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This guide provides information about the current eligibility criteria and application process for entry to Postgraduate Clinical Psychology courses in 2020 only. Every effort has been made to ensure the information in this Guide is accurate at the time of publication: August 2019. Flinders University reserves the right to alter any information contained herein without prior notice. CRICOS No. 00114A
WELCOME

Welcome to the 2020 Postgraduate Clinical Psychology Application Guide. Reading this guide is the first step on the way to applying for a Postgraduate Clinical Psychology course at Flinders University.

This Guide will help applicants determine their eligibility to apply and to understand the application process and required supporting documentation. Reading and understanding this Guide forms part of the application process.

If, after reading this Guide, applicants have any questions relating to the application process, they are asked to email askflinders@flinders.edu.au for assistance.

We thank applicants for considering Postgraduate Clinical Psychology at Flinders University.

All prospective students are expected to act professionally toward the university, its staff, students and other applicants. Flinders University reserves the right to consider any aspect of an applicant’s behaviour in the assessment of their suitability for admission.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

2019 FOR 2020 ENTRY

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 2 September</td>
<td>Applications for Doctor of Philosophy (Clinical Psychology) open 9am (ACST)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 2 September</td>
<td>Applications for Master of Psychology (Clinical) open 9am (ACST)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 31 October</td>
<td>Applications close 11.59pm (ACST) (both courses)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 31 October</td>
<td>Final date for submission of Academic Transcripts and Referee reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 8 November</td>
<td>Last day to submit Honours Grades for Master of Psychology (Clinical)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 15 November</td>
<td>Last day to submit Honours Grades for Doctor of Philosophy (Clinical Psychology) applicants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Applications assessed and applicants notified if short-listed for interview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 27 and Friday 29 November</td>
<td>Short-listed applicants are interviewed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early December</td>
<td>First round offers are made</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid December</td>
<td>Second round offers made (if required)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late February 2020</td>
<td>New student information session (attendance is compulsory)</td>
</tr>
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ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY

Please note that admission to Postgraduate Clinical Psychology courses is extremely competitive and places are limited. Previous successful applicants typically had a strong academic record (e.g. first-class Honours, PhD [for those applying to Masters]) and experience relevant to clinical psychology to be short-listed for interview.

CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Australian citizens, New Zealand citizens, Australian permanent residents and Humanitarian visa holders are classified as domestic applicants and are not eligible to apply as an international student. Details on how to apply as a domestic applicant are available at www.flinders.edu.au/study/psychology

APPLICATIONS

HOW TO APPLY

Applications can only be submitted via the Flinders University Online Application System. You will receive two emails once your application is completed: confirmation of application submission and a second email with your student ID. Note: it may take overnight for your student ID to be created.

If you are a current Flinders student or you have been made an offer for a course at Flinders University within the last 12 months you can submit your application via the Student Information System. You can apply by selecting the ‘My Applications’ tab at the top of the page and searching for the Master of Psychology (Clinical) or Doctor of Philosophy (Clinical Psychology).

If you have been made an offer for a course at Flinders University more than 12 months ago you will need to reactivate your FAN first. With an active FAN you will then be able to submit your application via the Student Information System advised above.

Note: applicants can only apply for either the PhD (Clinical Psychology) or Master of Psychology (Clinical). If an applicant submits applications for both courses the subsequent application will be withdrawn by the University.

QUOTAS

The clinical psychology program has a typical intake of 15-18 full-time equivalent places, usually comprising an equal proportion of Master of Psychology (Clinical) and PhD (Clinical Psychology) students. Two Masters places are reserved for competitive international students.
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS

Academic transcripts showing results in all subjects, including failures, must be attached for studies at institutions other than Flinders University. Applicants must upload a certified copy or original official academic transcript for all qualifications relevant to their application by the application deadline. Please include a grading key (usually found on the back of the official transcript). Applications without transcripts will NOT be processed.

International applicants undertaking Honours in Australia in the current year must provide, as part of the online application, contact details of a person at their home institution who will be able to provide their honours percentage mark. Applicants should submit their final results as soon as they are known and by 8 November 2019 (for Master of Psychology (Clinical) applicants) and by 15 November 2019 (for PhD (Clinical) applicants) at the latest.

International applicants who have completed Honours in Australia must include the percentage mark for their Honours year at the ‘Honours Year’ question.

If your official academic transcript is available via the My eQuals platform you can provide the URL link to allow access to the digital document as part of the online application. If you have set a PIN via My eQuals (this is optional) you will also need to supply this. If you wish to set an expiry date for access to the digital document please ensure the date selected is after 28 February 2020 as the University may need to access the document up to this time. For further information about providing official academic transcripts via My eQuals see: myequals.edu.au/faq/.

If any of the academic transcripts are in a language other than English, applicants must submit copies of both the original documents and full translations. Transcript translations must show results for all subjects undertaken. All translations must be certified by an independent accredited translator. It is an applicant’s responsibility to comply with any requests to provide further documentation, either in the original language or translated into English.

OVERSEAS QUALIFICATION ASSESSMENT AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for the Master of Psychology (Clinical) and Doctor of Philosophy (Clinical Psychology) who are graduates with psychology degrees from non-Australian universities must have their qualifications assessed by the Australian Psychological Society (APS) for equivalence to an Australian programme of study prior to submitting their application. Information about the process for obtaining this assessment can be found on the APS website. Please note that Flinders University also requires completion of a substantive research thesis within a 4-year degree that demonstrates knowledge of research methods and quantitative statistics.

If you did not complete both secondary and tertiary education in Australia or in a country where English is considered the first or native language, you will need to demonstrate English language skills at IELTS (International English Level Testing System) academic level 7 and achieve the required minimum score of 7 in each component of the IELTS academic module. This is a requirement by the Psychology Board of Australia.

Doctor of Philosophy (Clinical Psychology) students should also refer to the English Language Proficiency Requirements for HDR Candidature.
ADDITIONAL APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

HONOURS PERCENTAGE MARK
Applicants are required to provide their Honours percentage mark if known. If the percentage mark is not known, applicants must provide contact details for their home institution including contact name, email address, date results will be available and minimum mark required for First Class Honours.

THESIS DETAILS
Applicants are required to provide details of any theses completed or currently being undertaken, including title, abstract and length.

EMPLOYMENT DETAILS
Applicants are required to provide details of any paid employment relevant to the area of Psychology. Please do not attach a curriculum vitae but supply the information at the appropriate points in the online application.

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE
Applicants are required to provide details of any other relevant psychology experience (e.g. voluntary work, research assistant work, clinically relevant experience). Applicants must indicate the period of time they undertook the experience and estimate the number of hours per week involved. Please do not attach a curriculum vitae but supply the information at the appropriate points in the online application.

REASONS FOR APPLYING
Applicants must detail their reasons for applying, including areas of interest within clinical psychology.

PUBLICATION DETAILS
Applicants are required to provide the Digital Object Identifier (DOI) number and title for any publications they may have produced.

REFEREE REPORTS
Two confidential referees’ reports are required, at least one of which should be from an academic referee. The other may be from a person who has observed you and your work in a non-academic context. The reports must be submitted online via the Reference Request System. The Reference Request System allows applicants for Australian postgraduate programs in Psychology to apply for a reference from academic and/or professional referees. There is a $25.00 fee payable for use of the Reference Request System. For further details see www.psychologyreference.org.

Your referees must submit their reports to the Reference Request System by 31 October 2019.

SUPERVISORS AND RESEARCH PROJECTS - DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY) APPLICANTS ONLY
To assist applicants in selecting a supervisor and project, see a list of Potential Research Projects: www.flinders.edu.au/study/courses/postgraduate-doctor-philosophy-clinical-psychology

Other academic staff are happy to discuss PhD projects with applicants, see here for a list of staff research interests. More information can be obtained from the pages of individual staff members.
SELECTION CRITERIA

Applicants are required to have satisfactorily completed an APAC-accredited undergraduate 4-year sequence in Psychology including an Honours degree in Psychology at the IIA level or above. The degree should normally have included a research thesis where the research conducted was brought to a timely conclusion. Thus, the Honours year must have included an independent research project (Item 2.5 Accreditation Standards for Psychology Programs – Jan 2019).

Relevant psychology related experience (e.g. a background of professional employment/voluntary work in an allied helping profession) is an important criteria in the selection process.

Applicants will be short-listed for interview based on:

• Academic Record
• Clinically relevant skills and experience
• Referee reports
• Overall application

Offers will be determined based on the above criteria and interview performance.

INTERVIEWS

The interview is a very important part of the selection process as it enables the selection committee to assess the applicant’s interest in and motivation for the course, to question the applicant about his or her relevant employment or clinical background, and to judge the applicant’s capacity to satisfactorily complete the course.

An opportunity is also provided for the applicant to ask any questions about the course so that applicants can make a fully informed decision should they be offered a place on the course.

The selection and interviewing panel members are drawn from Psychology staff from the College of Education, Psychology and Social Work, with the addition of a clinical psychologist from the community.

Interviews will be held in late November. It is the responsibility of applicants to be available to attend an interview and this requirement should be taken into account in making plans during this period. It may be possible to arrange telephone/Skype interviews for overseas and interstate applicants. South Australian applicants are expected to attend in person.

If you are in any doubt, please contact askflinders@flinders.edu.au prior to finalising your arrangements.

It is important that we are able to contact you between mid-November and the end of February to arrange interviews and issue offers. Occasionally, offers are issued in January-February should any applicants decline first round offers. If you expect to be away from your usual address at these times, please indicate dates and contact details in your application.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY)

In addition, Doctor of Philosophy (Clinical Psychology) applicants need to obtain from a staff member approval, in principle, to be nominated as supervisor (this must be indicated on the online application). Further advice regarding this requirement is outlined in the ‘Additional Application Requirements’ section of this guide.

To broaden your opportunity to study a higher degree by research in Psychology at Flinders University, you can tick the option to apply as a research-only PhD in Psychology in the online application.

Students may be eligible for scholarships, including Flinders University Research Scholarships (FURS) if they have completed an honours or equivalent qualification at an Australian university no more than three years prior to the application closing date. A separate application for a scholarship can be lodged via the Online Application System on the ‘My Scholarships’ tab. Information about scholarship applications is available on the Scholarships website.
IMPORTANT INFORMATION

CRIMINAL AND RELEVANT HISTORY SCREENING

Successful applicants will be required to undertake a national police check and a criminal history screening which includes child-related employment screening, vulnerable person-related employment screening, aged care sector employment screening and a disability services sector screening. This is consistent with the Psychology Board of Australia’s requirement that the criminal history check contains no offences that would result in a person being declared unfit to practice. This will be initiated by Flinders University once offers are confirmed.

The Screening Checks are conducted through the DCSI screening unit and further details are available at: https://screening.dcsi.sa.gov.au/. Further information regarding National Police check is available at: police.sa.gov.au/services-and-events/apply-for-a-police-record-check.

Note: Successful applicants will be provided with advice about how to obtain these clearances once offers have been made.

PROVISIONAL REGISTRATION

The Psychology Board of Australia also requires that students are registered as provisional psychologists with the Board on entry into the program.

IMMUNISATION AND BLOOD-BORNE VIRUSES POLICY

Students will also need to comply with SA Health’s Immunisation and Blood-Borne Viruses Policy. This is a SA Health Policy Directive requirement for students prior to undertaking clinical placements.

The detailed written procedure required for provisional registration, Criminal and relevant history screening and proof of immunisation status will be provided to students who are offered a place in either program. Please note that students are responsible for any costs associated with the above requirements.

CONTACTS

PLEASE EMAIL ALL ENQUIRES INCLUDING ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND THE APPLICATION PROCESS QUESTIONS TO:

askflinders@flinders.edu.au
FAQ’s

I am having issues with the student account activation process, who do I contact to get technical assistance?
If you are experiencing difficulties with the account activation process you can contact our helpdesk on 08 8201 2345.

I have logged on to the Flinders Student Information System and my application is showing as ‘unassessed’, what does this mean?
The application portal will only show the final outcome of the application and until this is known it will continue to show as ‘unassessed’.

I wasn’t successful in my application, am I able to get more information on the outcome?
Flinders University is normally not able to provide individuals with detailed information or feedback about their application including overall ranking, interview performance, interview score etc.

How will I be contacted about my application?
Correspondence is via email, it is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure they provide a current email address, regularly check their inbox (including the junk and clutter folders) and respond to any emails they receive. Applicants will be able to check and update their contact email address in the Flinders University Student Information System by visiting the My Details tab and selecting a preferred email address.

I am a Master of Psychology (Clinical) student, can I change my status to PhD (Clinical Psychology)?
No, Master of Psychology (Clinical) students are unable to change their status to PhD (Clinical Psychology).

Is application documentation audited?
Flinders may audit documentation or request further information regarding any aspect of your application.

I don’t know my honours mark yet?
If you are currently completing honours and expect to finish this year, the application will allow you to provide contact details of a person at your home institution who will be able to provide your honours percentage mark. This will then be collated with the rest of your application and passed onto the panel for assessment. Final results must be received by 8 November 2019 (for Master of Psychology (Clinical) applicants) and by 15 November 2019 (for PhD (Clinical Psychology) applicants) at the latest.

Do I need to provide an official transcript?
If you are an existing Flinders student, you don’t need to provide a transcript. External applicants must upload a certified copy or original official academic transcript by 31 October 2019.

Can I submit my official academic transcript via My eQuals?
Yes, you will need to provide your URL link on the online application. If you have set a PIN you will also need to supply this, ensuring that the expiry date is after 28 Feb 2020. Further information can be found at myequals.edu.au/faq/

Can I defer my place to the next year?
Deferral of an offer is not permitted in either course. Applicants unable to commence the course in the current admission cycle are required to reapply.

Are late offers made if places are available?
Occasionally offers are issued in January-February should any applicants decline first/second round offers.

Can I study the course externally?
Both courses are delivered internally, and it is therefore not possible to undertake the degree on an external basis.

Are there any conditions attached to the offer?
Yes, the offer is conditional on a completed official academic transcript being supplied by external students only. Flinders University students do not need to supply an official transcript. The offer is conditional on the applicant successfully passing criminal and relevant history screenings, gaining provisional registration through the Psychology Board of Australia and complying with SA Health’s Immunisation and Blood-Borne Viruses Policy

I am a Master of Psychology (Clinical) applicant, do I also need to obtain from a staff member approval, in principle, to be nominated as supervisor as part of the online application?
No, this requirement only applies to PhD (Clinical Psychology) applicants as part of the online application.

I completed my Psychology Honours degree over 10 years ago, am I eligible to apply for the Master of Psychology (Clinical) or PhD (Clinical Psychology)?
No, students must have successfully completed a four-year, or three-year plus a fourth year, APAC-accredited sequence in psychology within the last 10 years. This is a requirement of the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council.