Associate Degree in Health Sciences

Develop a unique range of skills and knowledge to begin a career in the health industry.

The Associate Degree in Health Sciences offers two streams:
- health promotion
- health information management.

Both streams are undergoing continual development as ongoing research and technological advancements open up new opportunities.

In the health promotion stream, you’ll learn how to promote positive health outcomes and circulate important health information to individuals and communities.

In the health information management stream, you’ll learn how to use health information data and technology relating to health classification and clinical coding to enhance patient outcomes.

You will interact with current industry practitioners, and complete real or simulated work activities to ensure that when you graduate you’ll be work-ready.

Industry connections
The program is connected to the health industry through the Program Advisory Committee and the involvement of program team members in various health organisations.

You may work collaboratively with an industry connection on a real-world health promotion project or in a simulated office on a clinical coding project.

Career outlook
Graduates from the health promotion stream may find work in:
- government departments
- local governments
- community health centres
- aged care agencies
- health promotion organisations.

Graduates from the health information management stream are trained in clinical coding and may find work in:
- public and private hospitals
- government health departments
- health insurance companies.

Skilled professionals are in demand for both streams and current job prospects for successful graduates are strong.

Professional recognition
Health promotion stream
RMIT is applying for recognition with the Australian Health Promotion Association (AHPA) to enable graduates to obtain professional membership.

Health information management stream
RMIT is applying to Health Information Management Association of Australia Limited (HIMAA) for recognition of the Associate Degree in Health Sciences.

Program snapshot
Program code: AD019

DURATION
Full-time: 2 years
Part-time may be available

LOCATION
City campus

SELECTION MODE
ATAR (2016: 50.05)

HOW TO APPLY
VTAC (Feb, March intake only).

FEES
For local fee information:
www.rmit.edu.au/programs/fees

CONTACT
Info Corner
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(cnr La Trobe Street)
Melbourne VIC 3000
Tel. +61 3 9925 2260

www.rmit.edu.au/programs/ad019
Program structure

Year 1
You’ll gain an understanding of the health care system in Australia, how it works and who are the key stakeholders.
You’ll get to know the biology of health through the study of human biology and nutrition.
You’ll also learn how to define or interpret what it means to be healthy and the determinants and psychology of health.

Year 2
In the second year, you’ll specialise in your chosen stream.
You’ll explore issues related to diseases and their management and the critical area of evidence-based practice in health.
In the health promotion stream, you’ll develop skills and knowledge to work with communities, groups and individuals to promote health through education and other strategies.
In the health information management stream, you’ll combine an understanding of health and the health system with the skills of health classification and clinical coding.

Health promotion stream
- Introduction to Public Health
- Exercise in Health and Disease
- Health Promotion Principles and Planning

Health information management stream
- Health Classification and Clinical Coding – Introduction
- Health Classification and Clinical Coding – General
- Health Classification and Clinical Coding – Advanced

Entrance requirements
Successful completion of an Australian Year 12 senior secondary certificate of education or equivalent.

Prerequisites
Current Year 12 prerequisite units 3 and 4 – a study score of at least 20 in any English (except EAL) or at least 25 in English (EAL).

Additional information
Non-Year 12 applicants may submit additional information if they would like it to be considered. For semester 1 intake, this can be completed through the VTAC Personal Statement online.