the current and future maternity strategy</li> </ul>	

**APPLICATION OF KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>skills in a field of highly skilled and/or professional practice</li> <li>communication skills to demonstrate an understanding of theoretical concepts</li> <li>communication skills to transfer complex knowledge and ideas to a variety of audiences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>incorporate organisational change based on transformational leadership, change models, organisational learning and personal learning</li> <li>foster collaboration, continuity of care and integrated services.</li> </ul> <p>Advanced communications skills to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>communicate complex content and theoretical knowledge and ideas, to women and their families, other healthcare professionals in a variety of primary care settings</li> <li>employ interpersonal and communications skills to meet the individual needs of the childbearing family through effective education and counseling</li> <li>written and oral communications skills to demonstrate the professional and ethical expectations and professional decisions to women, their families and other professionals.</li> </ul>
<p>Graduates of a Graduate Diploma will demonstrate the application of knowledge and skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to make high level, independent judgements in a range of technical or management functions in varied specialised contexts</li> <li>to initiate, plan, implement and evaluate broad functions within varied specialised technical and/or creative contexts</li> <li>with responsibility and accountability for personal outputs and all aspects of the work or function of others within broad parameters</li> </ul>	<p>In the context of primary maternity care, graduates of the Graduate Diploma in Primary Maternity Care will demonstrate the application of advanced knowledge and skills and capacity for high level, independent judgement to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>practice in a safe, collaborative and evidence-based manner within their scope of practice relevant to their own speciality focus in accordance with contemporary models of care and professional regulatory standards of practice</li> <li>assess the health status of individuals and/or populations and, where necessary, formulate, implement and monitor management plans in consultation with women , their families and the community</li> <li>critically evaluate and apply evidence in the care provided to women and their families</li> <li>critically reflect on, and promote the capacity of, maternity and health services to ensure access, equity for all women and families in a culturally and diverse society with a specific focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families</li> <li>analyse the impact of socio/cultural factors on health of individuals and communities thereby promoting and optimising the health and welfare of women and their families</li> <li>actively contribute to local and national midwifery and health policy, maternity reform agenda and services that enhance the health of women and their communities</li> <li>reflect on current skills, knowledge and attitudes, to plan and implement a personal and professional development plan.</li> </ul>