



Graduate Certificate in Wound, Ostomy and Continence

The Curtin University Graduate Certificate in Wound, Ostomy and Continence Practice is endorsed by the Australian Association of Stomal Therapy Nurses and the World Council of Enterostomal Therapists. A bachelor's degree in nursing or equivalent is required for admission to the Graduate Certificate in Wound, Ostomy and Continence Practice. This course is delivered through blended learning, and you will complete three weeks of face-to-face learning per semester, which includes one week for Intensive Teaching Week and two weeks for Clinical Placements.

Course structure

This course consists of four units worth 25 credits each as follows:

Semester 1

- NURS5042 Foundations of Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing
- NURS5044 Specialty Clinical Practice 1

Semester 2

- NURS5043 Fundamentals of Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing
- NURS5045 Specialty Clinical Practice 2

Pathway to master's degree

On completion of the Graduate Certificate in Wound, Ostomy and Continence Practice, students with a 70% or above course weighted average can enrol in the Master of Advanced Practice (Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing Practice Specialisation). Credit for recognised learning will be automatically allocated for the Curtin Graduate Certificate against Year 1 in the Master of Advanced Practice, making this a one-year master's degree.

Course delivery

The course content is delivered online except for a one-week face-to-face Intensive Teaching Week in first semester for NURS5042 and second semester for NURS5043. Students must attend the Intensive Teaching Week at Curtin Singapore campus which includes lectures, workshops and tutorials.

Key dates for Semester 1, 2026 intake:

- The Intensive Teaching Week for the first semester is 23-27 March 2026
- The Intensive Teaching Week for the second semester is 11-15 August 2026

An orientation session will be conducted for all students prior to course commencement. More details of the orientation will be provided closer to the intake.

Dates are subject to change.

Clinical placement

NURS5044 and NURS5045 comprise two two-week block placements of 80 hours (160 hours total for both units). Students must undertake a clinical placement for first semester before the commencement of second semester on 20 July 2026. The second clinical placement should be completed by the end of November 2026. Students will complete a digital Clinical Placement Portfolio on PebblePad and a reflective clinical practice assessment during these placements, which will be submitted to the Clinical Placement Coordinator. On completion of each placement, a Certificate of Achievement will be awarded.

Placements coordinated by a Nurse Educator will commence approximately one week after the Intensive Teaching Week.

Vaccination and health requirements

All students are required to be vaccinated against the following diseases. You must provide documentary proof of the vaccinations or health evaluation:

- Varicella (Chickenpox): Varicella IgG positive (serology report) OR Completed TWO doses of Varicella vaccine.
- Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR): Measles IgG, Mumps IgG and Rubella IgG positive OR completed TWO doses of MMR vaccine.
- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Acellular Pertussis (Tdap): 1 dose of Boostrix/Tdap vaccine within 10 years.
- Hepatitis B: Evidence of negative Hepatitis B surface antigen and immunity to Hepatitis B OR completed THREE doses of Hepatitis B vaccine.
- Self-declaration of symptoms suggestive of active tuberculosis. The symptoms include prolonged cough, persistent unintentional loss of weight within past three months, and general unwellness (such as fever, chills, sweating at night, weakness of fatigue, loss of appetite) within past two weeks prior to entry to hospital premise. If any of these symptoms present, medical evaluation is advised and entry to clinical areas is not recommended.

Application process

