



**Australian  
Dental  
Council**

**Accreditation Summary Report**

<b>Program provider</b>	La Trobe University
<b>Program/qualification name</b>	Bachelor of Oral Health Science
<b>Program/qualification abbreviation</b>	BOHSc
<b>Program/qualification code</b>	Bendigo (HBOHSB)
<b>Head office address, including State</b>	Melbourne, Victoria
<b>Approved campus(es)</b>	Bendigo
<b>Program length</b>	3 years
<b>Registration division</b>	Dental hygienist Dental therapist Oral health therapist
<b>Registration specialty</b>	Not applicable
<b>Qualification type</b>	Higher education – undergraduate qualification
<b>Program type</b>	Bachelor program – AQF Level 7
<b>Accreditation standards version</b>	June 2010, version 1.0
<b>Date of site evaluation</b>	29 April to 1 May 2013
<b>Date of ADC decision</b>	June 2013
<b>Type of accreditation</b>	Re-accreditation of existing program
<b>Accreditation start date</b>	Renewed from 1 January 2014
<b>Accreditation end date</b>	31 December 2018

**Background**

The Bachelor of Oral Health Science (BOHSc) program at La Trobe University commenced in 2005 and was visited by the ADC in October 2007, with accreditation subsequently granted until 31 December 2013.

In August 2010 the ADC reviewed the delivery of a new subject in Year 3 of the program which extends students’ clinical restorative skills so they can provide simple direct tooth restoration in adult patients (defined as those over 25 years of age). The ADC found that the unit met the educational requirements within the overall accreditation status of the program (full accreditation until 31 December 2013).The program therefore offers students theoretical and practical experience in the complete scope of practice of the oral health therapist and prepares them to restore teeth in adults of all ages.

**Summary of ADC program evaluation**

In carrying out the evaluation of the BOHSc, the ADC interviewed a wide range of individuals, staff groups, students and other stakeholders, and visited a number of the clinics used in the program.

Strengths of the program include the staff's enthusiasm and professionalism. Students also reported positively on their experiences and felt well prepared to meet the course demands, with staff providing good academic and pastoral care.

The course is well-developed and implemented and draws on valid and reliable assessment tools to ensure that graduates have the knowledge and skills to practice. Students have access to opportunities to broaden their exposure to cultural diversity in a clinical practice setting.

The program could be further improved by providing better calibration of clinical assessment procedures to allow for improved input from clinical teaching staff into the progression and performance of students.

**ADC's accreditation decision**

In June 2013 the ADC Board re-accredited the La Trobe University Bachelor of Oral Health Science until 31 December 2018.