

Expression of Interest

Doctor of Professional Practice (DProfPrac)

This information is designed to help you write a detailed Expression of Interest (EOI) for your Doctor of Professional Practice (DProfPrac) application. The headings (in bold and underlined), give you an example of a useful structure and the suggestions for detail in each section should help you to understand the content you need to include. Word counts are for guidance and do not include references.

**Please remember that this is a doctoral degree in professional practice and differs greatly from a research-based degree in a taught programme at university.**

### **Title**

The title needs to include the following:

“Expression of Interest for the Doctor of Professional Practice”

*“Your Title here”*

### **Introduction** (250-350 words)

In this section, introduce yourself, your practice and your thinking using the model below (for example, think general ideas, domains of practice, knowledge areas that you want to investigate or practice questions you might have) – here, you are ‘setting the scene’.

**The Gap(s) in Practice and Research in Your Profession or Workplace** (1000 words)

**Subject or topic area 1**

Level of depth, level of specificity identifying the research and practice areas you want to focus on.

**Subject or topic area 2**

**Subject or topic area 3**

 **Gap(s) in the published research**

**What do Work-based Learning theories and Professional Practice research say about your profession or workplace context?** (1000 words)

In these sections, you need to convey what the current gaps are in professional practice and in research that are aligned to the topic you want to focus on in the DProfPrac. The two are intertwined in the DProfPrac. You could describe this by going from general to specific. Using the conceptual diagram above, subject or topic area 1 might be a higher-level topic where you explain current practice and the larger gaps in the research. As you go down the triangle model above, you would show the gaps in research and practice in the subsets or sub-topics.

The overall summary of this section could have a titled called “Gaps in the published research” where you summarise the key gaps and show how your study might advance the field of practice.

### **The significance of this research project** (750-1000 words)

Overall, the DProfPrac requires learners to: **create new knowledge that will advance practice.** In this section you want to link the ideas explored so far into an explanation of the significance of your proposed project. You could start this section by explaining how your proposed project might contribute to the current gaps in practice and research paying attention to specific goals or aims that you would work towards.

**References**

You need to use an established format for referencing all the sources you use in this document. The American Psychological Association (APA) is one accepted and common format. You can find helpful information on this [here](https://apastyle.apa.org/?_ga=2.85215897.184837084.1639097988-347313543.1639097988) or search in [www.apastyle.org](http://www.apastyle.org) and look for the heading called ‘APA STYLE’.

**What’s next?**

Send your draft to the Head of Programme (Professional Practice) below to review, who will let you know whether you are OK to enrol now or whether your E.O.I needs more work.

Contact: Dr Helen Papuni (helen.papuni@op.ac.nz). Please put “DProfPrac EOI submission” in the subject header of your email so that she can quickly identify it.

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