

Bachelor of Nursing (Puahou Tapuhi o Aotearoa)

Intakes
22/02/2027 (New Plymouth)

Duration
3 years full-time or part-time equivalent

Domestic Fees
$9,044.00

International Fees
$26,816.00*

witt.ac.nz

WITT
WESTERN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AT TARANAKI
TE KURA MATATINI O TARANAKI

Bachelor of Nursing (Puahou Tapuhi o Aotearoa)

Gain the necessary knowledge base, practical skills and attitudes to work safely, effectively and productively with clients within a healthcare setting. With over 1,000 hours of clinical placement you will learn the value of optimising the physical, mental and social wellbeing of people and their communities, promoting balanced lifestyles and supporting people to realise their full potential.

On successful completion of the Bachelor of Nursing degree, you are supported through the process of registration with the Nursing Council of New Zealand.

Benefit from smaller classes, dedicated clinically experienced tutors and regular time in our modern clinical skills lab, Pokapu Whaihanga, where you put your new clinical skills into practice.

You will learn how to:

- Use leadership skills to advocate for equity, social justice, and sustainability to improve health outcomes for consumers, their whānau, hapū, iwi and hapori.
- Make care decisions that are evidence-based, sustainable and holistic; underpinned by science, clinical assessment, reasoning, and judgement.
- Undertake comprehensive holistic health assessments in collaboration within the interprofessional team, and in partnership with health consumers and their whānau to develop, implement and evaluate integrated care plans.
- Promote optimal health outcomes for Māori and all health consumers across the lifespan, underpinned by Te Tiriti o Waitangi and informed by kawa whakaruruhau and cultural safety.
- Utilise therapeutic communication and relational practice skills with health consumers including their whānau, hapū, iwi and hapori in person or via information technologies.
- Demonstrate professionalism, self-awareness, and commitment to lifelong learning in various settings.

Courses

NURS5301

Whakawhanaunga/Building Relationships

The aim of this course is for ākonga to build relationships with health consumers, their whānau and hapori in the nursing context.

NURS5302

Foundations of Nursing Practice 1

The aim of this course is for ākonga to apply communication frameworks and professional responsibilities for nursing practice at a foundational level.

NURS5303

Nursing in Aotearoa New Zealand

The aim of this course is for ākonga to understand the role of evidenced-based practice, technologies, and ethico-legal responsibilities for nursing.

NURS5304

The Human Body 1

The aim of this course is for ākonga Te Ao Māori, anatomy and physiology concepts to inform nursing practice.

NURS5305

Oranga in Nursing Practice

The aim of this course is for ākonga to examine the impact of the determinants of health on human growth and development through the lifespan.

NURS5306

Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Kawa Whakaruruhau and

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Last updated: 09 September 2026

Cultural Safety for Nursing

The aim of this course is for ākonga to learn about the impact of colonisation on Aotearoa New Zealand and the strategies implemented in nursing practice to address that impact on individuals and their whānau. (Strategies e.g. kawa whakaruruhau, cultural safety and critical theory).

NURS5307

The Human Body 2

The aim of this course is for ākonga to use Te Ao Māori, anatomy, physiology and pharmacology concepts to inform nursing practice.

NURS5308

Foundations of Nursing Practice 2

The aim of this course is for ākonga to apply manaaki and tiaki, an understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and concepts of clinical reasoning within foundational nursing practice.

NURS6301

Communication in Nursing Practice

The aim of this course is for ākonga to use culturally appropriate approaches to establish therapeutic relationships in nursing practice and to maintain personal wellbeing.

NURS6302

Nursing Clinical Tuatahi

The aim of this course is for ākonga to demonstrate clinical reasoning in nursing practice and Te Tiriti o Waitangi informed care.

NURS6303

Pathophysiology and Pharmacology for Nursing Practice

The aim of this course is for ākonga to use Te Ao Māori, pathophysiology and pharmacology to support clinical reasoning in nursing practice.

NURS6304

Hauora in Nursing Practice

The aim of this course is for ākonga to examine hauora in the Aotearoa New Zealand context.

NURS6305

Nursing Praxis

The aim of this course is for ākonga to understand the role of law, lore, ethics, rangahau and research in nursing praxis.

NURS6306

Nursing Clinical Tuarua

The aim of this course is for ākonga to demonstrate clinical reasoning in nursing practice and Te Tiriti o Waitangi informed care.

NURS7301

Professional Practice

The aim of this course is for ākonga to use nursing knowledge to enhance interprofessional relationships, develop leadership and management skills for nursing and healthcare contexts.

NURS7302

Nursing Clinical Tuatoru

The aim of this course is for ākonga to utilise critical thinking and clinical judgment when planning and implementing nursing care with health consumers who have complex health conditions.

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NURS7303

Nursing in the Global Context

The aim of this course is for ākonga to consolidate criticality and interprofessional identity in the national and global healthcare context.

NURS7304

Transition to Registered Nurse Practice

The aim of this course is for ākonga to demonstrate safe and competent nursing care to meet the Nursing Council of New Zealand competencies for the registered nurse scope of practice.

Entry Requirements

Academic Requirements

To be admitted to this programme, applicants must have:

University Entrance as defined by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA), including:

Three subjects at Level 3 or above, made up of:

- a minimum of 14 credits in English or Te Reo Māori or English-rich subject (such as Classical studies, English, Geography, History, History of Art, Media Studies)
- a minimum of 14 credits in Biology, or Physical Education or Chemistry
- a further 14 credits at Level 3 or higher in one other approved subject or domain on the National Qualifications Framework.

For examinations other than NCEA (e.g. International Baccalaureate, Cambridge Examination), applications will be assessed for academic entry equivalency.

OR

New Zealand Certificate in Study and Employment Pathways (Level 4) – Biological Science, Health Pathway; or a recognised equivalent.

Alternative requirements

Applicants, who are over 20 years, must have evidence of academic equivalence of the above (academic admission); or demonstrated evidence of ability to study successfully at degree level.

Applicants who are under 20 years must meet the academic admission criteria as listed above, as required by Nursing Council.

All applicants interested in nursing should apply for entry into the Bachelor of Nursing in the first instance. The WITT School of Nursing will contact you to confirm you meet the academic entry criteria for the Bachelor of Nursing or assist you in designing your study pathway into the Bachelor of Nursing.

Additional Admission Requirements

All applicants must provide a self-declaration providing information regarding how they meet the programme specific requirements. This includes:

- A personal statement
    - Applicants are required to demonstrate effective communication skills to outline why they have chosen nursing as a career, describing personal qualities and relevant aspects from life experiences which will enhance the application.
- Criminal convictions
    - Applicants are required to indicate whether they have been convicted of, or have been prosecuted for, a criminal offence. Under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 some types of criminal conviction may result in the NCNZ refusing to register a person as a registered nurse.
- Health status
    - Applicants are required to indicate if they have had any mental and/or physical conditions, to demonstrate that they are fit for practice as a

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registered nurse. Under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 some types of physical or mental conditions may result in the NCNZ being unable to register a person as a registered nurse. A medical report may also be required, as per NCNZ requirements.

- Any learning disabilities or challenges that might affect participation in the programme to be identified; this will be used to activate support services

- At least two written references.
    - The references are required to demonstrate the applicant has good character and personal attributes and that the applicant is sufficient for safe and effective practice as a registered nurse, as required by the Children's Act 2014.
    - One will be a personal report and one from your school or most recent employer. Referees may not be a family member, partner or flatmate.
- A CV or chronological summary of work history (part time, full time, voluntary, including care of own children) for the preceding five years.

Applicants who meet academic entry criteria may be required to attend an interview to ensure they will meet the Nursing Council of New Zealand requirements for registration on completion of the programme.

Additional requirements for students in nursing programmes include:

- A safety check to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Children's Act 2014 will be undertaken on all successful applicants. This may include but is not limited to:

    - Police Vetting Check - Successful applicants will be required to complete a New Zealand Police Consent to Disclosure of Information form. The form will be sent to the Police Licensing and Vetting Service and returned in confidence to the Head of Nursing. Information of the Vetting Service is available from the New Zealand Police website.

    - References

    - A CV which provides an account of all experience – part time, full time and voluntary, including care of own children for the preceding five years.

    - A risk assessment

      Unsatisfactory results arising from the full safety checking process may result in the ākonga being declined entry or withdrawn from the programme of study.

- Health Screening

    - Successful applicants will be required to provide evidence of immunisation status as required by Health NZ, Te Whatu Ora and other healthcare organisations before commencing a clinical learning experience. Clinical learning experiences are an integral part of this programme and ākonga must complete these elements to successfully achieve their qualification. Clinical learning experiences cannot be guaranteed without this evidence, as per clinical access agreements with clinical learning experience providers.

Required Forms

The Additional Information Form and Referee Reports must be submitted when applying to study nursing at WITT. **Please ensure you complete a WITT Application Form prior to submitting the below:**

- Additional Information Required
- Referee Reports (You must provide two referees. Share the link with your chosen referees e.g., teacher, doctor, employer – cannot be family, friends, partner or flatmate)

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Once you have been notified that your enrolment has been accepted, you will be required to complete a Police Vetting Form and provide evidence of Health Screening & Vaccinations.

- Police Vetting Form (This form will have to be emailed or printed out and handed into WITT reception staff.
- Health Screen & Vaccination Requirements

English Language Proficiency

The English Language requirements for this programme are higher than the minimum set by NZQA.

All applicants, for whom English or te reo Māori is not a first language, must demonstrate the necessary language proficiency required for the programme.

International applicants are required to demonstrate capability in English as evidenced by an IELTS Academic core of 6.5 with no individual band lower than 6.5 from a single test taken in the preceding two years, or an equivalent described in the *Nursing Council Handbook* under English Requirements.

Selection Criteria

Limits on enrolment may be applied due to health and safety reasons, availability of resourcing and/or availability of clinical practice placements. A selection process will take place for this programme. This will be based on application information (including referee reports, CV and personal statement)

Where the number of applications exceed the number of available places, applicants may be waitlisted. The waitlist order will be based on the criteria above. Preference may be given to priority groups in recognition of the commitment to inclusiveness.

Programme Specific Information

This programme is structured to achieve the qualification outcomes, which have been aligned with the NCNZ Standards of Competence for Registered Nurses. Its approaches to learning, teaching, and assessment are embedded in courses which are designed to form a coherent programme that demonstrates scaffolding and integration of learning and assessment throughout, to meet the strategic purpose statement, outcome statement, and the level and credit value of the qualification.

Students will be in practice, either simulated or actual practice from the beginning of the programme. Time in practice increases throughout the programme and then becomes blocks of practice to prepare the graduate for the workplace. There are also opportunities for students to choose some specialty areas of practice. Shift patterns commence at the end of year two.

Clinical Skills Lab work:

The Clinical Skills Lab provides an environment for practicing techniques and learning clinical experiences. Simulation time is timetabled most weeks. Students must wear uniform for all clinical skills sessions and clinical practice placements.

Tutorials:

These are provided regularly for small groups of students to discuss aspects of their learning journey. Students will explore and reflect on practice as well as learning issues. All students are required to attend the majority of tutorials.

Blended learning:

Students will have the opportunity to undertake their learning using a variety of methods including:

- Lectures
- Online activities
- Goup work
- E-Portfolios

Classroom hours may be from 8:00am to 5:00pm. Students will be expected to be able to undertake 40 hours per week of study. Where possible the programme timetable allows for holidays, due to clinical placements requirements they do not always coincide with school holidays.

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Maximum time of completion:

The Bachelor of Nursing may be completed in three years full-time study or up to six years part-time.

Additional Expenses

Nursing kit, Laptop.

*International Fee Exclusions

International fees displayed are for 1 year of study (equivalent to 120 credits); OR as specified for the duration of the programme of study, and do not include the below;

- Travel and Medical Insurance – NZ $800 per year (provided by UniCare NZ)
- Compulsory Student Services Fee (CSSF) – NZ $320 per 120 credits

International fees may increase in each new academic year. Any increase in the fees is required to be paid in full before a student is enrolled and allowed to attend class.

Career Opportunities

Registered Nurses in New Zealand may work in any area of nursing practice: for example, mental health, acute care, community and aged care settings. Graduates must pass the Nursing Council of New Zealand registration exams to become a registered nurse.

Post Study Work Visa Eligibility

International graduates may be eligible for an open Post Study Work Visa.

https://www.witt.ac.nz/international-students/post-study-work-visa-eligibility

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