Assessment Guidelines
*Post Graduate Diploma in Nursing*
*(Adult / Child / Mental Health)*
S15 cohort

Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL)

**Guidelines for Claiming APEL Practice Hours**
Part 2: SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE ASSESSMENT

This section gives a brief layout of what you should expect and includes:

- The assessment specification
- The assessment criteria

**Assessment Specification**

The Nursing & Midwifery Council regulations require all accelerated Nursing programmes to be a route through a full-length three-year programme.

In line with NMC regulations, the full-length three-year BSc Nursing program consists of 2300 theory hours and 2300 clinical hours. For the Postgraduate Diploma we are permitted to apply Accreditation of Prior (Experiential) Learning (AP(E)L) for up to one third of theory hours (767 hours), and 500 **clinical hours**. This assignment relates to the APEL Practice claim only.

We recognise that some students may not be able to make an APEL practice claim because they do not have any prior practical experience that is relevant to the claim. Under these circumstances students will be required to undertake the outstanding 500 clinical hours prior to being awarded their registered nursing qualification. Students who submit an unsuccessful claim will also be required to complete the outstanding clinical hours at the end of the programme prior to being awarded their registered nursing qualification.

You are invited to **claim up to 500 clinical hours via Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL)** through demonstration of previous relevant practical experience. In order to make this APEL practice claim you need to complete the following assignment.

**APEL Practice Claim Portfolio**

Present a Portfolio of evidence detailing relevant prior practical experience which shows that this experience is a good building block for completing the practical clinical skills training.

The portfolio should not exceed 2,000 words (excluding appendices of evidence).

Use the following headings to structure the discussion of your evidence:

**Section 1: Personal Statement and external evidence.**

**Section 2: Holistic aspect of health and well-being**

- **2.1 Physical care**
- **2.2 Spirituality**
- **2.3 Psychological aspects**
- **2.4 Social aspects**

**Section 3: Conclusions**

Appendix: contains reliable evidence of practice hours completed.

**In order to claim the full 500 hours students must identify relevant experience in all areas.**
How does this assignment relate to other modules and the programme?

Students who make a successful APEL practice claim for 500 clinical hours will normally complete the programme within 2 years. They will be awarded their PG Diploma and Registered Nursing qualification at the award assessment board providing they have successfully passed all programme assessments and been awarded their APEL theory hours.

What if I do not make a claim, make a partial claim or if my claim is unsuccessful?

Students who do not make an APEL practice claim, make a partial claim or whose claim is unsuccessful will normally be awarded their PG Diploma at the award assessment board providing they have passed all programme assessments and been awarded their theory APEL hours. They will be awarded their registered nursing qualification on completion of the outstanding 500 clinical hours, or part thereof. Students are expected to complete these hours in the form of an extension to their clinical practice at the end of the 2 year programme.

Module Learning Outcomes

All learning outcomes will be met in the core programme during the first two years so the APEL claim will only be based on the achievement of actual hours in an appropriate practical setting. This APEL claim has been specifically designed to identify prior experience to gain credit against the practice hours of the programme.

Assessment Criteria

Your assessment will be marked using the following criteria, so you must ensure you address these in your work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holistic Aspects of Health and Well Being*</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The student has identified examples of relevant practical experience covering the following areas:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Care</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Spirituality</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychological aspects</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Social aspects</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Skills and Competence When addressing the holistic aspects of health and well-being the student has included examples of relevant skills and competence under the following headings:</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledge and understanding</td>
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<td>Transferable skills</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Values and attitudes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Evidence of APEL Hours Claimed</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student has provided reliable evidence that they have completed the number of APEL Practice hours claimed</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* In order to claim the full 500 hours students must identify relevant experience in all four areas listed.

Submission Information

This portfolio should be submitted by hand to the student help desk by 2pm on the submission date. A copy, excluding the appendix if these cannot be attached should also be submitted on-line through Moodle by 2pm on the submission date.

Pass Mark

This assessment is a pass/ fail assessment, plus an award of APEL Practice hours up to a maximum of 500 hours.

APEL submissions will be marked and moderated internally and the APEL will be ratified at the first available Assessment Board. Students are normally expected to achieve APEL at the first attempt; second attempts may be given where there is a clear rationale for doing so.