

## New Diploma of Rehabilitation

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The Royal Rehabilitation College has developed a unique, nationally recognised Diploma of Rehabilitation. The diploma provides a practical, multidisciplinary, flexible, accessible and relevant program for those seeking an accredited qualification in rehabilitation.

The Royal Rehabilitation College has been able to gain national accreditation for this course because an equivalent multidisciplinary course did not exist within Australia.

The diploma is a self-paced course offered by distance education, which provides the greatest flexibility around participant needs. The course content was developed by experienced rehabilitation clinicians working at the Royal Rehabilitation Centre Sydney. Core units provide the foundation for working in a rehabilitation environment, while there are elective options in spinal injury, neurology, cardiopulmonary, orthopaedics, oncology, community, mental health and aged care. There are also units on goal-directed care, health promotion and prevention and research skills.

The diploma provides an opportunity to refresh and enhance skills or to retrain. It provides professional development with a practical rehabilitation focus and a chance to enhance skills and knowledge of new areas of rehabilitation within an interdisciplinary learning environment. Support for this distance course has come from clinicians working in rehabilitation who are interested in validating their skills or who are returning to the workforce after extended leave, and from others interested in moving into rehabilitation from another speciality.



*Rehab in action.*



*Spinal rehabilitation.*

The diploma also provides an opportunity for specialised training of allied health assistants to meet the increasing demand for rehabilitation services due to the ageing and growing population.

The Royal Rehabilitation College is a health-industry-based private registered training organisation that is part of the Royal Rehabilitation Centre Sydney. The college specialises in the training and assessment of the Certificate IV in Allied Health Assistance, with over 200 participants nationally. This experience with clinicians throughout NSW and Australia has highlighted the need for specific practical training in rehabilitation. The concept, development and accreditation of the Diploma of Rehabilitation is the result of this experience.

The Royal Rehabilitation Centre Sydney provides specialist rehabilitation and disability services for people with complex and long term health care needs, traumatic brain injury and spinal cord injury. Royal Rehab engages in extensive education and research to improve the rehabilitation outcomes for its clients and, as a teaching hospital, Royal Rehab has strong partnerships with the University of Sydney's academic units.

Registrations for the Diploma of Rehabilitation are now open for 2011. For further information on this fantastic learning opportunity contact Royal Rehabilitation College (02 9808 9626, [enquiries@royalrehab.com.au](mailto:enquiries@royalrehab.com.au)) or see [www.royalrehab.com.au/college/courses.html](http://www.royalrehab.com.au/college/courses.html).