

**REGULATION 75****GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES MINISTRY**

Current version with effect from: 13 May 2021

Approved by: Council

Approval History: 7 Oct 2015, 20 Jun 2018

**75.1 Admission and Enrolment**

- 75.1.1 A person may apply to the Academic Board to enrol as a candidate for the Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry if he or she:
- a) has obtained or is qualified to obtain a Bachelor degree from the University of Divinity or from a university or college recognised by the Academic Board; or
  - b) has a minimum of five years of relevant work experience or relevant professional attainment to a standard recognised by the Academic Board.
- 75.1.2 Notwithstanding any other provision in this Regulation, the Academic Board may require an applicant to demonstrate fitness for admission by carrying out such work and sitting for such examinations or meeting such other standards as the Academic Board may decide.
- 75.1.3 An applicant who meets the requirements of the Academic Board may be admitted as a candidate for the Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry in a College of the University.
- 75.1.4 Every candidate for the Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry must be enrolled during the period of candidature at a College of the University, and must comply with the requirements of that College and of the University. Candidates may study units offered at other Colleges of the University.
- 75.1.5 The Academic Board may discontinue the candidature of any person whom it deems to have made unsatisfactory progress.

**75.2 Course Structure**

- 75.2.1 The standard full-time duration of the Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry is six months. The Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry must be completed in not less than six months and not more than two years from the date on which the course is commenced, not including any approved periods of leave of absence, unless the Academic Board decides otherwise.
- 75.2.2 Every course of study for the Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry must consist of 72 points.
- 75.2.3 The Academic Board must establish course outcomes for the Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry.
- 75.2.4 The Academic Board must decide the number and type of units required to complete the course of study and to meet the course outcomes for the Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry.

75.2.5 No candidate for the Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry may enrol in more than 72 points in any one semester, unless the Academic Board decides otherwise.

### **75.3 Credit**

75.3.1 The Academic Board may grant credit of up to 36 points towards the Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry. The Academic Board may establish specific credit arrangements for the Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry. Where credit is granted, the minimum term for completion of the Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry is reduced accordingly.

### **75.4 Award**

75.4.1 When a candidate has completed the requirements for the Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry, the Academic Board may recommend that the award be made to the candidate. A candidate to whom such an award has been made is entitled to use the letters 'GCCFM' as a suffix to his or her name.

**SCHEDULE TO REGULATION 75****GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES MINISTRY**

Current version with effect from: 26 Nov 2022

Approved by: Academic Board

Approval History: 18 Sep 2015, 15 Sep 2017, 1 Jun 2018, 25 Nov 2022

**75.2 Course Structure****75.2.3 Statement of Rationale and Course Outcomes**

The Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry provides an academic qualification which can be used as an instrument for accrediting people who are engaged in ministry with children and their families. Safe practice and effective ministry with children demands practical expertise, pastoral awareness, and ethical depth. In the context of ministry with children and their families, the practical, spiritual, and pastoral disciplines are becoming increasingly important and recognised foci in the church and its associate agencies. This qualification will assist the church and associated agencies to build a cohort of professionals and enthusiasts; provide opportunities for growth in this ministry; grow expertise in the Children's Ministry Network; improve skills and standards in the sector; and enhance community recognition for people engaged in ministry with children and their families.

Graduates of the Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry

1. have a broad knowledge of Biblical texts and the Christian tradition, particularly as these bear on 'child theology,' theologies of child, and child spirituality.
2. apply a clearly articulated vision of mission to children and their families in various ministry contexts and contemporary culture.
3. have a critical understanding of pastoral practices and theories of child development as these apply to ministry with children and their families.
4. apply the skills of theological reflection personally and contextually resulting in a coherent practice of ministry with children and their families.
5. have an understanding of ministry that recognises and values the spirituality and experiences of children.

**75.2.4 The Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry consists of 72 points comprised of:**

- a) DP8100Z Children and Families Ministry: Issues and Contexts
- b) DP9030Z The Nurture and Spiritual Guidance of Children in Global Perspective
- c) Further units at postgraduate level.

**75.3 Credit****75.3.1 Credit may be granted in accordance with the Credit Policy of the Academic Board.**