

## Growing Our Own: Postgraduate Nursing and Midwifery Programme

### Phase One PhD or Master of Health Research selection application

Talofa lava colleague

The National University of Samoa and Victoria University of Wellington are working in partnership to offer a postgraduate research and education program delivered from the School of Nursing Apia Campus of NUS. The primary focus of the funding is to develop the capability of the Faculty of Health Science staff at NUS to offer postgraduate pathways for nurses, midwives and potentially other health professionals with the intent of contributing to the health system of Samoa through research and health practice development. This is a programme to be offered over six years to initially support PhD, Masters and then other postgraduate qualifications for registered nurses and midwives.

Phase One is about establishing the processes to ensure that students are well supported to be successful in their application for enrolment in a formal research programme of study at Victoria University of Wellington (this is Phase Three). Phase Two will be English Language training support and completion of the postgraduate research course (delivered in Samoa) as required.

### Frequently asked questions

[What do I need to do to apply?](#)

To apply for selection as a potential applicant for the Masters and PhD pathways you must complete the attached form and submit your application to the Vice-Chancellor's Office, NUS **by 5pm on the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018**. There are limited spaces available for this programme and selection will be based on the criteria approved by the Governance Group which are detailed in the form.

[What is the process for selection?](#)

There are two separate selection panels for the PhD and Masters applicants. PhD applicants will be required to attend an interview with the selection panel. The panels will meet in early August to process the applications and interviews. Membership of the selection panels will be jointly shared by NUS and Victoria academics.

**Successful Phase One applicants will be formally notified by mid-August 2018.**

[What happens if I am successful?](#)

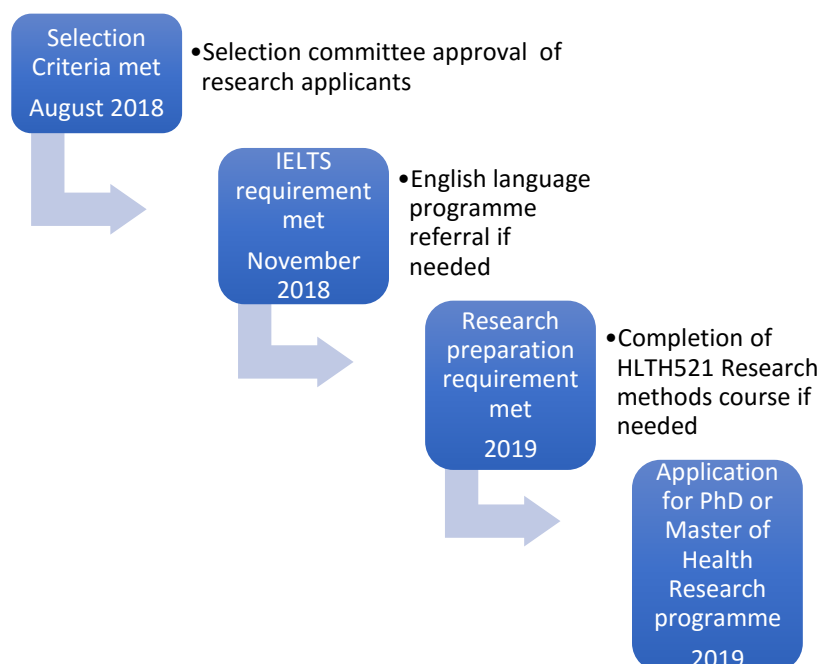
**Successful PhD applicants** will be supported to apply to Victoria University PhD programme commencing in 2019. As part of the program the applicant is required to have twice yearly research school attendance, held at NUS, as well as regular supervision meetings (using the internet) and three attendances in Wellington over the enrolment period.

1. First step will be an English Language Assessment (Equivalence assessment or IELTS test as appropriate – to be determined by selection committee). Support (12 weeks intensive English language training) will be offered to those who are within 6.0-6.5 IELTS band [an overall score of 6.5 IELTS is required for Victoria University application].
2. Applicants who have completed a coursework based rather than thesis-based Master's degree will complete a postgraduate research course early 2019 in preparation for their enrolment application.

**Successful Master of Health Research (MHR) applicants** will be supported to apply to the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health MHR programme in 2019. As part of the program the applicant is required to have twice yearly research school attendance, held at NUS as well as regular supervision meetings (using the internet).

1. First step will be an English Language Assessment Equivalence assessment or IELTS test as appropriate – to be determined by selection committee). Support (12 weeks intensive English language training) will be offered to those who are within 6.0-6.5 IELTS band [an overall score of 6.5 IELTS is required for Victoria University enrolment application].
2. Applicants who have completed a Postgraduate Diploma without a research component will complete a postgraduate research course in 2019 in preparation for their enrolment application.

### Proposed timeline



### Selection Criteria (with suggested evidence)

Criteria	Evidence (certified copies of all originals)
Registered Nurse and/or Midwife with a current practising certificate and letter of good standing from the Samoan Nursing and Midwifery Council	Current annual practising certificate and confirmation from Samoan Nursing and Midwifery Council
Completion of appropriate postgraduate qualification with required grades i.e. for <b>MHR requires</b> Postgraduate Diploma in a health-related discipline with B (or equivalent) average and <b>PhD requires</b> Master's degree in health-related discipline with overall GPA of B+ (or equivalent)	Academic transcripts for all qualifications
Nursing/Midwifery experience	Curriculum Vitae
Leadership potential and/or experience	Two referee letters supporting your application and your application letter
Employer support for Research School attendance and engagement in required period of study	Letter of support from Employer
Commitment to the School of Nursing, NUS and improving the health system for Samoa	Selection application letter

## Application Form

Please complete the following

<b>Name</b>		
<b>Address</b>		
<b>Email</b>		
<b>Phone</b>		
<b>Programme applying for (please circle one)</b>	PhD	Master of Health Research (MHR)
<b>Role and current employer</b>		
<b>Highest academic qualification and year achieved</b>		
<b>Names and contact details of your two referees</b> <i>[please give them the attached referee instructions]</i>		

**NB:** Applicants for PhD selection will also be interviewed by the NSU/Victoria selection panel as part of the selection process.

### What does my application need to include?

Your application needs to include **ALL** of the following:

1. This completed form
2. A cover letter that identifies why you want to do a PhD or Masters, your leadership potential/experience and your commitment to the SON, NUS and health system of Samoa
3. A detailed Curriculum Vitae including any publications or research outputs
4. Your academic transcript for all qualifications
5. Registration certificate, current annual practising certificate and confirmation from Samoan Nursing Council Annual of your good standing
6. Letter of support from employer

Please send the documents and completed form to the NUS Vice-Chancellor's Office and ask your referees to send their letters of support there as well.

**All documentation must be received by 5pm on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018.**

## Growing Our Own: Postgraduate Nursing and Midwifery Programme

### PhD or Master of Health Research selection application: Referee report

*(NB two required)*

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Part of the process for selection is to consider statements of support from those who know the candidate's ability to **meet the criteria in relation to leadership potential and commitment within the nursing education or health system.**

Please complete the following template or if preferred you can send a letter of support instead.

<b>Your name and current role</b>	
<b>Email</b> <b>Phone</b>	
<b>The applicant this report is for</b>	
<b>Your relationship to the applicant</b>	

Please provide details of why you would support this applicant in their application for selection into the PhD OR Master of Health Research funded programme.



Please submit the completed referee form or letter of support directly to NUS Vice-Chancellor's Office, P.O. Box 1622, Le Papaigalagala Campus, To'omatagi, Samoa.

**All documentation must be received by 5pm on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018 for consideration by the selection panel.**

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