

## Graduate Certificate of Professional Studies (GCPS) - GradCertProfSt

	Distance education
<b>Semester intake:</b>	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July) Semester 3 (November)
<b>Fees:</b>	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place
<b>Standard duration:</b>	0.5 years full-time, 1.5 years part-time
<b>Program articulation:</b>	To: <a href="#">Master of Professional Studies</a> . Exit point for Master of Professional Studies

### Contact us

Future Australian and New Zealand students	Future International students	Current students
<a href="#">Ask a question</a> Freecall (within Australia): 1800 269 500 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 5315 Email: <a href="mailto:study@usq.edu.au">study@usq.edu.au</a>	<a href="#">Ask a question</a> Phone: +61 7 4631 5543 Email: <a href="mailto:international@usq.edu.au">international@usq.edu.au</a>	<a href="#">Ask a question</a> Freecall (within Australia): 1800 007 252 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 2285 Email <a href="mailto:usq.support@usq.edu.au">usq.support@usq.edu.au</a>

The Graduate Certificate in Professional Studies is a level 8 qualification and complies with the Australian Qualification Framework.

### Program objectives

Successful completion of the program will enable graduates to:

- demonstrate specialised understanding within a systemic and coherent body of knowledge including the acquisition and application of knowledge in a professional area of practice
- demonstrate analytical, critical and creative thinking in workplace applications
- postulate directions for investigation of unsolved problems in their workplace
- undertake and write reports on their project relating to their workplace in a professional manner
- demonstrate a high level of skill in identifying, choosing and implementing procedures appropriate for addressing hypotheses
- demonstrate an awareness of the limitations of their project and manage these limitations
- demonstrate a high level of skill in assessing and addressing ethical/confidential concerns in their study and related work activity
- report the results of their project concerning changes to their workplace in a manner appropriate to their audience
- develop a workplace-based learning plan that integrates theory and practice.

### Program aims

The aim of this program is to provide experienced professionals with Graduate Certificate level research opportunities (and some coursework as required) that will engage issues that are relevant and meaningful to

## Admission requirements

The Graduate Certificate in Professional Studies articulates with the [Master of Professional Studies](#). Students may elect to complete the Graduate Certificate in Professional Studies as a standalone AQF Level 8 qualification or to articulate into the [Master of Professional Studies](#). The Graduate Certificate in Professional Studies is also an exit qualification for [Master of Professional Studies](#) for students who meet the Graduate Certificate in Professional Studies completion requirements (completion of [WRP8000 Fundamentals of Professional Studies](#) and [WRP8010 Work-based Research Project A](#)).

Admission is by completed online application. To be considered for entry, an applicant must normally possess a bachelor degree from an Australian university or equivalent, and have the equivalent of at least three years' experience in their field of professional practice. Anyone wishing to gain entry to the program on the basis of equivalent qualifications and/or experience should contact the University for consideration for admission on this basis. Credit awarded within the [Master of Professional Studies](#) are not carried across to the Graduate Certificate in Professional Studies.

Domestic and International Applicants from a non-English speaking background are required to satisfy [English language requirements](#).

If you do not meet the English language requirements you may apply to study a University-approved [English language program](#). On successful completion of the English language program, Applicants may be admitted to an Award Program.

## Program fees

### Domestic full fee paying place

Domestic full fee paying places are funded entirely through the full fees paid by the student. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken. You are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

Domestic full fee paying students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [FEE-HELP](#) provided they meet the residency and citizenship requirements.

Australian citizens, Permanent Humanitarian Visa holders, Permanent Resident visa holders and New Zealand citizens who will be resident outside Australia for the duration of their program pay full tuition fees and are not eligible for [FEE-Help](#).

### International full fee paying place

International students pay full fees. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken and whether they are studied on-campus, via distance education/online. You are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

## Program structure

The Graduate Certificate in Professional Studies is a four unit program consisting of:

- Completion of the course [WRP8000 Fundamentals of Professional Studies](#) (2 units)
- Completion of the course [WRP8010 Work-based Research Project A](#) (2 units). As part of the work based research project, a student will prepare a plan that includes information on the specific learning outcomes that are to be achieved through the research project.

## Program completion requirements

To graduate from the Graduate Certificate in Professional Studies a candidate must complete four course units at USQ as stipulated in the Recommended Enrolment Pattern below.

## Required time limits

Students have a maximum of 2 years to complete this program.

## **IT requirements**

Computer literacy is now expected as part of professional life, and as an integral element in the studying and learning process. Many courses make use of the Internet through online discussion groups and course web pages. This course requires substantial access to a computer and the internet. Students will be required to make use of up-to-date computer technology to facilitate learning, research, and the production of assessment material. Please refer to [computer requirements](#). Twenty-four hour computer access is available at USQ.

## **Recommended enrolment pattern**

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Students may be admitted to the program at the beginning of Semester 1 or Semester 2 or Semester 3. The 'standard' rate of progression for part-time students is 4 units per year. Students should undertake the 2 unit course [WRP8000 Fundamentals of Professional Studies](#) at the commencement of their program and prior to their enrolment in the 2 unit course [WRP8010 Work-based Research Project A](#) unless agreed otherwise with their supervisor.

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