

Master of Nursing Science (Pre-registration)

Wintec code:	HS1903	MoE:	WK4002
Level:	9	Credits:	240
Owner:	Centre for Health and Social Practice	Effective Date:	January 2026

The Master of Nursing Science (Pre-registration) version 2 regulations should be read in conjunction with the Institute's Academic Regulations and the current Nursing Council of New Zealand Education programme standards for the registered nurse scope of practice.

1. Transition Arrangements

- 1.1. The Master of Nursing Science (Pre-registration) has been revised to align with the new Nursing Council Registered Nurse Competencies 2025 and, as a result, version 2 of the approved programme will be offered by Wintec as from January 2026.
- 1.2. The underpinning principle of these transition arrangements is that no student or candidate will be disadvantaged by these arrangements.
- 1.3. All candidates enrolling for the first time in 2026 will be enrolled in version 2 of the Master of Nursing Science (Pre-registration) programme.
- 1.4. Students entering Year Two of the programme in 2026 will continue their studies in version 1 of the Master of Nursing Science (Pre-registration) programme.
- 1.5. Part-time students, and those in exceptional circumstances, enrolled in version 1 of the programme in 2025, will be assessed on a case-by-case basis to determine individual transition arrangements.

2. Admission and Entry

2.1. General Academic Admission

Candidates are required to have:

- a) a recognised bachelor's degree with a minimum 65% in the third year of their qualifying degree which is considered relevant to health science or appropriate health or allied professional qualification.

2.2. Special Admission

There are no special admission options for the Master of Nursing Science (Pre-registration).

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2.3. Selection Criteria

- a) Candidates must complete their application for selection at least two months prior to the commencement of the programme. Applications received after this point will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- b) Candidates may be required to attend an individual or group interview.
- c) Candidates are required to indicate in their application whether they have been convicted of a criminal offence. Candidates should be aware that, under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 some types of criminal convictions may result in the Nursing Council of New Zealand declining a candidate's application for registration in the registered nurse scope of practice. Similarly, some types of criminal convictions may result in difficulty to obtain clinical experiences and therefore meet the requirements to pass the programme.
- d) Candidates are required in their application to indicate whether they have had/or currently have a mental and/or physical condition that may prevent them from entering the Master of Nursing Science (Pre-registration) Programme. Candidates are required under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 to demonstrate that they are fit for registration as they progress through the programme. Candidates should be aware that under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 some types of convictions, physical and mental conditions, or professional or academic misconduct, may result in the Nursing Council of New Zealand being unable to register the person as a nurse.

2.4. Clinical Practicum Requirement

- a) Before undertaking Clinical Practicum within the programme, candidates will be required to provide a written health and immunity status assessment from their health practitioner and must hold a current First Aid Certificate (covering NZQA Unit Standards 6400, 6401 and 6402). And a Mental Health First Aid Certificate

2.5. Safety Check Requirements

- a) To comply with the provisions of the Vulnerable Children's Act, 2014 and Child Protection Policies for all '*specified organisations*' providing a '*regulated service*', all candidates/students will be subjected to safety checks. These will include, but are not limited to;
 - i. Referee Checks,
 - ii. A Police Vet Check,
 - iii. A Risk Assessment.
- b) Any unsatisfactory result arising from the full safety checking process may result in the candidate/student being precluded/declined entry or withdrawn from the programme of study. Furthermore, students must declare any pending or new convictions arising during any stage throughout the entire enrolment period. A conviction or failure to

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declare a conviction may also result in the student being immediately withdrawn from the programme. Persons who are convicted of '*specified offences*' will not be accepted onto any programme that requires that person to work in an organisation providing a regulated service.

2.6. English Language Requirements

- a) Candidates who have English as a second language are required to have an International English Language Test System (IELTS) score of 7.0 with no individual band score lower than 7.0; **or**,
- b) [Equivalent](#)¹.

3. Transfer of Credit

- 3.1. On a case-by-case basis formal transfer of credit from another approved New Zealand provider of a graduate entry to nursing programme only will be considered.
- 3.2. Informal transfer of credit (Recognition of Prior Learning) is not available in this programme.
- 3.3. Transfer of credit will not be granted for clinical papers, MNSC822, MNSC832 and MNSC842.
- 3.4. Transfer of credit will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will not exceed 50% of the programme.
- 3.5. Any applicant seeking formal transfer of credit will be expected to submit the verified proof of learning outcomes, content and successful completion.
- 3.6. The module being sought for credit transfer must have been completed within the previous five years.

4. Programme Requirements

- 4.1. Every candidate for the Master of Nursing Science (Pre-registration) shall to the satisfaction of the Academic Board follow a programme of study for a period of normally not less than four semesters (2 years) or an equivalent programme of part-time study no more than 5 years.
- 4.2. No candidate shall be given more than two opportunities to achieve a successful pass grade in any module within the Master of Nursing Science (Pre-registration), except where there are extraordinary circumstances. Re-enrolled requirements:
 - a. Clinical modules - All clinical hours and competency assessment must be completed and passed. No clinical hours completed in the unsuccessful pass will be credited to the required minimum of 1100hrs for the MNSC (Pre-registration) programme.

¹ Refer to The Table at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/about-us/our-role/legislation/nzqa-rules/nzqf-related-rules/the-table/> for a list of equivalents

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- b. Theory modules- All content and required assessments must be completed and passed. No previously successfully passed assessment components will be credited.
- 4.3. Each candidate's programme of study shall comprise compulsory modules, totalling 240 credits in Master of Nursing Science (Pre-registration) from the Schedule of Modules in Section 7 of these regulations.
- 4.4. A registered nurse with a current practicing certificate will be a member of any student academic decision and appeal process.

5. Completion of the Programme

- 5.1. It is expected candidates will take two years to complete the Master of Nursing Science (Pre-registration) Programme, and no more than 5 years, unless an extension is granted by special permission from the Nursing Council of New Zealand and/or Postgraduate Programme Committee.
- 5.2. Candidates who take more than 6 months leave from the programme must undertake a formal practical assessment and a theory assessment before re-joining the programme. Any cost related to the assessment will be met by the candidate. This assessment must provide evidence that the candidate has retained the appropriate level of knowledge and skill to re-enter the programme at the same stage.
- 5.3. Candidates are required under the HPCA Act (2003) to demonstrate that they are fit for registration as they progress through the programme. Candidates should be aware that under sections 12, 15, and 16 of the HPCA Act (2003), some types of convictions, physical or mental conditions or professional or academic misconduct issues, may result in the NCNZ declining a person registration in the registered nurse scope of practice.

6. Award of the Qualification

- 5.1 Candidates who successfully complete the requirements in the Schedule of Modules in Section 6 of these regulations will receive the award of Master of Nursing Science (Pre-registration) qualification.
- 5.2 Candidates who have achieved an average grade of 75% (A-) (or more), for all the modules in the programme (outlined in Section 6), will receive the award of Master of Nursing Science (Pre-registration) qualification endorsed with Distinction.

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7. Schedule of Modules

Note: no value in the pre/co-requisite columns means there are no pre/co-requisites for that module.

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Module Code	Module Name	Level	Credits	Pre-Requisites	Co-Requisites
HEAL811	Ngā Momo Mōhiotanga: Ways of Knowing – Foundations for Professional Practice	8	30		
MNSC812	Health Assessment, Pathophysiology and Pharmacology for Professional Practice	8	30		HEAL811
MNSC821	Re-establishing Hauora	8	30	MNSC812 Heal811	MNSC822
MNSC822	Clinical Practicum 1 – Re-establishing Hauora	8	30	MNSC812 HEAL811	MNSC821
MNSC931	Whānau and Community Hauora	9	30	MNSC821 MNSC 822	MNSC832
MNSC832	Clinical Practicum 2 – Whānau and Community Hauora	8	30	MNSC822 MNSC821	MNSC931
HEAL941	Rangahau or Research as Evidence for Practice	9	15	MNSC931 MNSC832	MNSC842
MNSC842	Clinical Practicum 3 – Toia Mai	8	45	MNSC842	HEAL941