

Specific entry requirements for students applying for the Diploma of Nursing course

There are specific entry requirements to enrol into the Diploma of Nursing qualification.

HERC are required to gather evidence of the applicant's ability to demonstrate suitable levels of English proficiency. This is to satisfy the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) English language skills registration standard which is required for eligibility to commence in the program of study.

Further information on required evidence is found on the AHPRA website:

<https://www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Registration-Standards/English-languageskills.aspx> and NMBA website <https://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards/English-language-skills.aspx>

Why do I need to do this before I apply for entry into the Diploma of Nursing Course?

To commence in the Diploma of Nursing course, HERC must ensure the potential student will have the ability to meet the registration requirements when completed. This is in accordance with the accreditation requirements for nationally approved programs of study.

In order to be eligible to be registered as a health practitioner in Australia, Enrolled Nurses must be able to demonstrate that their English language skills are at a level that enables safe practice in the profession. The English language skills registration standard is one of the five core standards required under the National Law.

These include:

1. Criminal history registration standard
2. English language skills registration standard
3. Registration standard: Continuing professional development
4. Registration standard: Recency of practice
5. Registration standard: Professional indemnity insurance arrangements

There are three specific entry pathways for applicants to demonstrate the required language skills and be eligible to enrol.

The three pathways are:

- Primary language pathway

- Extended education pathway
- English language test pathway

Applicants wishing to enrol at HERC to undertake the Diploma program will be required to demonstrate they meet one of the pathways (as suits their own situation) and provide evidence at enrolment.

1. Primary language pathway

English is your primary language and you have undertaken and satisfactorily completed, at least six years of primary and secondary education taught and assessed solely in English, (see list of recognised countries below) including at least two years between years 7 and 12.

Australia	New Zealand
United Kingdom	Republic of Ireland
Canada	South Africa
United States of America	

2. Extended education pathway for students wishing to become an Enrolled nurse

You have undertaken and satisfactorily completed five years (full-time equivalent) of education taught and assessed in English, in any of the recognised countries. The five years must include evidence of a minimum of one-year full-time equivalent study towards your vocational qualification (The Diploma of Nursing) which you are relying on to support your eligibility for registration under the National Law.

To be eligible to enrol in this course HERC will **only** accept evidence that you **have completed** five (5) years (full-time equivalent) of:

1. Tertiary and secondary education taught and assessed in English; **or**
2. tertiary and vocational education taught and assessed in English; **or**
3. combined tertiary, secondary and vocational education taught and assessed in English; **or**
4. tertiary education taught and assessed in English from one of more of the recognised countries listed above.

NOTE: The five (5) years referred to in the section above must include evidence of a minimum of one (1) year fulltime equivalent pre-registration program of study approved by the recognised nursing and/or midwifery regulatory body in any of the recognised countries.

This means you can use your 18-month program of study completed at HERC (Diploma of Nursing course) as evidence towards the total requirement of 5 years. For example, you may be only required to provide evidence for a previous achievement of 3 years and 6 months of full-time equivalent study to be eligible for enrolment.

3. English language test pathway

You have achieved the required minimum scores in one of the approved English language tests and meet the requirements for test results specified in the NMBA's English language skills registration standard.

Explanation of test options and requirements:

- IELTS
- OET
- TOEFL
- PTE academic

The **IELTS** (academic module) with a minimum overall **score of 7** and a minimum score of 7 in each of the four components (listening, reading, writing & speaking, and no score in any component of the test is below 6.5).

OET (Occupational English Test) with a minimum **score of B** in each of the four components (listening, reading, writing and speaking and no score in any component of the test is below C).

TOEFL iBT (Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet based test) with a minimum total **score of 94** in each section of the test. (24 for listening, 24 for reading, 27 for writing, and, 23 for speaking and no score in any of the sections is below: 20 for listening, 19 for reading, 24 for writing, and 20 for speaking).

PTE (Pearson Test of English) with a minimum overall **score of 65** in each of the four communicative skills (listening, reading, writing and speaking, and no score in any of the communicative skills is below 58)

To be eligible for enrolment into the Diploma of Nursing program, the evidence provided must be achieved in 1 sitting, **or** a maximum of 2 test sittings in a six-month period, achieving the minimum scores as named.

See the link below or type into a browser NMBA English Language Registration Standards, for more details.

<http://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards/English-languageskills.aspx>

What to provide to HERC for Enrolment?

On application you must view the information supplied on the HERC website and make the determination of which pathway is applicable to your situation. You can select which pathway suits your situation and supply the relevant documentation as evidence to support your application for entry into the course.

More information about the English language requirements for potential applicants into the Diploma of Nursing program can be found at the websites of:

- Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA),
- Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA),
- Australian Nursing Midwifery Accreditation Council (ANMAC),

<https://www.ahpra.gov.au/Education/Approved-Programs-of-Study/Programs-of-Study-Terms.aspx>

<https://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/Accreditation/Approved-programs-ofstudy.aspx>

<https://www.anmac.org.au/program-accreditation/overview>

Resources to assist applicants with gathering evidence

- For applicants who went to Public Schools in Tasmania see: TAS Department of Education, <https://www.education.tas.gov.au/students/>
- For applicants who went to Catholic Primary or Secondary Schools in Tasmania see: Catholic Education Tasmania <https://catholic.tas.edu.au/contact-us>
- For applicants who went to Independent Schools in Tasmania see: Independent Schools Tasmania, <https://www.independentschools.tas.edu.au/>
- For applicants who wish to gain a copy of a transcript of completed study in Vocational Education & Training, or if you no longer have transcripts, please contact the RTO you studied at first for a copy.

Alternatively you may contact Australian Skills Quality Authority here:

<https://www.asqa.gov.au/students/applying-copy-studentrecords> ; or

Unique Student Identifier Transcript Service here: <https://usi.gov.au/students/training-records-and-transcript>