

# The Degree of Professional Master of Computer Science (PMCS – 180 points)

These regulations must be read in conjunction with the General Regulations for the University.

## 1. Version

- (a) These Regulations came into force on 1 January 2026.
- (b) This degree was first offered in 2021.

## 2. Variations

In exceptional circumstances the Amo Matua, Pūhanga | Executive Dean of Engineering or delegate may approve a personal programme of study which does not conform to these regulations.

## 3. The structure of the qualification

To qualify for the Professional Master of Computer Science a student must be credited with a minimum of 180 points towards the qualification; including:

- (a) 75 points from Schedule C; and
- (b) 105 points from Schedule E of these regulations.

## 4. Admission to the Qualification

To be admitted to the Professional Master of Computer Science a student must have:

- (a) satisfied the Admission Regulations for admission to the University; and
- (b) qualified with an Aoteroa New Zealand Bachelor's degree in the field of computer science, computer engineering, software engineering or a similar field with either:
  - i. a B Grade Point Average in 300-level courses; or
  - ii. recognition of prior learning and/or experience in the field, including any qualifying programme, as approved by the Tumuaki Tari | Head of Department; or
  - iii. been admitted with Academic Equivalent Standing; and
- (c) been approved as a candidate for the degree by the Amo Matua, Pūhanga | Executive Dean of Engineering or delegate.

## 5. Subjects

The degree will be awarded without endorsements, majors or minors.

## 6. Time limits

This qualification adheres to the General Regulations for the University with a time limit of 36 months.

## 7. Transfers of credit, substitutions and cross-credits

This qualification adheres to the General Conditions for Credit and Transfer Regulations, with no additional stipulations.

## 8. Progression

This qualification adheres to the General Regulations for the University with the following stipulation:

- (a) A student may not fail more than 30 points in this qualification.

## 9. Honours, Distinction and Merit

This qualification adheres to the General Regulations for the University and may be awarded with Distinction and Merit.

## 10. Exit and Upgrade Pathways to other Qualifications

- (a) There are no advancing qualifications for this degree.
- (b) A student who has not met the requirements of the Professional Master of Computer Science may apply to the Amo Matua, Pūhanga | Executive Dean of Engineering or delegate for admission and transfer of credit to any of these programmes:
  - i. Postgraduate Certificate in Science;
  - ii. Postgraduate Diploma in Science; or
  - iii. Master of Science with Part I completed.

## 11. Transition Regulation

Students first enrolled in the Professional Master of Computer Science before 1 January 2026 may complete the degree without COSC469 by substituting an elective from Schedule E instead. COSC469 is required for a transfer to the Master of Science in Computer Science Part II. This transition regulation expires on 31 December 2028.

## Schedule C: Compulsory Course for the Degree of Professional Master of Computer Science

For full course information, go to [courseinfo.canterbury.ac.nz](http://courseinfo.canterbury.ac.nz)

| Course Code | Course Title                                                  | Pts | 2026 | Location | P/C/R/RP/EQ                                                 |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----|------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| COSC469     | Research Methods in Computer Science and Software Engineering | 15  | SI   | Campus   | P: Subject to approval by Head of Department.<br>R: COSC460 |
| COSC680     | Computer Science Professional Project                         | 60  | FY   | Campus   | P: Subject to approval of the Head of Department.           |

## Schedule E: Elective Courses for the Degree of Professional Master of Computer Science

- (a) COSC401-499 (except COSC460, COSC461, COSC470, COSC475, COSC476, COSC480, COSC486),
- (b) SENG401-499 (except SENG402),
- (c) no more than 15 points from DATA420, DATA423-425, DATA430-439,
- (d) INFO621, INFO634
- (e) With the approval of the Tumuaki Tari | Head of Department, up to 30 points from another subject.