HOW DO I APPLY?
Prospective students must apply directly to the University (not through VTAC) and are required to complete a Higher Education Direct Admission/Supplementary Information Form.

Application forms are available from www.vu.edu.au/admissions or by emailing admissions@vu.edu.au

Certified copies of your qualifications must be included in your application.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
This degree is offered to international students as full-fee paying course. For further information for international students, visit www.vu.edu.au/international or contact Victoria University International (VUI) on +61 3 9919 1164. CRICOS Provider No. 00124K

IMPORTANT DATES?
Intakes for this program are taken in both semester 1 and 2 of each year. Applications for the semester 1 intake should ideally be received by January 31st and by June 30th for the semester 2 intake.
BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCE (PARAMEDIC)

COURSE CODE: HBPA

(HBPA/ this course is a direct entry course. It does not appear in the VTAC guide)

COURSE AIM
This course will allow pre-hospital practitioners, qualified ambulance officers and paramedics with an Associate Diploma of Health Science (Ambulance Officer), Diploma of Health Science (Paramedic), Diploma of Paramedical Science (Ambulance) or equivalent level qualification to upgrade to a Degree. The program of study is designed to complement and build upon the skills and knowledge base provide by traditional Diploma programs. You will be called upon to relate the subject matter provided, to your current scope of practice, enabling you to become a more self-reflective, evidenced-focused practitioner.

WHERE DO I STUDY?
There is no on-campus attendance required for this course. The mode of study is via flexible delivery distance education with the course materials being delivered via WebCT/Blackboard. You are required to have regular internet access via a 56k dial-up, broadband or satellite link, with Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox or comparable internet browser.

HOW LONG?
This is a one-year full time or a two-year part-time course. Most students chose to study in part-time mode.

ARE THERE ANY COSTS?
This course is offered both with full fee paying and Commonwealth Government supported (HECS/HELP) places (as of semester 1, 2009). Information on the fee structure can be found at http://wcf.vu.edu.au/HandBook/

WHAT’S IN IT FOR ME?
Successful completion of the course (a pass in every subject) will upgrade your qualifications to a Bachelor’s Degree, which is fast becoming to base educational standard for (new) Student Paramedics. This will keep you abreast of current educational standards, and those involved in clinical supervision will be able to stay one step ahead of the ‘new breed’ of degree-based students now filtering into the ambulance services.

You will be provided with the most up-to-date knowledge and evidence in prehospital and paramedic care, allowing you to keep pace with new practices and potentially become an agent of change within your own service or scope of expertise. In addition to this, a degree will also give those who are interested in pursuing post-graduate qualifications or areas such as medicine, a solid undergraduate program that can be used a stepping stone to further studies.

WHAT IS THE COURSE STRUCTURE?
The course structure has 7 compulsory core subjects and 1 elective (to be selected from a variety of subjects offered by the department). Students usually elect to study in part-time mode (2 subjects per semester). The core subjects are currently:

- Professional Basis of Paramedic Practice 1
- Professional Basis of Paramedic Practice 2
- Integration of Paramedic Practice 1
- Integration of Paramedic Practice 2
- Issues in Prehospital Health Service Delivery
- Prehospital Legal and Ethical Issues
- Paramedical Research

Electives currently offered include: Mentoring and Clinical Instruction, Practitioner Health 3 (Mental Health), Advanced Paramedic Practice 3, and Advanced Pharmacology.

HOW DO I GET IN?
You must meet the following minimum requirements to be eligible for admission into the conversion program:

1. You are required to be a practising Paramedic with a current Certificate of Practice or Certificate of Registration within your relevant State, Territory or Country’s emergency ambulance service.
2. You must hold an Associate Diploma of Health Science (Ambulance Officer), Diploma of Health Science (Paramedic), Diploma of Paramedical Science (Ambulance) or equivalent level qualification
3. You need to have at least 1 year minimum post-qualification on-road experience in an emergency ambulance service or equivalent setting.

You are required to apply directly to the University and certified copies of all qualifications and certificates must be forwarded with your application.

PATHWAYS
There are no pathways offered for this course and no additional RPL/Advanced Standing will be offered to students.