



**OTAGO**  
POLYTECHNIC  
Te Kura Matatini ki Otago



> Health and Wellbeing Careers > Nursing Competency Assessment

# Competency Assessment Programme for New Zealand Registered Nurses.

This programme is offered to New Zealand registered nurses who require a Competence Assessment Programme to obtain a current annual practicing certificate. It aims to update nurses with the current skills and knowledge required to be part of a healthcare team in New Zealand. Successful completion of a Competence Assessment Programme, enables an individual nurse to demonstrate his or her ability to meet the Nursing Council of New Zealand competencies for his or her scope of practice.

This programme may also suit New Zealand registered nurses who are obliged to complete a Competency Assessment Programme, as a requirement of the Nursing Council of New Zealand.

## PROGRAMME DETAILS:

This programme includes ten days of theory and at least 80 hours in clinical practice. Nurses undertaking this programme will need to demonstrate the ability to meet competencies for the Registered Nurses (Nursing Council of New Zealand, 2007) at the completion of their programme.

## DURATION:

4 -14 weeks (this includes the minimum theory component to a maximum of 14 weeks in total, dependant upon a meeting the Clinical Course Component Requirements). 6-14 weeks (this includes the minimum theory component to a maximum of 14 weeks in total, dependant upon meeting the Clinical Course Component Requirements.)

## LEARNING OPTIONS:

Full-time.

## DOMESTIC STUDENT FEES\*:

\$1,400.00 (approximately, including GST).

## PROGRAMME BEGINS:

There are **four intakes** in 2009, with a programme starting on February 3, March 16, June 8 and September 14. There are a maximum number of students accepted, per intake. Once each intake has been filled, qualified applicants will be placed on a waitlist.

## APPLICATIONS PREFERRED:

Applications are accepted anytime, however if you wish to be accepted for a specific intake your preference must be noted on your application form. All necessary documentation must be received by Otago Polytechnic no later than two weeks before the course start date.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

All New Zealand registered nurses who meet the English Language entry requirements and the requirements of the Nursing Council of New Zealand will be accepted into this programme. However, acceptance is dependant on the availability of space in the requested intake.

## COURSES IN THE COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME:

### Theory: BN 309000 Special Topic: Professional Nursing Practice (5 Credits) (Level 7)

Aim: The aim of this course is for registered nurses (either international or New Zealand) to acquire knowledge of about the legal, ethical, cultural and professional aspects of nursing in New Zealand. In addition to gaining the necessary knowledge of how to meet some of the competencies for the Registered Nurse Scope of Practice. This course runs over four (4) days.

### Theory: BN 319000 Special Topic: Health Assessment (Adult) and Nursing Skills (10 Credits) (Level 7)

Aim: The aim of this course is to inform your health assessment and practical nursing skills, by utilising a holistic health assessment framework to plan client/patient care. This course runs over six (6) days.

### Clinical : BN 340001 Nursing Practice Elective (15 Credits) (Level 7)

Aim: The Clinical course commences upon the completion of the two theory courses. The aim and intent of the clinical course is to demonstrate your ability to meet the Nursing Council of New Zealand competencies for Registered Nurses. Hours: 80 to 150 hours in a Nursing Council of New Zealand approved clinical provider. Information on approved clinical providers is available from the Programme Coordinator for the Competency Assessment Programme.

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**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

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Nursing Council of New Zealand (Te Kaunihera Tapui o Aotearoa)  
Contact Details:

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PO Box 9644  
Wellington  
NEW ZEALAND

**Street Address:**

Level 12  
Mid City Tower  
139-143 Willis Street  
Wellington  
NEW ZEALAND

**Telephone:** +64 4 385 9589

**Fax:** +64 4 801 8502

**Email:** [oseas@nursingcouncil.org.nz](mailto:oseas@nursingcouncil.org.nz)  
(Overseas Registration Enquiries)

**Website:** [www.nursingcouncil.org.nz](http://www.nursingcouncil.org.nz)

Contact Otago Polytechnic for more information about this programme.  
We are willing to talk to you about your specific requirements or to  
clarify an enquiry.

Otago Polytechnic School of Nursing Contact Details:

**Freephone (in New Zealand):** 0800 762 786

**Telephone:** +64 3 477 3014

**Disclaimer:** While every effort is made to ensure that the information in this brochure is accurate, Otago Polytechnic reserves the right to amend, alter or withdraw any of this information. The fees shown in this document are 2008 indicative domestic fees and 2008 indicative international fees. Please note that additional fees may from time to time be required for external examination, NZQA fees, and/or additional material fees. Both domestic and international fees for 2008 are subject to change and are dependent on the development and implementation of new Government policies signalled for 2008.