

Naturopathy

ATMS Recognised Education Providers & Approved Courses

* Minimum 400 hours supervised clinical practicum

Current ATMS approved naturopathy courses:

Endeavour College of Natural Health

- Bachelor of Health Science (Naturopathy)

Torrens University Australia

- Bachelor of Health Science (Naturopathy)

Southern Cross University

- Master of Naturopathic Medicine

Nature Care College

- Advanced Practitioner of Clinical Naturopathy

Switch on Health

- Advanced Practitioner of Clinical Naturopathy

For qualifications older than 5 years, additional evidence is required for membership assessment:

- Direct transfer from another association, with no gap in membership or
- Evidence of 20 CPE points or
- Evidence of working in the industry related to your qualification/modality

Overseas qualifications:

- VETASSESS is required for overseas qualifications
- If no VETASSESS can be determined, an Australian equivalent qualification is required

Education providers looking to become a Recognised Education Provider and have their Naturopathy course/s approved by ATMS please email education@atms.com.au to apply.



NATUROPATHY - HEALTH FUND REQUIREMENTS

ARHG:

Naturopathy Education Criteria

New members (those who have never been registered with an Association) must hold Bachelor level qualification for Naturopathy.

Members of accredited Associations who completed their study:

- on or after 1 January 2019 must have at least a Bachelor level degree from an Australian higher education provider, with at least 400 hours of supervised clinical practice included in this program before graduation.
- prior to 1 January 2019 must have at least an Advanced Diploma of Naturopathy (HLT60502, HLT60507, HLT60512) from a Registered Training Organisation, or a Bachelor level degree from an Australian higher education provider, with at least 200 hours of supervised clinical practice included in this program before graduation.

Grandfathering eligibility for provider recognition

Providers who completed their study prior to the implementation of Registered Training Organisations (March 2002) may be eligible for provider recognition under a 'grandfathering' clause if they can demonstrate that:

- i. they received (or upgraded) their qualification in Australia
- ii. they have been in practice since graduating (with the exception of maternity/paternity for a period of no more than 12 months at a time)
- iii. they have undertaken continuing professional education, as per the membership requirements of their Association (including during leave of absence), and
- iv. they have held continuous Association membership since graduating.

Providers who hold pre-RTO qualifications must prove continuous membership with an Association for an ARHG accredited therapy (i.e. the provider is able to demonstrate compliance with ARHG's requirements of up-to date CPE, First Aid and Insurance). If the provider does not meet this requirement, they must upgrade their qualification in order to be recognised for an ARHG-recognised therapy.

Re-registration may be considered only for providers who were previously registered with ARHG prior to the 1 April 2019 Natural Therapy Review (where Naturopathy was removed from health fund eligibility). This applies only to providers who may have a gap in their Association membership, provided they can demonstrate that they:

- were active on the ARHG Ancillary Provider List for Naturopathy as at 31 March 2019
- have been continuously working as a Naturopath between 1 April 2019 – 1 July 2025
- have completed 20 hours of CPE in the last 12 months before being relisted with ARHG.



NATUROPATHY - HEALTH FUND REQUIREMENTS

Required modes of course delivery

Supervised clinical practice

The full 400 hours of supervised clinical practicum must be delivered face-to-face, on campus. Within the 400 hours, at least two thirds of consultations must occur in the traditional manner (i.e. student, supervisor and client physically present on campus).

The remaining consultations can involve digital health methodologies, delivered through secure live virtual, consultation technologies (e.g. video call), provided that:

- these hours involve real-time, synchronous patient consultations (i.e., telehealth)
- supervision and assessment mechanisms meet the same face-to-face supervisory standards as traditional clinical practicum (i.e. student and supervisor on campus, only the client is remote)
- the education provider can demonstrate how telehealth competencies are specifically taught and assessed.

Remaining course subjects

Not including supervised clinical practice, at least 50% of the remaining course subjects must be delivered face-to-face.

Of the 50% to be delivered face-to-face, at least half of those subjects must include on campus delivery (i.e. physically, face to face on campus), and this must include pre-clinic skills training, including:

- practical components of course health science subjects, including components which require skill-based knowledge, e.g. surface anatomy and palpation.
- practical components of course modality specific subjects, including components which require skills-based knowledge, e.g. case taking and clinical examination, assessment of conditions, treatment plans, preparation and dispensing of nutritional remedies, ingestive therapeutics and other associated therapeutics and techniques.

The remainder of the 50% to be delivered face-to-face can be delivered online via webinars, breakout rooms, one-on-one online meetings with lecturers etc. These course hours must not be prerecorded and must occur in real time.

All practical examinations, tests and assessments of practical competency are to be undertaken on campus by the educational provider's qualified and trained staff. Marking of student tests and assessment of student's competency offshore is not acceptable.

For:

- **VET sector programs of study** (e.g. Diploma and Advanced Diploma), no student clinical practicum hours and student clinical training may be outsourced to private clinics, and must be conducted at the educational provider's on-campus clinic facilities. All student clinical practicum hours and training must be supervised by experienced qualified staff, who have attained as a



NATUROPATHY - HEALTH FUND REQUIREMENTS

minimum, a qualification at the same level they are teaching in the same modality/discipline as the students are studying. The staff members of the educational provider who are supervising the students' clinical training must also hold a current Certificate IV in Training and Assessment (TAE40110).

- **other higher education programs of study** (e.g. Bachelor Degree), no student clinical practicum hours and student clinical training may be outsourced to private clinics, and must be conducted at the educational provider's on-campus clinic facilities. All student clinical practicum hours and training must be supervised by experienced qualified staff who have attained a degree in the same modality/discipline as the students are studying, plus a master's degree in a related field. The staff members of the educational provider who are teaching in the undergraduate program and supervising the students' clinical training must also hold a current postgraduate qualification in a related field.

Graduates who have completed courses that do not comply with the above requirements are not eligible for provider recognition and must not be included on lists of Association members sent to health funds by Associations.

CBHS:

- Must hold and maintain membership with a CBHS recognised association
- **Minimum qualification required:**
 - Current (qualified since 01/01/2019) - Bachelor of Health Science (Naturopathy) CRICOS 099643B
 - Previous (qualified & registered prior to 31/12/2018) - HLT60512/HLT60507/HLT60502 Advanced Diploma or Diploma of Naturopathy
- Current First Aid HLTAID011 + CPR HLTAID009 certificate (CPR refreshed annually)
- \$2 million Professional indemnity insurance cover
- \$2 million Public Liability insurance cover
- Minimum 20 hours/points of Continued Professional Development (CPD) annually
- Must meet and continue to meet CBHS's provider requirements, as set out in the CBHS Recognised Provider Terms and Conditions



NATUROPATHY - HEALTH FUND REQUIREMENTS

Medibank:

- Completed, at minimum, a four year full time or equivalent Bachelor degree course
- Any educational qualifications will not be recognised if they were attained by completing:
 - o A correspondence or online only course, and/ or
 - o Clinical training that is not under supervision
- At least 400 hours of practical, clinical training must be conducted on campus and supervised by a trainer who has obtained a qualification at the same level and/ or higher as the modality being studied
- Face to face, on campus learning (inclusive of clinical skills) must take place for a minimum of 20% of subjects within course
 - o This is required to include foundational pre-clinical skills training which should encompass:
 - Hands-on elements of core health science units - particularly those requiring applied or technical proficiency (for example, surface anatomy identification and palpation skills);
 - And, practical elements involving professional or procedural competence (for example, client case history and clinical assessment, evaluation of presenting conditions, formulation of treatment strategies, and the preparation or dispensing of ingestive therapeutics, as well as any related treatment techniques).
- Possession of current Professional Indemnity Insurance of \$2 million minimum, per claim plus minimum \$10 million public liability. The professional indemnity insurance policy must cover each practice and each modality.
- Providers must demonstrate completion of a minimum of 20 hours per year of Continuing Professional Development and CPD must be relevant to practice modality.

Courses accepted by Medibank:

Bachelor of Health Science (Naturopathy) - Torrens University
Master of Naturopathic Medicine - Southern Cross University

