This is a summary of the outcomes of an APAC accreditation assessment of the Discipline of Psychology, Federation University Australia, and its under development 5th year program Master of Professional Psychology. This summary highlights selected key features of the assessment. Comprehensive analysis of the assessment is contained in the full APAC Accreditation Assessment report.

The one year full time (or equivalent) program is being proposed to commence at the Mt Helen campus in 2019.

Federation University Australia intends to recruit a full time Program Coordinator (Level C) in September. A further Level B academic staff member has been recruited to commence in October. Staff listed as proposed placement supervisors are all registered psychologists and PsyBA approved supervisors.

The proposed composition of the Course Advisory/Liaison Committee is consistent with the requirements.

The AOU has access to facilities at the Mt Helen campus and also the FedUni Community Psychology Services. There will be the need to ensure that the facilities and the AOU’s test library are adequate for both existing postgraduate students and the proposed Master of Professional Psychology students.

The proposed criteria for awarding credit for previous study/experience are consistent with the requirements.

The mapping of the proposed course content and assessments to the Core capabilities and attributes is consistent with the requirements.

Students are to keep a logbook of their placement that includes details of activities and supervision.
Information provided about the proposed forms of assessment of the core attributes indicates examination of all areas presented. The information in relation to the AOU/Institutional processes for final marks and grades appear to be equivalent to those for other accredited psychology programs within the AOU.

The proposed entry requirements and selection processes are consistent with the Standards.

The proposed program comprises eight core units all with the same credit point weighting. All units will be taught by psychologists. There are six coursework units and two placements and these are sequenced to enable progressive development of core capabilities and attributes. The units are foundational in nature and are to provide education and training in the core capabilities.

Practicum is proposed in the form of placements in the FedUni Community Psychology Services (Psychology Clinic at Ballarat), and if possible in the community. The placements are being designed to gradually introduce students to professional practice. The proposed coursework provides appropriate education and training in professional skills and knowledge prior to the commencement of placement. The proposed placement coordinator is a registered psychologist, and proposed placement supervisors are registered psychologists and Psychology Board of Australia approved Supervisors.

A full cycle accreditation assessment visit is due in 2019 and a further assessment of the program will be undertaken at that time.