

# Allied Health Professions Qualification Pathway



## Roles that require a qualification prior to being able to apply for a job

### Alcohol & drug clinicians

Require a Certificate in Alcohol and Drug studies (level 5). 42 credits at NCEA level 3 including a minimum of 14 credits in each of 3 subjects; or equivalent IELTS 6.5 or proficiency in English

### Art therapists

Require a Master's in Art Therapy and professional registration with the Australian & New Zealand Arts Therapy Association (ANZATA).

Master's in Art Therapy available from Whitecliffe College of Arts and Design (Auckland).

### Audiologists

Require a Master of Audiology, available from University of Auckland or University of Canterbury.

To enter the Master of Audiology programmes, need: An undergraduate degree such as a Bachelor of Arts or Science, preferably in physiology and/or psychology, or a Bachelor of Speech-Language therapy. an undergraduate.

- Useful subjects include biology, physics and English.

### Counsellors

Require a Diploma in Counselling (level 6)  
At least four years of secondary education is preferred. A tertiary entrance qualification may be needed to enter some courses.  
Useful subjects include English and languages.

### Dietitians

Require a 2 year Post-graduate Masters degree in Dietetics, available from University of Otago, Massey University (Albany Campus) and the University of Auckland.

To enter the Masters programme, need:

- An undergraduate degree majoring in human nutrition, such as a Bachelor of Science or a Bachelor of Consumer & Applied Sciences.

To enter tertiary training need to have NCEA Level 3. Useful subjects include biology, chemistry, statistics and english.

### Hand therapists

Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists who, through continuing education, clinical experience and independent study have become proficient in the treatment of upper extremity conditions resulting from trauma, disease and congenital deformity. Once qualified as a Physiotherapist or as an Occupational Therapist needs to gain registration with the New Zealand Association of Hand Therapists by completing the Hand and Upper Limb post-graduate paper (through Auckland University of Technology).

### Health promoters

There are no specific entry requirements to become a health promoter. However, it often helps if you have a tertiary qualification in one of the following:

- Health promotion or public health
- Social sciences
- Education
- Knowledge of a health related field such as nutrition, youth work and community housing or child health.

### Hospital play specialists

Registration with the Hospital Play Association requires a degree level qualification or equivalent, most commonly in an early childhood teaching degree. A tertiary entrance qualification is needed to enter university and teacher training. However, some diploma programmes have slightly lower entry requirements.

### Music therapists

Entry requirements for the Master of Music Therapy include a previous relevant bachelor's degree with psychology-related papers to at least 25 points, and a comprehensive musical training and bachelor's-equivalent playing level. Successful graduates are eligible to apply to the Registration Board of Music Therapy New Zealand to become a Registered Music Therapist (RMTh).

For further information contact the relevant service at your local hospital or access the following: [www.healthcareers.org.nz/](http://www.healthcareers.org.nz/) or [www.kiwihealthjobs.com/home](http://www.kiwihealthjobs.com/home)

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## Podiatrists

Require an undergraduate degree; Bachelor of Health Science majoring in podiatry from Auckland University of Technology.

Useful subjects include biology, chemistry, physical education and English.

## Visiting neurodevelopmental therapists

Need to be a Physiotherapist or Occupational Therapist.

It is advisable the therapist has at least two years postgraduate experience within paediatrics prior to working as a Visiting Neurodevelopmental Therapist.

Refer to Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy sections for undergraduate courses.

## Occupational therapists

Require an undergraduate degree; Bachelor of Health Science in Occupational Therapy (AUT), or the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Otago Polytechnic) based in Dunedin or Hamilton.

To enter tertiary training you need to have NCEA Level 3. Useful secondary school subjects include English, sciences and maths.

## Physiotherapists

Require an undergraduate degree; Bachelor of Health Science in Physiotherapy (Auckland University of Technology) or Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Otago University).

To enter tertiary training you need to have NCEA Level 3. Useful subjects include English, biology, chemistry and physics.

## Psychologists

Minimum requirement to work as a general psychologist (including health psychologist and industrial and organisational psychologist) is a Master's degree in psychology, and 1,500 hours of supervised practice approved by the New Zealand Psychologists Board.

A tertiary entrance qualification is required to enter further training. Useful subjects include English, maths with statistics, and science.

## Psychotherapists

Eligibility for registration requires:

1. An approved master's level qualification in psychotherapy from a New Zealand University or a New Zealand Training Institution; or an approved comparable qualification.
2. The completion of 900 hours of supervised clinical psychotherapy practice with clients over at least three years with clinical supervision provided by a psychotherapist registered in the Psychotherapist Scope of Practice.
3. Having undergone a personal psychotherapy.

## Social workers

Require a qualification recognised by the Social Workers Registration Board such as;

Bachelor of Social Work

Bachelor of Applied Social Service, majoring in Social Work Masters in Applied Social Work (Applied).

Postgraduate Diploma in Social and Community Work

Useful subjects include biology, chemistry, health science and English.

## Speech language therapists

Require either a 4 year Bachelor degree or a 2 year post graduate Masters degree. University of Canterbury has a Bachelor of Speech and Language Pathology with Honours or Masters of Speech-language Pathology.

A Bachelor of Speech and Language Therapy is available at Massey University (Albany) and a Master of Speech-language Therapy Practice is available from The University of Auckland.

Useful subjects include biology, physics, health science, statistics and English. To enter a Masters programme a Bachelor's degree is required in a related subject such as psychology, education, health sciences or linguistics.

For further information contact the relevant service at your local hospital or access the following: [www.healthcareers.org.nz/](http://www.healthcareers.org.nz/) or [www.kiwihealthjobs.com/home](http://www.kiwihealthjobs.com/home)

# Allied Health Professions Qualification Pathway



## Roles that provide options for on the job training

### Allied health assistants

No specific entry requirements, can apply without a qualification.

Prior to employment or on the job can complete the New Zealand Certificate in Health and Wellbeing, which has different strands dependent on the area of work.

### Audiometrists

There are no specific entry requirements, can apply without a qualification for a trainee audiometric position.

You may then study for the Hearing Device Prescription and Evaluation Diploma by distance education through the Australian provider, TAFE (Technical and Further Education) NSW (New South Wales).

### New born hearing screeners

No specific entry requirements, can apply without a qualification.

On the job, need to complete the New Zealand Certificate in Health and Wellbeing (Newborn Hearing Screening, Level 3).