

Structured Program of Research for International Students

The School of Nursing and Midwifery at the University of South Australia supports the efforts of developing countries to build capacity and capability in health professionals who aspire to be positive change agents and improve health service delivery in the communities they serve. We achieve this through postgraduate education and research training.

Under the University's transformed PhD program, the School of Nursing and Midwifery offers a structured program to small groups (2-5) international candidates who meet the University's entry criteria for PhD study. A supervisory panel comprising research active staff with expertise ranging across methodological, design, content and disciplinary fields will support students to undertake relevant research to produce new knowledge and provide solutions to health challenges within their communities.

It is envisaged that this program will provide the opportunity for a group of international students to study together while undertaking components (parts) of a larger project aimed at solving health and/or education challenges within their home country. Examples of disciplinary fields and projects would include:

- mental health professionals addressing challenges of mental distress and vulnerability
- midwives improving maternal health survival and reducing infant mortality
- nurses improving service delivery in aged care and/or with other vulnerable population
- health professionals improving the education and training of a health workforce in the higher education sector.

Principles underpinning the structured program for international PhD students.

International PhD students will:

- meet the University's entry criteria for a higher degree by research
- be supervised by a panel determined on the students' research project and disciplinary field
- undertake a component of a larger program of research as identified in consultation with the government, NGO, or sponsor from their home country and/or with an international agency (e.g World Health Organisation; World Bank; United Nations; aid agency)
- have an advisor on the panel where possible from their home country who is an end users of the research
- will undertake a structured program with identified milestones to achieve research outcomes in candidature.

The School of Nursing and Midwifery also welcomes high quality self-funded international students wishing to undertake an original research study rather than the structured program.