

OP3171 The Open Polytechnic Certificate in Sterilising Technology (Level 3)

This Open Polytechnic programme assists to develop knowledge and skills in the decontamination of instruments, equipment and materials for health purposes. It is designed for people using sterilisation procedures in healthcare facilities and is a qualification recognised by the New Zealand Sterile Services Association.

Download the brochure for this programme, (pdf - 173kb - this will open a new window).

Programme structure

The programme consists of 7 courses, which are delivered in two modules. You will be required to successfully complete all courses in module one before enrolling in module two.

Module one consists of:

Course	Title	Credits	Level
3300	Microbiology and infection control	5	3
3301	Decontamination and care of instruments	3	3
3302	Packaging, handling and storage of sterile supplies	4	3

Module two consists of:

Course	Title	Credits	Level
3303	Steam sterilisation	6	3
3304	Low temperature sterilisation, dry heat sterilisation and gamma radiation	4	3
3305	Monitoring and testing of sterilisers	3	3
3306	Sterilising technology practice	15	3

To complete these courses, you will need to have access to a sterile services workplace using steam sterilisation and have a supervisor who is able to confirm that you have demonstrated and/or

completed the required workplace tasks.

Entry requirements

To gain entry to all courses in the Open Polytechnic Certificate in Sterilising Technology you will need to:

- Be employed in a New Zealand healthcare facility providing sterile services Exemption: This entry requirement will not apply if the Academic Registrar of the Polytechnic is satisfied that you are capable of completing the coursework and workplace requirements by reason of your current work situation
- Have a supervision agreement with an approved workplace supervisor
- Be a member of the New Zealand Sterile Services Association

To enrol in Course 3303 you will need to **have access to a workplace suitable for completing practical tasks using steam sterilisation.**

If you do not have access to all the required sterilisation methods in your workplace please contact the Programme Leader before submitting your enrolment application.

Level of study

Level 3 (Find out about levels of study)

Hours of study

400 hours for the total programme. Hours vary for individual courses, from 30 to 150 hours.

What do I do now?

Request a copy of the brochure.

Download an enrolment form.

For further information free phone 0508 650 200 or email

Other Information

If you are interested in enrolling in the Certificate in Sterilising Technology (Level 3), you must complete an Application for Enrolment form and return it to the Open Polytechnic.

In addition, you will be required to submit a signed supervision agreement with details of your named workplace supervisor.

To find out more about this programme, contact the Programme Leader:

Lyn Mowles

Freephone: 0508 650 200 Ext. 5595 (Mon - Thurs)

Direct Phone: 04 913 5595 (Mon - Thurs)

Email: Lyn Mowles