A career in nursing and/or midwifery
Nursing and midwifery are rewarding professions that can provide many experiences, opportunities and challenges

- Save lives!
- You don’t have to be stuck in an office
- The work is stimulating
- Travel
- It is satisfying
- Change where you work
- What you do matters
- You make a difference!
Employment opportunities

- Nurses and midwives are always in demand
- You can work in the public, private or non-government sectors
- You can work in metropolitan, regional areas, interstate or overseas
- You can work in hospitals, community, clinics, schools, defence forces, cruise ships, mine sites, aid agencies, mobile health services, universities and.....basically anywhere where you find people.
Some areas nurses work in:

- Aboriginal health
- burns
- cardiology (heart)
- clinical nursing
- community
- continence
- dementia
- diabetes education
- dialysis
- domiciliary (nursing care in the home)
- education (hospital or university based)
- emergency
- family health
- gerontology/aged care
- infection control
- intensive care
- management
- medical nursing
- mental health
- neonatal intensive care (newborn babies)
- nurse practitioner
- occupational health
- oncology (relating to cancer)
- paediatric (children)
- peri-operative (operating theatres)
- plastic surgery
- rehabilitation
- remote area nursing
- research
- rural nursing
- surgical nursing
- wound care
 It’s not what you see on TV
 You’re part of a whole team – clinical, admin, engineering, catering
 Unless people have been to hospital, or have been in contact with a nurse or midwife….hard to really know what they do
 What we do is science based
 How we do it has been described as an art
Enrolled nurse (EN)

- Diploma level qualification
  12-18 months at training institutes
- Graduates earn $57,210 plus shift bonuses
  Advanced Skill EN (highest EN level) $66,109
- Can work in a variety of areas, but more limited than RN role
- Works under the supervision of the RN
- Expanding role – can specialise, Advanced Skill EN, give medications
- Pathway to RN education
Registered nurse (RN)

- University educated (3-3.5 yrs full-time)
- Largest group of nurses employed
- Graduates earn approx $64,000 plus shift bonuses. Pay increases annually
- Work in the largest variety of clinical settings
- Many opportunities for promotion (>160,000)
- Diversity in roles – education, research, management, clinical, policy, human resources
Midwife

- Are different to nurses
- Males can be midwives too
- The word midwife means ‘with woman’
- Midwives give support, care and advice during pregnancy, labour and after the baby is born
- Midwives conduct births and provide care for the newborn baby
- Can work in a variety of settings including clinics, hospitals, birthing centres or in the woman’s home.
Midwife cont…

- University educated
  - Direct entry program 3 years
  - Dual degree (RN and Mid) 4 years
  - Postgraduate – 18 months (after doing RN degree)
- Pay rate is the same as Registered Nurses
What about shift work?

- Patients need care 24/7 so shift work is required
- You can make requests
- You can have days off during the week
- You can sleep in and go to work at 1pm, or start early and finish work at 3.30pm.
- You earn extra money ie 75% extra on Sundays
- You get extra days off
What subjects do I need?

- Registered nursing and midwifery
  - Year 12 science, maths and English
  - ATAR usually between 55-85

- Enrolled nursing
  - A pass in Year 12 English and maths
Pathways to a nursing or midwifery career in Western Australia

Entry Options
- Year 10
  - Certificate II
  - Portfolio or RPL
- Year 11
  - Certificate III
  - STAT
  - Portfolio or RPL
- Year 12
  - Certificate IV
  - STAT
  - Portfolio or RPL
  - Year 12 (WACE)
  - Enrolled Nurse qualification
  - STAT
  - Portfolio or RPL
- Other degree

Qualification
- Certificate III - Assistant in Nursing
- Certificate IV
  - Health Science Foundations, Preparation for Nursing Education or other health related Cert IVs
- Enrolled Nurse
  - Diploma of Nursing
- Midwife
  - Bachelor of Science (Midwifery)
  - ATAR 88
  - Dual Degree
    - Bachelor of Science (Nursing)/Bachelor of Science (Midwifery)
    - ATAR 65
- Registered Nurse
  - Bachelor of Science (Nursing)
  - ATAR 55-75
  - Graduate Entry Masters in Nursing
- Other degree

Employment opportunities
- Assistant in Nursing

Further education opportunities
- Advanced Diploma in Nursing
- Endorsed Eligible Midwife
- Grad Diploma or Masters of Midwifery
- Nurse Practitioner

Acronyms
- RPL = Recognition of Prior Learning
- STAT = Special Tertiary Admission Test
- WACE = Western Australian Certificate of Education
Where can I study enrolled nursing?

North Metropolitan TAFE
- Central, Mt Lawley
- West Coast, Joondalup

South Metropolitan TAFE
- Challenger, Murdoch

Marr Mooditj Training

Institute of Health and Nursing

Silver Chain

Central Regional TAFE
- CY O’Connor, Northam
- Durack, Geraldton
- Goldfields, Kalgoorlie

North Regional TAFE
- Pilbara, South Hedland

South Regional TAFE
- CY O’Connor, Narrogin
- Great Southern, Albany
- South West, Bunbury

University of Notre Dame, Broome
Where can I study registered nursing?

Curtin University
- Bentley, Albany, Geraldton

Edith Cowan University
- Joondalup, Bunbury

Murdoch University
- Peel (Mandurah), Murdoch

University of Notre Dame
- Fremantle

Curtin offers a Graduate Masters degree (you must have another type of degree first)
Where can I study midwifery?

**Undergraduate** (very competitive entry, ATAR 80-88)

- **Curtin University** (3yrs – only Midwifery)
  - Bentley
- **Edith Cowan University** (4yrs – RN and Midwifery)
  - Joondalup

**Postgraduate** (18 months following RN degree)

- **University of Notre Dame**
  - Fremantle
- **Curtin University**
  - Bentley
- **Edith Cowan University**
  - Joondalup
Alternative pathways

If you don’t complete ATAR:

- **A Certificate IV in Preparation for Nursing Education** will prepare for entry to a Diploma of Nursing or Bachelor of Science (Nursing) course.

- **A Certificate IV in Health Science Foundations** will prepare for entry into a Bachelor of Science (Nursing or Midwifery) or a Diploma of Nursing.

- There are also other bridging programs offered by the various education providers.

- It is also worth contacting the individual education providers to find out if you are eligible for any credits towards course entrance based on previous qualifications obtained or partially completed, or any work experience.
Assistant in Nursing

Gain a Certificate III in Health Service Assistance (Acute Care) to become an Assistant in Nursing and then use this as a pathway into nursing or midwifery.

Depending on your background and experience, there are a number of ways to enter into this course:

- **No previous experience.** You will be required to complete the full course.
- **Some patient support working experience.** You may be able to shorten the coursework requirement, by negotiating and obtaining Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) with the state training provider.
- **Currently enrolled and completing a Bachelor of Science (Nursing).** You may be able to negotiate and obtain RPL using your academic transcript to obtain the Acute Care AIN qualification with the state training provider.
GREaT Nursing and Midwifery Work Experience Program

- This program allows Year 10 students to experience nursing and midwifery and supports informed career pathway decisions, prior to undertaking study.
- Participating hospitals offer students five consecutive days of experience.
- Applications are open during Term 1 each year.
GREaT student comments:

- “I got to watch an operation…amazed at the whole process.”
- “Being given hands on tasks to carry out instead of just watching, I felt really good.”
- “I really enjoyed interacting with patients and experiencing what the nurses were doing. I loved holding and feeding the babies in the special care nursery and having such lovely mentors.”
- “I liked the fact that I got to go and experience so many different areas within nursing and the hospital.”
GREaT supervisor comments:

- “They all have been given loads of STI and contraceptive advice from the midwives.”
- “One has been involved in a code blue.”
- “All enjoyed Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and they have seen a few very young mums, some their own age or younger.”
Scholarships

We offer up to $2mil in scholarships every year.

We offer scholarships to:
- become a nurse or midwife
- for postgraduate study to progress your career
Nursing and midwifery... can take you anywhere.

Where will it take you?