



Fitness to Undertake Placement

Preamble

With reference to the "[Administrative Procedures for Student Work-Integrated Learning Placements](#)" and pursuant to National and State legislation, the University is obliged to notify the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) if it reasonably believes that a student has an impairment that, in the course of the student undertaking clinical training as part of the program of study, may place the public at substantial risk of harm. Flinders University has a responsibility to ensure that all students required to undertake a professional experience placement have the physical, emotional and psychological capacity to perform their role and duties as a student within the clinical environment.

Therefore, it is necessary that the University ensures that all students are aware of, and understand, their obligation to report any physical, psychological or psychiatric condition that might impede their 'fitness to practice'. As with all student matters within the University, confidentiality is assured and no disclosure of information will be made outside that necessary for the administration of a student's progress in the course.

Policy

Placement providers may establish, in consultation with the University, requirements for students to demonstrate fitness to undertake placements. These requirements may include health or other checks or a self-declaration as to their fitness to undertake the placement. Any such checks or declarations must be accepted by the University as reasonable and then must be:

- Applicable to all students involved in such placements;
- Related to the requirements of the duties or functions to be carried out in the placement; and
- Consistent with University policy and Commonwealth and State Government legislation relating to equal opportunity and discrimination.

A student who cannot demonstrate fitness to undertake the placement or who refuses to undertake a required check or make a self-declaration may be refused placement.

Students enrolled in undergraduate or postgraduate topics, that requires them to undertake a professional experience placement, must:

- Make a self-declaration stating whether they have a physical, psychological or psychiatric condition, and what accommodations are needed for them to practice safely in a clinical venue.
- Advise the topic coordinator of an existing illness or disability that may impair their ability to practice, so that, **where possible**, a modified placement that will still meet the objectives of the topic can be arranged, in consultation with the topic coordinator, course coordinator, clinical venue and the student.

The topic coordinator, or delegate, will notify the clinical venue of the strategies to be put in place to:

- Facilitate the student's progress through the placement and
- Safeguard the safety of the public.

The student may wish to discuss the issues with the Disability Liaison Officer in the first instance. For more information, refer to the [Work Integrated Learning Policy](#).

Student Declaration

I, _____ have read and understood the Flinders University policy on Fitness to Undertake Placement. I am aware of, and understand, my obligation to report any physical, psychological or psychiatric condition that might impede my 'fitness for practice'.

Signature: _____ Student ID: _____ Date: _____