



## La Trobe University - APAC Accreditation Assessment Summary Report

<b>Higher education provider</b>	La Trobe University
<b>Name of the Psychology AOU</b>	Department of Psychology and Counselling
<b>Standards version</b>	Version 1.2, 1 January 2019
<b>Purpose of assessment</b>	Out of cycle assessment of a new program
<b>Programs and level of study assessed</b>	Master of Professional Psychology (Level 3)
<b>Date of site visit</b>	September 2019
<b>Campus</b>	Online
<b>Date of APAC Board determination</b>	25 November 2019
<b>Accreditation start date</b>	25 November 2019
<b>Accreditation end date</b>	31 December 2023



## Background and overview

This is a report of an Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) accreditation assessment made following an application by La Trobe University for the accreditation of the above listed Level 3 programs in an out-of-cycle assessment. This assessment is in the form of an on-paper assessment based solely on the *Application Form for Accreditation*.

The new Master of Professional Psychology (MPP) will be based at the Bendigo campus and will use a blended learning approach which will involve online lectures and seminars combined with on campus, full day workshops. Five of the six coursework units will be taken from the Master of Clinical Psychology but these will have to be redesigned to fit the new online teaching approach. The first placement consists of observation and role play and the second is an external placement. It appears the procedures that will be used for this program will be based on those used for the currently accredited Level 4 programs



## Key findings

It is difficult to definitively assess the proposed program against the Standards largely due to the lack of specific information. Much of the relevant supporting evidence relates to the current Level 4 programs with no reference to the MPP, e.g. the Professional Postgraduate Psychology Degrees Handbook. In addition, the material relating specifically to components of the MPP is very general and lacks details. Nevertheless, the program appears to have potential and there are no obvious red flags. Consequently it appears appropriate to provide it with conditional accreditation with the requirement that more specific program details (program handbook, unit outlines etc) are provided early in 2020 for a desk assessment and that there be a site visit towards the end of 2020.



## APAC Board determination

La Trobe University's **Master of Professional Psychology** (Level 3) (Campus: Online) program is accredited until **31 December 2023** subject to the condition that a monitoring site visit be undertaken when the first cohort of students have completed at least six months of the program to ensure that the program is rolling out as intended and that it continues to meet the Accreditation Standards.



Table 1: Summary of findings regarding each criterion for each Standard

Domain 1: Public safety	<b>Standard Statement 1: Public safety is assured</b>
	<b>Level 3</b> Standard is substantially met
Domain 2: Academic governance and quality assurance	<b>Standard Statement 2: Academic governance and quality assurance processes are effective</b>
	<b>Level 3</b> Standard is met
Domain 3: Program of study	<b>Standard Statement 3: Program of study, design, delivery and resourcing enable students to achieve the required graduate competencies</b>
	<b>Level 3</b> Standard is substantially met
Domain 4: The student experience	<b>Standard Statement 4: Students are provided with equitable and timely access to information and support</b>
	<b>Level 3</b> Standard is substantially met
Domain 5: Assessment	<b>Standard Statement 5: Assessment is fair, reliable and valid</b>
	<b>Level 3</b> Standard is substantially met