

Gradstart Program



Our dedicated team provide professional services to some of the most vulnerable people in our community. Staff display openness and respect the rights of individuals to develop holistic treatment plans, empowering change to support positive health outcomes.

Operating across the District at hospitals and community health centres, Drug Health Services, supports the community from Bankstown, Fairfield and Liverpool, to Campbelltown, Camden and Bowral. The service delivers a range of programs to patients including opioid treatment, hospital consultation and liaison services, substance use in pregnancy services, court diversion, harm minimisation, counselling, Blood Borne Virus and Hepatitis C treatment, specialist medical consultation, inpatient and outpatient withdrawal services and a newly established drug health youth program.

Stream	Gradstart RN • Drug Health.
Duration	12 month program: • 1 x five month Inpatient Withdrawal Management Unit • 1 x five month Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) • Two months in Drug Health speciality services
Intake dates (subject to change)	Intakes are in April each year
Rotations / specialties	To provide you with a range of experiences, each applicant is typically offered a rotation on an inpatient ward (at an outpatient service OTP) followed by Drug Health speciality service (subject to numbers and availability) Ward – Fairfield Inpatient Withdrawal Management Unit OTP – locations include Bankstown, Campbelltown and Liverpool Specialties – Hospital Consultation Liaison, Dual Diagnosis, Blood Borne Virus clinic and Hepatitis C treatment, GP Liaison Service
Orientation and support	We offer a structured program for the new graduates • Three day face-to-face (includes two days for Drug Health) • 10 days supernummery in the clinical area • Preceptorship at each rotation • Gradstart Coordinator offering support and debrief sessions throughout the program
Study days / education	Two days throughout the year and additional training specific to Drug Health such as Child Protection targeted training, Domestic Violence Routine Screening