



Australian Dental Council report of an evaluation of Griffith University's Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (Endodontics) program

July 2019

Summary Report

Program provider	Griffith University
Program/qualification name	Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (Endodontics)
Program/qualification abbreviation	DClinDent
Program/qualification code	5699
Head office address, including State	School of Dentistry and Oral Health Griffith University Gold Coast Campus, Queensland 4222
Campus	Gold Coast
Program length	3 Years
Registration division	Specialist Dentist
Registration specialty	Endodontics
Qualification type	HE
Australian Qualifications Framework level	9
Accreditation standards version	Accreditation Standards for Dental Practitioner Programs (Approved Dec 2014)
Date of site evaluation	10 - 11 July 2019
Date of ADC decision	9 August 2019
Type of accreditation	Initial Accreditation
Accreditation start date	1 January 2020
Accreditation end date	31 December 2024

Background

In October 2018, Griffith University's School of Dentistry and Oral Health advised the Australian Dental Council (ADC) of plans to introduce two new programs scheduled to commence in 2020.

The ADC accepted both notices of intent and in consultation with the provider, organised to review the newly developed Bachelor of Dental Hygiene (BDentHyg) program and the Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (DClinDent) (Endodontics) program simultaneously. The review of the BDentHyg program is the subject of a separate report.

The School plans to commence the DClinDent (Endodontics) program in 2020, with graduates eligible to apply for registration as a dental specialist with the Dental Board of Australia in the specialty of endodontics.

Overview of evaluation

An ADC Site Evaluation Team (SET) conducted a site visit on 10 and 11 July 2019 to Griffith University's Gold Coast Campus. The SET reviewed the School of Dentistry and Oral Health's self-review against the Standards, attached appendices and additional information requested following the SET's teleconference of 29 May 2019.

During the visit, the SET interviewed a range of individuals that have been or will be involved in the DClinDent (Endodontics) program, including:

- Dean (Academic)
- Dean - Learning & Teaching
- Head of School and Course co-ordinator
- Deputy Heads of School
- Manager, DOH Dental Clinic
- Academic staff that will teach into the program
- Staff involved in supervising research students
- DOH School Manager
- Clinical Placement Officer
- Clinical Sessions Coordinator
- Financial Consultant
- Finance Business Partner
- Program Support Officer

- Academic Support Officer
- Griffith University Dental Student Association (GUDSA) President
- GUDSA Vice-president
- Student representatives from the Dentistry program and DCLinDent in Periodontics program.

Key findings

The evidence provided indicates that students enrolled in the DCLinDent (Endodontics) program will have the opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills and competencies expected of a specialist endodontist. The range and number of cases needed to develop the competencies expected of a specialist endodontist are available within School's clinics, as is the opportunity for case-based treatment planning between different divisions of dental practitioners.

The facilities available at the Griffith Health Centre are modern and fit for purpose. The didactic elements of the program will enable students to build on their knowledge and understanding as they progress through the program, with an appropriate staffing profile available to support the program. It was unclear at the time of the visit how the staff profile will be utilised, since the allocation of staff for clinical supervision is not as yet finalised. This is not unexpected given the program's stage of development. The School will confirm staffing arrangements in the coming months as further preparation for the program's commencement is undertaken.

A range of assessment types throughout the program is planned and appear appropriate for the skills assessed. The School will need to ensure students have access to marking/assessment rubrics early in the program to ensure compliance with the University's *Assessment Policy*.

ADC accreditation decision

The ADC has determined Griffith University's Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (Endodontics) program is accredited from **1 January 2020** until **31 December 2024**.

As a monitoring requirement the School is requested to provide a report six months after the first intake of students detailing:

- 1) the roles and responsibilities of staff involved in program delivery. The report should include the staff responsible for supervising students in clinic and their roles in delivering the didactic elements of the program such as lectures/tutorials
- 2) examples of marking guides/rubrics which specify the predetermined criteria for marking as communicated to students and markers for Trimester 1 of Year 1.