

Paramedicine





‘The tutors made me feel comfortable straight away.’

Rosie



Paramedicine



Wellington Free Ambulance Paramedic

The moment she read into it, Rosie was hooked on the idea of paramedicine.

Previously a visual arts student, Rosie returned from overseas travel not sure what her next step was. It wasn't until she came across the Whitireia Bachelor of Health Science (Paramedic) online did she consider a new career.

Having a degree under her belt already, Rosie absorbed as much as she could during her studies, forming strong relationships with her fellow students and tutors. Her tutors Ken and Josie were very passionate and patient people who inspired her during the programme. The best part of the course was the mix of theory and practical work in the ambulance – the mix of both is perfect, in her opinion.

Now working for Wellington Free Ambulance, Rosie's days are varied and jam-packed. The best part of her job is meeting people from all walks of life. She loves the excitement of not knowing what kind of day she's going to have – from attending accidents involving elderly, to helping people injured at sports games.

While the long hours can be challenging, the bonds she has formed with her colleagues make it all worthwhile for Rosie. The ability to share moving experiences with and lean on each other is what it's all about.X

She may have stumbled upon paramedicine, but it's turned out to be Rosie's dream job. Her advice to people considering paramedicine as a career is to just keep going and keep learning. "It's not an easy job, but the rewards are worth it."

Follow the QR code below to read the full story.



Bachelor of Health Science (Paramedic) [For Working or Volunteering Paramedics]

📖 Level 7

🕒 Up to six years based on RPL

💰 \$12,157 per year (indicative for 2025 intake)

Gain a qualification that prepares you for registration as a Paramedic. If you work or volunteer for an ambulance service and hold an Authority to Practice at EMT or above, this qualification integrates the knowledge and skills necessary for practice as a paramedic.

Programme outline

Our programme is designed to be practical and relevant. You will learn through online teaching, attend compulsory block courses, and participate in simulations. The knowledge and skills you acquire will be immediately applicable in your workplace, bridging the gap between theory and practice.

The Flexible Learning Strand (FLS)/Distance is designed for those already working or volunteering in ambulance services at a minimum of Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) level. Those applying for FLS go through a credit recognition process to determine their point of entry into the programme.

The programme is delivered using a blended education model that integrates online learning, compulsory block courses, theory classes, simulation, and self-directed learning.

The programme can be studied either full or part time, with up to six years to complete the Degree.

It is a requirement to complete each year of study before progressing to the next year.

More detail about this qualification

Year One

Year one introduces ākongā to relevant science and pharmacology and beginning Paramedic practice. Utilising context-based learning ākongā explore the structure and function of the New Zealand Health System, roles and responsibilities of the paramedic;

legal and ethical issues, te Tiriti o Waitangi in paramedic practice; and the assessment and treatment of medical and trauma patients to a beginning practitioner level.

[Year one course outline](#)

Year Two

Year two consolidates and builds on year one, with pathophysiology and pharmacology integrated into the clinical context, and more increased focus on paramedic skills. Ākongā will transition from task focused technical skills to critical thinking in relation to patient care, as well as continuing to develop skills in academic scholarship and research.

[Year two course outline](#)

Year Three

The structure of year three increases the online content and delivery as ākongā are increasingly independent, with block weeks on campus. There is a greater focus on clinical reasoning, teamwork and leadership, along with in-depth exploration of legal, ethical and sociological issues. Ākongā will further develop their research skills in relation to paramedic practice. The amount of time spent in clinical placements is increased in the third year and is almost exclusively based in an emergency ambulance environment.

[Year three course outline](#)

Entry requirements

New ākongā must provide evidence of their New Zealand Diploma in Ambulance Practice (Level 5) and a Letter of Support.

International students

Proven equivalence of entry requirements plus IELTS 6.5 in each band

Find your country's [equivalent academic entry requirements here](#)

**For fee exclusions, please see our [terms and conditions](#).*

1. Apply online from the Whitireia website.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this document is correct at the time of print. Whitireia and WelTec | Te Pūkenga reserves the right to cancel or postpone any of the programmes, and shall not be liable for any claim other than the proportion of programme fees that the cancelled portion bears. Some programmes may be dependent upon formal approval from NZQA (New Zealand Qualifications Authority), TEC (Tertiary Education Commission) funding allocation, and the number of enrolments. As part of the NZQA targeted review of all Level 1-6 New Zealand qualifications, there may still be changes to some programmes starting in 2024. Fees, programmes, entry and selection criteria, and dates, are subject to change. Please check the relevant programme pages at whitireiaweltec.ac.nz for up-to-date information and full entry regulations before applying to enrol. Information regarding English language requirements is available on each course page at whitireiaweltec.ac.nz.

2. Before you start your online application, you will need to have the following documentation available to upload when requested:

- Completed Letter of Support
- Evidence of your New Zealand Diploma in Ambulance Practice (L5)
- Verified ID

Credit recognition

If you have relevant skills and knowledge through study or experiences in work or other activities, you may be able to receive credit for them when enrolling in a programme of study. Information (including the Credit Recognition Application form and fees information) is available [here](#)

Hear from our graduates

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pi6cvOiW_88&t=1s

Letter of support



Block course dates

