

Edith Cowan University - APAC Accreditation assessment summary report

Higher education provider	Edith Cowan University
Name of the Psychology AOU	Discipline of Psychology, School of Arts and Humanities
Standards version	Version 1.2, 1 January 2019
Purpose of assessment	Initial accreditation (out of cycle)
Programs and level of study assessed	Graduate Diploma of Psychology (Level 1) Graduate Diploma of Psychology (Advanced) (Level 2)
Campus	Online
Date of assessment	November 2021
Date of APAC Board Determination	27 June 2022
Accreditation start date	1 June 2021
Accreditation end date	31 December 2025

Background and overview

This is a report of an Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) initial accreditation assessment following a submission by Edith Cowan University (ECU) for the accreditation of the Level 1 Graduate Diploma in Psychology and level 2 Graduate Diploma of Psychology (Advanced). This assessment is in the form of an on-paper assessment based on the *Submission for accreditation* and rejoinder to the draft report.

Through a partnership with Keypath Education Australia, it is proposed that the Level 1 and Level 2 programs will be delivered wholly online.

Key findings

The proposed programs will be taught and delivered 100% online in partnership with Keypath Education Australia. The Discipline of Psychology (Discipline) has developed and will govern, oversee and manage the curriculum and content of the programs.

The Level 1 program comprises eight units that appear to address all *Foundational Competencies* and will enable students to apply for entry into a Level 2 Honours or Graduate Diploma program. There is also evidence of innovation in the design and assessment of the program, as well as integration of cultural responsiveness.

The level 2 program consists of eight units that appear to address all *Pre-Professional Competencies* and will enable students to apply for entry into a Level 3 or packaged Level 3 and 4 program. In particular, the proposed program develops students' skills and competencies for psychological practice while still developing their research competencies.

Based on the plans for both programs' proposed policies and procedures, as well as the responses provided to the Standards, the programs are expected to meet the *Accreditation Standards*. However, as some evidence is not yet available for review, further information and evidence are required before a number of criteria can be considered as met.

APAC Board determination

That the following programs at Edith Cowan University are accredited from **1 June 2021** until **31 December 2025**:

- **Graduate Diploma of Psychology** (Level 1) (Campus: Online)
- **Graduate Diploma of Psychology (Advanced)** (Level 2) (Campus: Online)

Subject to the following conditions:

For all programs

By **31 August 2022**:

1. To ensure Standard 1 Public safety, criterion 1.7, Standard 3 Program of study, criteria 3.3, 3.4 and 3.6 and Standard 5 Assessment, criterion 5.5 are met, the Discipline is required to provide evidence demonstrating:
 - i. newly appointed staff are appropriately qualified for teaching, supervision, assessment and administrative duties, and all programs have sufficient staffing to support the student cohort in acquiring the relevant graduate competencies, and
 - ii. that the Canvas Learning Management System (LMS) is being utilised so that students are able to demonstrate meeting the relevant graduate competencies.
2. To ensure Standard 4 The student experience, criterion 4.1 is met, the Discipline is to provide evidence demonstrating that information about learning and assessment processes and requirements is accurate, clear, and accessible.

By **30 April 2023**:

3. To ensure Standard 2 Academic governance and quality assurance, criteria 2.2 and 2.3 are met, the Discipline is to provide evidence demonstrating that quality assurance and consultation processes have been adopted and an update on the progress and outcomes of the benchmarking exercise.
4. To ensure Standard 5 Assessment, criteria 5.1, 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4 are met, the Discipline is to provide evidence demonstrating that the learning outcomes in each program are appropriately assessed (Standard 3 Program of study, criterion 3.2) and evidence of:
 - i. unit outlines, including details of criterion-based assessment tasks,
 - ii. detailed information about moderation practices used, and
 - iii. a range of samples of de-identified student assessments.

For the Level 2 program

By **30 April 2023**:

1. To ensure Standard 3 Program of study, criterion 3.7 is met, the Discipline is to provide evidence demonstrating that students encounter sufficient professional practice skills training to acquire the *Pre-Professional Competencies*.
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Table 1: Summary of findings regarding each criterion for each Standard

	Level 1	Level 2
Domain 1: Public safety	Standard Statement 1: Public safety is assured	
	Standard is substantially met	Standard is substantially met
Domain 2: Academic governance and quality assurance	Standard Statement 2: Academic governance and quality assurance processes are effective	
	Standard is substantially met	Standard is substantially met
Domain 3: Program of study	Standard Statement 3: Program of study, design, delivery and resourcing enable students to achieve the required graduate competencies	
	Standard is substantially met	Standard is substantially met
Domain 4: The student experience	Standard Statement 4: Students are provided with equitable and timely access to information and support	
	Standard is substantially met	Standard is substantially met
Domain 5: Assessment	Standard Statement 5: Assessment is fair, reliable and valid	
	Standard is substantially met	Standard is substantially met

Commendations

A commendation refers to a particularly significant achievement by the education provider with regard to the program.

The Assessment Team have made the subsequent commendations following the evaluation of the program.

The Discipline of Psychology, School of Arts and Humanities at Edith Cowan University is commended for designing an innovative curriculum for the Level 1 program that integrates the biopsychosocial model and principles of psychological enquiry throughout the proposed program.