



Graduate Diploma in Disability Sector Leadership

The Graduate Diploma in Disability Sector Leadership prepares students to work within the rapidly transforming disability sector as confident, competent, responsive and collaborative leaders. This programme provides an opportunity for students with relevant qualifications and experience to upskill in leadership and progress their careers in the disability sector.

Note: Graduates of OP7800 Bachelor of Social Health and Wellbeing are not eligible to enrol in this Graduate Diploma.

Qualification code OP7802

Level > 7	Credits > 120
Workload >	Allow 10-12 hours of study per credit. Your workload may be higher around assessment due dates
Study type >	Trimester
Cost >	See the qualification page on the website
Student loan >	You can get a student loan for this qualification if you meet the criteria. Visit studylink.govt.nz for more information.

Career Opportunities

Potential employment roles may include:

- Support Manager/Team Leader
- Community Manager
- Facilitator
- Service Coordinator
- Public Health Manager
- Case Manager
- Navigator
- Policy Development Lead
- Advocate

How to apply

Go to the choose courses tab on the qualification page on our website. Select **BHW603** and click add to enrolment plan. You'll be taken through our step-by-step enrolment process, which you can save and exit from at any time.

Qualification structure

This programme is 120 credits at Level 6 & 7 and made up of 6 compulsory courses.

We recommend you study your courses in the following order;

Course Code	Course Name	Level
COMPULSORY COURSES		
BHW603	Understanding Disability	6
BHW604	Service Provision, Advocacy and Equity	6
BHW700	Quality Services for the Future: Funding, Design and Evaluation	7
BHW701	Leadership in the Health and Wellbeing Sector	7
77329	Working with Communities	7
74342	Research Paper	7

Entry requirements

Applicants must have either, an undergraduate degree in a relevant field, or professional experience in the disability sector to the satisfaction of the Programme Leader.

Students who have completed The Open Polytechnic of New Zealand's Bachelor of Social Health and Wellbeing are not eligible for enrolment in this programme.

Credit recognition

Credit recognition may not exceed two thirds of the programme. Cross credit to Level 7 courses will not normally be awarded.

What you will learn

Graduates of this qualification will be able to:

- Demonstrate leadership within the disability sector, which includes a commitment to best practice, on-going professional development, and effectively managing risk.
- Demonstrate leadership within the community, which includes advocating for social justice and change; supporting inclusion, choice and control; and challenging stigma and discrimination.
- Work collaboratively and communicate effectively in teams and across services in a disability and health and wellbeing context.
- Critically evaluate information and apply appropriate models of health and wellbeing to inform innovative, evidence-based practice when working with disabled people.
- Understand organisational budgeting, financial planning, service design and evaluation for the disability sector, in the context of competing political, social and organisational demands.

Computer and online access

This programme is delivered 100% online. To complete this programme you will need access to a laptop or desktop computer, reliable broadband internet connection and a data plan able to support online learning such as streaming of videos (including YouTube), downloading content, and writing and submitting online assessments. If you are unsure if your current computer or internet access allows you to complete your online learning with us, please contact us before applying to enrol.

Visit openpolytechnic.ac.nz/online to view our online learning and study tools.

English language requirements

International students must also have an IELTS (Academic) score of 6.0 with no band score lower than 5.5, or equivalent.

Domestic students for whom English or Māori is not their first language must also have an IELTS (Academic) score of 6.0 with no band score lower than 5.5, or equivalent.

Visit openpolytechnic.ac.nz/englishlanguage to view our English language criteria.

International students and domestic students living overseas

You can study this programme part-time if you are an international student living in New Zealand or overseas. If you live in New Zealand you will need to be in paid employment with a valid work permit. New Zealand citizens living overseas can also study this programme.

Visit openpolytechnic.ac.nz/internationalstudent for more information about the special conditions and fees that you'll need to meet.

Practical or work-based components

This Graduate Diploma does not involve any mandatory face-to-face or work-based components.