



*Course information*

# 11404NAT – Graduate Certificate in Pharmacist Prescribing

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RTO Provider No. 122206

# ENHANCE YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS TO SUPPORT SAFE, ETHICAL AND EFFECTIVE PRESCRIBING WITHIN A PHARMACIST'S SCOPE OF PRACTICE



## Course aim

The Graduate Certificate in Pharmacist Prescribing is designed to equip pharmacists with the advanced skills and knowledge required to prescribe medicines safely and effectively within their scope of practice.

This AQF Level 8 qualification supports collaborative, patient-centred care and enhances professional practice.

On completion of this course, graduates will have advanced skills in patient consultation, clinical decision-making, health coaching, medication management and interprofessional collaboration, contributing to the quality use of medicines and demonstrating high-level clinical judgment and accountability in prescribing decisions with professional autonomy.

## Course overview

This course will provide participants with the following vocational outcomes:

- Prescribing medicines safely, legally and ethically within their scope of practice.
- Conducting comprehensive patient consultations to inform safe and appropriate prescribing decisions.
- Applying evidence-based guidelines to clinical decision-making.
- Developing and implementing tailored patient-centred management plans to support the quality use of medicines.
- Collaborating with healthcare professionals to support integrated and coordinated health care.

## Entry requirements

Learners must:

- be registered with the Pharmacy Board of Australia under the requirements of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
- hold a Bachelor of Pharmacy, or an equivalent or higher pharmacy qualification recognised in Australia
- be employed in a pharmacy industry context (community pharmacy, clinical pharmacy or hospital pharmacy) and have access to a pharmacy practice setting
- complete a PSA Pre-Training Review
- have or obtain a USI and provide this to the PSA as part of the enrolment process.

Note: Individuals on a student visa (visa subclass 500) are not eligible to enrol.

## Course structure

The Graduate Certificate in Pharmacist Prescribing requires the successful completion of five (5) core units of competency.

**Table 1: Core units**

Core units: All 5 core units required	
UNIT CODE	UNIT TITLE
NAT11243009	Deliver primary health care
NAT11243006	Manage the quality use of medicines
NAT11243005	Apply advanced consultation skills for collaborative decision making
NAT11243011	Prescribe medicines
NAT11404001	Apply clinical knowledge and skills for safe pharmacist prescribing

\* NAT11243011 Prescribe medicines is APC accredited

This course is delivered through self-paced blended online delivery, comprising of a combination of self-paced online learning and assessment tasks, clinical skills assessment and application of skills in the workplace. The unit of competency NAT11404001 Apply clinical knowledge and skills for safe prescribing includes a series of compulsory online tutorials and face-to-face learning.

## Course duration

**Full time:** 0.5 years

**Part time:** 1 year

The program is self-paced, giving you the flexibility to fit your studies around your work and personal life.

Maximum duration 2 years.

\*Please note: NAT11404001 Apply clinical knowledge and skills for safe prescribing requires face to face attendance at 3 clinical skills workshop days, 1 clinical skills assessment day and 1 OSCE day.

If more time is needed to demonstrate competency, this will be considered and approved on an individual basis. Learners are advised to contact PSA if they require a leave of absence or more time to complete the course.

Over the duration of enrolment, learners are expected to undertake at least 14.5 hours per week (part time) or 29 hours per week (full time) of online structured learning and assessment and unsupervised learning activities.

## Mandatory attendance hours

Learners are required to attend 7 online tutorials throughout the duration of the course and 1 online OSCE, equating to a total of 16.75 hours. Learners must also successfully attend 5 days of face-to-face training and assessment, equating to an additional 27.5 hours.

## Assessment

The course includes integrated assessments to show competence over the duration of the course. Assessment must be conducted using a variety of methods over time to ensure a sufficient range of valid evidence is gathered to form a judgement of competence.

Assessment methods may include:

- objective structure clinical examinations
- direct observation
- multiple choice questions
- case studies
- short answer written and oral questions
- workplace projects
- peer reviews
- reflective practice portfolio
- de-identified patient consultation records
- artificial intelligence simulated consultations.

## Refund policy

Please refer to the PSA Fees, Charges and Refund policy, available on our website.

## Pre-Training Review

You will be required to participate in a Pre-Training Review (PTR). This review will involve asking you a series of questions to determine your motivation to undertake this course, your existing qualifications and capabilities, including educational attainments, digital literacy skills and any previous learning experiences. This will also help PSA ensure that your training plan is developed accordingly and that appropriate support services are made available as and when required.

Someone from the PSA assessor team will be in touch with you if you need some additional support.

## Enrolment process

You can enrol at any time by completing the online enrolment form. Please allow up to 5 business days for your enrolment to be reviewed. Payment will only be taken if your enrolment is approved. Once your enrolment is approved and payment processed, you will receive access to course materials.

## Obligations of a Prescriber mentor

Learners must participate in several clinical case discussions as part of the unit NAT11243011 Prescribe medicines. Clinical case discussions must be completed with a prescriber mentor, and a record of these discussions must be documented. Learners are responsible for finding a prescriber mentor.

The prescriber mentor must meet the following requirements:

- Ahpra registered health practitioner who can prescribe medicines independently
- minimum of 12 months independent prescribing experience
- currently practice in a primary care setting, aligning with learner's scope of practice.

## Workplace requirements

Learners who are completing this qualification must be working in a pharmacy industry setting and must have access to a pharmacy practice setting. The workplace must provide access to patients, enabling the learner to interact with them as part of the course requirements. The site must meet Work Health and Safety requirements and provide access and equity to all current or prospective employees according to the legislation and the law of the state or territory in which it is located.

## Your obligations

PSA requires skills to be demonstrated in a pharmacy workplace. To successfully complete the course, you must ensure that you;

- Are currently employed and continue working in a pharmacy industry setting and continue to until you finish the qualification;
- Find a suitable prescriber mentor
- Follow your training plan and undertake the training as per the schedule provided;
- Maintain open communication with your workplace supervisor and PSA assessor; and

- Provide below equipment/tools/technology to undertake this qualification:
  - A working computer (Windows or Mac based) with an internet connection and applications installed such as, Internet Browser (i.e. Chrome), Microsoft Word, Power Point, PDF reader and Zoom or Microsoft Teams with a Microphone and Camera); and
  - A printer and scanner.

## PSA obligations to you

PSA will ensure that it delivers quality training and assessment to all learners enrolled in nationally recognised courses, by doing this it will also ensure compliance with the Standards for RTOs 2015 and any other relevant state and territories contractual obligations.

Once a learner has successfully completed a course/qualification and met all the requirements for that course/qualification, PSA will issue relevant AQF certification or statement of attainment.

## Recognition of prior learning and credit transfer

Recognition of prior learning (RPL) is an opportunity for prospective learners to demonstrate knowledge and competencies already obtained as a result of past experience or training. Following an assessment process, you may gain RPL towards the qualification.

11404NAT Graduate Certificate in Pharmacist Prescribing includes units of competency from 11255NAT Graduate Certificate in Applied Pharmacy Practice (NAT11243005 and NAT11243006). Candidates who have completed these units as part of 11255NAT Graduate Certificate in Applied Pharmacy Practice may be eligible for a credit transfer.

## Educational and support services

PSA will provide required support to the learners where the PTR identifies any learning needs. For details on the support services available, please refer to PSA student handbook.

If you would like to discuss your enrolment, please contact Learner Support: 1300 369 772, or email: [learnersupport@psa.org.au](mailto:learnersupport@psa.org.au)

## Access, equity and privacy

The PSA and its employees embrace the principles of Work Health and Safety and strive to ensure that all potential and current learners receive access and equity into all organised courses. In regard to training courses for which it is responsible, the PSA strives to ensure that any person who meets the entrance criteria has appropriate access to resources to achieve a positive outcome.

The PSA is an equal opportunity organisation and encourages people with disabilities to access government funded training. We also respect an individual's right to privacy and will meet all requirements of the Privacy Legislation when dealing with student information and records.

## Complaints and appeals

We encourage individuals to discuss any problems they may have with their training or with a representative of the PSA. These informal discussions are seen as an opportunity to improve the course. If the issues are not resolved satisfactorily then a formal complaint or appeal can be made. Formal complaints must be in writing.

The PSA Appeals and Complaints form is available for download on our website.

In the event an appeal or complaint cannot be resolved, you may contact consumer affairs in your local state or further advice [www.consumerlaw.gov.au](http://www.consumerlaw.gov.au).



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