

Graduate Diploma of Public Health (GDPH21)

1. About the Graduate Diploma of Public Health

The Graduate Diploma of Public Health will equip health professionals from a broad range of backgrounds with the knowledge and skills to address public health challenges. Students gain understanding of current global and environmental health issues, health policy, systems and economics, along with social, behavioural and cultural determinants of health.

Students are trained in skills such as planning, implementation and evaluation of public health programs, health promotion and disease prevention strategies, advocacy, leadership and management, statistics and epidemiology and analytical and communication skills.

Key program learning outcomes

- Apply local and global public health awareness to public health challenges
- Analyse the financial, legal and economic aspects of health and health policy
- Assess, analyse and communicate population health information to diverse audiences
- Design and apply intervention strategies to detect, prevent and control diseases among human populations
- Build and lead teams and demonstrate negotiation and conflict management skills.
- Apply knowledge and skills of systematic research to public health practice.
- Identify and describe environmental risk factors that affect the health and safety of a given community or population
- Evaluate the effectiveness of innovative health policy and management to promote and optimise the health and welfare of various populations
- Use collaborative methods for achieving organisational and community goals
- Demonstrate a commitment to the ethical practice of public health, and the principles of access and equity

Graduate employment opportunities

Jobs might include: Health Policy Adviser, Health Promotion Officer, Project Officer/Manager, Community Development Worker, Research Officer, Health Service Administration.

- Policy, program & project jobs - Local, State and Federal Government
- Health promotion jobs - Government & non-government organisations (NGOs) (e.g. Cancer Council, Heart Foundation, ShineSA, Mental health and disability NGOs, primary health care organisations)
- Health service administration jobs - In Government, NGOs and private organisations e.g. health insurance organisations
- Development-focused jobs - For Government Agencies and NGOs working in the development field such as CareAustralia, Oxfam
- Disease surveillance and research jobs - Government: State and Federal

Course Overview

Course Title	Graduate Diploma of Public Health (GD_PUBH)		
Study Options – Domestic Australian students	Online delivery Full-time and part-time options available.	Study Options – International students	International students on a student visa must not enrol into any more than a third or 33% of online subjects over their course and must study at least one subject that is face to face in each trimester. International students on a student visa are required to study full time, i.e. the student must complete a minimum of 1.0 EFTSL of study per year.
Start Dates	February, June, September For specific dates visit the website .	Course Length	Full-time: 12 months Part-time: 6 months
Payment Options - Domestic Australian students	Upfront payment This means tuition fees will be invoiced each semester and payment is required on or before the due date. FEE-HELP FEE-HELP is Australian Government's loan scheme for higher education degree courses. It can assist you in paying for all, or part of, your course fees. Repayments commence via the tax system once your income rises above a minimum threshold. Just like with any other debt, a FEE-HELP debt is a real debt that impacts your credit rating.	Payment Options – International students	Upfront payment This means tuition fees will be invoiced each semester and payment is required on or before the due date.
Course study requirements	It is expected that each subject, whether studied online or on-campus, will involve a combined total of 120 hours of structured and self-directed learning, which equates to approximately 10 hours a week for subjects over 12-week trimesters	Assessment	Assessments vary and include: critical analysis and essay writing, literature reviews, needs assessment, project development and evaluation, in-class debates, participation in online discussion forums, short questions, and research projects.
Locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dynamic online delivery. • Flinders St campus, Melbourne • Surry Hills campus, Sydney • Wakefield St campus, Adelaide 	Delivered by	Torrens University Australia

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bowen St campus, Brisbane 		
Provider	Torrens University Australia Ltd is registered as a self-accrediting Australian university by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA).	CRICOS Course Code	097406J
Provider obligations	Torrens University is responsible for all aspects of the student experience, including the quality of course delivery, in compliance with the Higher Education Standards 2015	Accrediting body	Torrens University Australia Limited ABN 99 154 937 005, CRICOS Provider Code: 097406J. RTO No. 41343
Course Fees	For details, refer to the website .	Any other fees	For details, refer to the website .

2. Essential requirements for admission

The general admission criteria that apply to Torrens University Australia courses can be located by visiting the Torrens University Australia website - <https://www.torrens.edu.au/general-admission-information-for-torrens-university-australia-ltd>.

3. Admission Criteria

Title of course of study	Graduate Diploma of Public Health
Academic Entry Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A completed qualification at AQF level 7 (bachelor degree) or above from an Australian University or an equivalent overseas higher education qualification
Applicants with work and life experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants without formal qualifications at AQF7 or above may be considered for entry to the Graduate Diploma of Public Health on the basis of a combination of formal (below AQF7) or non-formal qualifications and seven years of relevant experience in a health professional role. Applications will be assessed on a case by case basis. Successful completion of the Graduate Diploma will allow automatic entry to the Master of Public Health with 100% credit.
English Language Proficiency (applicable to international students, and in addition to academic or special entry requirements noted above)	International Students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equivalent IELTS 6.5 (Academic) with no skills band less than 6.0

Other admission options

(For applicants who will be selected on a basis other than ATAR)

Special Entry	<p>Applicants in any category whose study, work or life experiences have been impacted by disability, illness or family disruption will be given special consideration for admission.</p> <p>Each application will be considered on its merit, based on the evidence supplied by the applicant attesting to the circumstances of the applicant.</p> <p>Applicants for special entry may need to complete written or numerical tasks to assist with assessing eligibility for admission.</p>
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4. How to apply

Via direct application to the institution

- <https://apply.torrens.edu.au/>

5. Advanced standing/academic credit/recognition of prior learning (RPL)

You may be entitled to credit for prior learning, whether formal or informal. Formal learning can include previous study in higher education, vocational education, or adult and community education. Informal learning can include on the job learning or various kinds of work and life experience. Credit can reduce the amount of study needed to complete a degree.

Applicants admitted based on prior higher education study may be eligible for Advanced Standing in the form of credit and/or recognition of prior learning (RPL) under the Torrens University Australia [Credit Policy - \(https://www.torrens.edu.au/policies-and-forms\)](https://www.torrens.edu.au/policies-and-forms).

- Students with completed subjects may be eligible for specified credit and/or elective exemptions
- Students who have completed a qualification at AQF level 5 (diploma) or above may be eligible for block credit (where a block credit agreement exists)
- Students with a mix of formal study and informal and/or non-formal learning may be eligible for recognition of prior learning in addition to any credit approved.

Credit will not be applied automatically. Applicants must apply for credit and/or RPL as early as possible prior to each study period, with applications not accepted after week 2.

For further information about credit and recognition of prior learning please see <http://www.torrens.edu.au/apply-online/course-credits>

6. Where to get further information

- Torrens University Australia (TUA) Website
 - <https://www.torrens.edu.au/>
- Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT) Website
 - <https://www.qilt.edu.au/>

7. Additional Information

Course Structure

To graduate with this qualification, a student must satisfactorily complete a total of 80 credit points. This will consist of 7 core subjects, each with a value of 10 credit points plus 1 elective subject of 10 credit points.

The course would normally be undertaken over 2 - 3 trimesters (12 months) for a full time study load.

The course structure can be viewed or downloaded at the Student Hub Courses webpage.

<https://studenthub.torrens.edu.au/Hub>

Course Rules

In order to graduate from this course, a student must satisfactorily complete 4 of the specified subjects totaling 40 credit points.

Subjects

Subject Descriptions
<p>PUBH6000 Social, Behavioural and Cultural Factors in Public Health - Core</p> <p>Students in this course explore the field and practice of public health. They learn to identify and analyse major social, behavioural, and cultural factors that affect population health outcomes, including social determinants of health (e.g. gender, socio-economic status and social capital), community capacity, resilience, age, race/ethnicity, the environment, and behavioural risks. Students consider medical, social and behavioural approaches to health promotion and public health interventions. Students also examine current and emerging theoretical and conceptual frameworks from the social behavioural and medical sciences. They apply these frameworks and other theories presented in the course to intervention strategies or program initiatives that address current public health priorities.</p>
<p>PUBH6002 Global and Environmental Health Issues - Core</p> <p>This course provides an overview of global health issues and of environmental factors that affect the health and safety of communities. It considers the ways in which globalisation has affected the social, economic and political determinants of health, including trends in communicable and non-communicable diseases at a global level, and the importance of risk communication for disease prevention and outbreak. The relationships between issues such as global health and foreign policy, trade, security and development are explored, along with global health governance and financing mechanisms. Students also examine causal links between chemical, physical, and biological hazards in the environment and their impact on health. They also explore the genetic, physiologic, and psychosocial factors that influence environmentally compromised health outcomes. This is applied to current solutions and considers new ways to address environmental threats, such as waste, water, air, vectors and global warming, as well as issues related to dealing with mass and social media during a public health crisis.</p>
<p>PUBH6003 Health Systems and Economics - Core</p> <p>This course explores the organisation of health systems, the financial and other resourcing requirements for planning and delivering effective public health programs, strategies and interventions, and the development and application of effective policies across a range of sectors that affect the health of populations. It</p>

introduces the discipline of economics as it applies to public health. Topics covered include health systems thinking and frameworks; the role of government in prevention and health promotion; models and debates regarding public health funding and investment; demand for public health programs; implications for equity, delivery, governance of public health programs and services; and economic analyses applied to public health systems and activities. Students consider current issues such as estimating expenditure on public health, “best buys” in public health, and the role of economic tools such as price subsidisation and commodity taxation in public health.

STAT6000 Statistics for Public Health - Core

Students in this course address the application and interpretation of biostatistics in public health research and practice, including descriptive methodologies, statistical inference and probability, analysis of variance, and simple linear regression. Students are introduced to a statistical computer package such as SPSS and apply the statistical capacity of Excel.

Prerequisites:

PUBH6000 Social, Behavioural and Cultural Factors in Public Health

PUBH6005 Epidemiology

PUBH6005 Epidemiology – Core

Epidemiology is the study of patterns of health, ill-health, and factors that affect health in populations. It focuses on the incidence, prevalence, distribution, impact, and determinants of disease, injury, and disability. Traditionally, epidemiology focused largely on infectious diseases, often using epidemiological methods to determine the causes and sources of outbreaks of diseases. However, it has increasingly broadened to include all health and disease states and both risk factors and protective factors. Epidemiological methods are also used to assess the health status and trends of populations, to determine priorities, and to implement and evaluate programs designed to improve health. Students in this course examine concepts including incidence, prevalence, and causation. They also learn about the role of epidemiology in prevention and screening, as well as its role in disease surveillance and response. Students identify key sources of data and learn how to use basic epidemiological measures and draw appropriate inferences. Through this course, students gain a deeper understanding of the strengths, limitations and appropriate uses of various research designs and methodologies in health research. They will learn to assess levels of evidence to make recommendations for evidence based policy. Students will develop an appreciation of the role and potential of epidemiology in public health research, policy and advocacy.

SPECIALISATION subjects –select 3x

PUBH6001 Health Policy and Advocacy - Core

Policy agenda setting, implementation and evaluation are crucial to the improvement of the health of populations. Policy making is not a straightforward process. Political ideologies and values, as well as power, coalition building, and the media play key roles in what becomes public policy. In this course, students will learn about policy agenda setting, development, implementation and evaluation, as well as critical perspectives of policy making. They will be introduced to theories of policy making and apply knowledge of the policy process to a public health problem. Students will analyse and critique issues in contemporary Australian health policy and the various stakeholders and partnerships formed in the policy process. They will examine the role of evidence and advocacy in policy agenda setting. Students will also learn about a range of advocacy strategies including media advocacy and community empowerment strategies for the development and implementation of policy.

PUBH6007 Program Design, Implementation, and Evaluation - Elective

This subject focuses on the competencies required of the public health professional in planning for the design, development, implementation, and evaluation of community health promotion and disease prevention initiatives. Attention is given to needs assessment, the role of program theory in the planning and implementation of programs and how to write a program and evaluation plan. Implementation of programs including stakeholder engagement and program management processes is also explored. Students learn about evaluation of programs, including process, impact and outcome evaluation, along with the principles and resources required to make evaluation successful.

DHI401 Digital Health and Informatics

Digital health (or e-health) competency is an essential part of employability in the health and well-being sector in the current world, and one that is mandatory for Australian health professionals. Develop your knowledge in this area by exploring the current and emerging information communication technologies (ICTs) in use within the Australian health sector, including national eHealth records, tele-health, tele-medicine, mHealth, mobile apps, wearable technologies, internet of things (IoT), AI and others. The strategic use of technologies and methods to protect the privacy and security of citizens (for example, permission blockchain), along with respective legal frameworks (policies and law), will also be examined.

Learn how to identify basic applications of “health informatics” in the public health context, focusing on health surveillance methods in prevalence (for example, disease surveillance, mapping, contact tracing). The relevance of specific data sets and how these are synthesised using ICT tools and techniques will also be considered. Current methods will be evaluated, with an applied focus on how social media and technology tools (for example, GIS) are being used in public health surveillance. Lastly, you will consider how digital technology applies to your chosen profession (doctor, nurse, paramedic, allied health). You will also reflect on how technology augments public and population health skills and how health care ethics need to be coordinated across different health care professions.

PUBH6206 Health Promotion and Community Health

Building upon your knowledge of public health principles, the next focus will be on health promotion principles and the theories and concepts of community health.

You will now learn how to apply health promotion principles, theoretical frameworks and strategies into health promotion intervention for diverse communities. A practical assessment of the health status of various communities will illustrate the value of health promotion interventions that integrates community capacity building and community empowerment. The concept of health emergency preparedness and response will also be explored in relation to health emergency planning in crisis situations. To conclude your journey into the public health industry, you will have opportunities to connect with the industry via workshops, case studies and detailed lectures.

Locations

- Dynamic online delivery.
- Flinders St campus, Melbourne
- Surry Hills campus, Sydney
- Wakefield St campus, Adelaide
- Bowen St campus, Brisbane

Torrens University Australia Ltd, ABN 99 154 937 005, RTO 41343, CRICOS 03389E.

Information provided in this document is current at the time of publishing (April 2022)

Campus Facilities and Services

All campuses are designed to provide students with professional spaces in which to learn and work. They have been planned with student study needs in mind with well-equipped accessible learning spaces as well as student breakout areas for group work and spending time with friends.

- ✓ The Customer Service Hub – our friendly and experienced staff can give help and advice about courses, your enrolment and campus life, including all services and activities on campus
- ✓ Counsellors are available for students to consult with on a range of personal issues
- ✓ Student wireless access throughout the Campus
- ✓ Student break-out and relaxed study spaces for group work
- ✓ Student lounge areas – most with microwaves, fridge and kitchenette facilities
- ✓ The Learning Hub, home to the Learning Support Team, encompasses Learning Skills Advisors, Learning Technology Advisors, and Library & Learning Skills Officers. It provides an integrated, holistic support program for students throughout the study lifecycle within a library/collaborative study environment.
- ✓ Support and workshops with highly qualified staff in the areas of Academic skills, Library skills, and technology skills, both on campus and online
- ✓ Physical and digital resources relevant to studies, such as books, journals, multimedia, databases
- ✓ Self-check kiosks for library loans and print and copy facilities

A positive student experience

Torrens University Australia values the importance of a positive student experience, and therefore has robust processes to resolve student complaints. The Student Complaints Policy, and associated procedures, can be accessed from the [website](https://www.torrens.edu.au/policies-and-forms) (<https://www.torrens.edu.au/policies-and-forms>).

Paying for your qualification

We offer two payment options for this course:

- **Upfront payment**

If you want to complete your qualification debt-free you can choose to pay as you go. This means tuition fees will be invoiced each semester and payment is required on or before the due date using EFTPOS, credit card or direct transfer.

- **FEE-HELP (Domestic students only)**

FEE-HELP is Australian Government's loan scheme for higher education degree courses. It can assist you in paying for all, or part of, your course fees. Repayments commence via the tax system once your income rises above a minimum threshold. Just like with any other debt, a FEE-HELP debt is a real debt that impacts your credit rating.

Further information about FEE-HELP, including eligibility, is available at:

- FEE-HELP website:

<https://www.studyassist.gov.au/help-loans/fee-help>

- FEE-HELP booklets:

<http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist/helpfulresources/pages/publications>

Austudy and Abstudy

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Students enrolled in this course may be eligible for government assistance, such as [Austudy](#) or [Abstudy](#).