



Australian
Dental
Council

AUSTRALIAN DENTAL COUNCIL

REPORT OF AN EVALUATION OF

GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

**MASTER OF DENTAL TECHNOLOGY IN PROSTHETICS (5607) / GRADUATE
DIPLOMA OF DENTAL TECHNOLOGY IN PROSTHETICS (4170)**

SUMMARY REPORT

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Program provider	Griffith University
Program/qualification name	Master of Dental Technology in Prosthetics / Graduate Diploma of Dental Technology in Prosthetics (Exit point only)
Program/qualification abbreviation	MDentTech / GDipDentTech
Program/qualification code	5607 / 4170
Head office address, including State	Gold Coast campus, Queensland 4222
Approved campus	Griffith Health Centre, School of Dentistry and Oral Health, Level 7, Parklands Drive, Gold Coast campus
Program length	1 year – GDipDentTech 1.5 years – MDentTech
Registration division	Dental Prosthetist
Registration specialty	N/A
Qualification type	Higher Education
Australian Qualifications Framework Level	Level 9 – MDentTech / Level 8 – GDipDentTech
Accreditation standards version	September 2011 Updated December 2012 - Version 1.2
Date of site evaluation	4 - 5 June 2014
Date of ADC decision	31 October 2014
Type of accreditation	Initial Accreditation
Accreditation start date	1 January 2015
Accreditation end date	31 December 2019

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Background

This is a report of the evaluation of the newly revised Griffith University Master of Dental Technology in Prosthetics (MDentTech) program, course code 5607, conducted by an Australian Dental Council (ADC) Site Evaluation Team. Griffith University has offered the MDentTech program since 2005 (previous course code 5402) and it was initially subject to accreditation by the ADC in 2014. It will be phased out in 2015 as currently taught. The previously taught MDentTech is the subject of a separate report.

In January 2014, Griffith University's School of Dentistry and Oral Health advised the ADC of its intent to offer a revised MDentTech program from 2015 that is compliant with the requirements of the Australian Qualification Framework (AQF). The newly developed MDentTech (5607) is a one and a half year full time program that offers an exit point after one year of full time study with a Graduate Diploma of Dental Technology in Prosthetics (GDipDentTech). Students are only able to enrol in the MDentTech program.

Both the newly developed MDentTech program and the GDipDentTech exit point will qualify graduates to practise as dental prosthetists.

Overview of the Evaluation

An ADC Site Evaluation Team (SET) conducted site visit to the Griffith University Gold Coast campus from 4-5 June 2014. The visit was planned as a combined visit to assess the MDentTech (5402) as currently taught and the revised MDentTech (5607) programs. The SET inspected clinical and learning and teaching facilities at the Griffith Health Centre which is where the School of Dentistry and Oral Health delivers the program. Students were observed in the clinic with patients.

The SET reviewed the School's self-review against the Standards, attached appendices and additional information requested prior to the visit

The SET interviewed a range of stakeholders, including:

- The Dean (Academic) of the Griffith Health Group
- The Head of the School of Dentistry and Oral Health
- The Deputy Head of School (Learning and Teaching)
- The Program Convenor for both MDentTech programs
- Other academic and clinical staff that teach into or assist with the program
- Administrative and support staff
- Seven students and four graduates from the MDentTech (5402) program

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- The Dental Clinic Manager
- Representatives from the Australian Dental Prosthetist Association and the Oral Health Professionals Association
- The Acting Chief Dental Officer for Queensland

At the time of the site visit, the SET requested further information regarding curriculum documentation and advice on approved changes to admission processes be provided prior to completing the review of the newly revised MDentTech program (5607). This information was provided in August 2014 and reviewed by the SET.

The findings in this report are based on the SET's assessment of the material outlined above, interview evidence and a review of the facilities at the time of the site visit.

Key Findings

The team based treatment planning approach is an excellent aspect of the program and encourages inter professional relationships. Academic and support staff are enthusiastic and committed and this coupled with world class facilities is expected to produce competent graduates.

The evidence presented to the SET indicates that several of the issues identified during the accreditation of the MDentTech program as currently taught (course code 5402) have been addressed.

A more structured approach to patient allocation, with control of the case type allocated to each student would be beneficial to ensure students develop a broad scope of practice. The admissions policy, although sufficient to meet the standard would be further enhanced by ensuring students are aware of the Dental Board of Australia's registration standards including, English language requirements, vaccination status, criminal records check and blood borne disease status. The admissions policy should also make students aware of the need to have current competency in first aid training and the requirements for immunisation.

ADC Accreditation Decision

The ADC has determined that Griffith University's Master of Dental Technology in Prosthetics (Course Code 5607) and Graduate Diploma of Dental Technology in Prosthetics (exit point only) programs are accredited from **1 January 2015 to 31 December 2019**.