

GradStart Program



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The South Western Sydney Local Health District (SWSLHD) Mental Health Service is offering the Grad Start program for newly Registered Nurses (RNs).

This 12-month program comprises both academic and clinical learning and includes experience in a wide range of specialty streams within Mental Health.

START DATES

Depending on the workforce need, Mental Health-SWSLHD has one or two intakes throughout the year; March (main intake) and June (as required).

WHAT IT INCLUDES

- Face to Face Education
- Academic Work
- Clinical Assessment
- Online Learning
- In-services and Debriefings
- Clinical Supervision
- Specific De-escalation Training
- Two clinical placements of six months, with the option of an additional specialty rotation by expression of interest
- Designated Clinical Nurse Educator for Grad Start that provides individual support throughout the year.
- Paid Training Days
- Individual Preceptors

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Face to Face Education

You will be offered face to face training and assessment throughout the year.

The purpose of the face-to-face training is to provide participants with the knowledge and skills required to effectively work in a Mental Health setting including self-care.

Academic Work

During Grad Start year new graduates are required to submit academic work for assessment.

Clinical Assessment

You will be assessed in 10 clinical skills during the course of the program in the clinical environment.

Online Learning

We offer specific modular online learning through My Health Learning.

Specific Personal safety/De-escalation/ Violence Prevention and Management (VPM) Training

A four-day training program, provides a consistent approach to violence prevention and management, equipping staff with technique to de-escalate situations involving a range of challenging behaviors.

Two Clinical Placements

You will be required to complete two placements of six months duration during your transition year: across any of our three inpatient facilities and community mental health centres.

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You will be required to complete two placements of six months duration during your transition year: across any of our three inpatient sites and community mental health centers :

- Campbelltown Hospital
- Liverpool Hospital
- Bankstown Hospital
- Community Mental Health Services

Support

Throughout the year you will be supported by a Clinical Nurse Educator and while on placement a Trained Preceptor and Buddy Nurse. You will also take part in Group Clinical Supervision, In-services and De-briefings.

Application Process

The NSW Health will open application for Grad Start program from 9am on Tuesday 17th June 2025 through to 11:59pm on Monday 30th June 2025.

Eligibility

- Intend to complete your initial Nursing degree that leads to initial registration as Registered Nurse between 1 June 2025 and 31 May 2026.
- Be Registered as a RN with NMBA prior to the agreed date of commencement of employment.
- Be an Australian Citizen/ Permanent Resident or hold a Visa that allows ongoing full-time employment.

GradStart Program

You can apply through the NSW Health GradStart program.

You can find information on how to apply, including an applicant guide and the key dates at the NSW Health web-site.

If you aspire your career in Mental Health, make sure you choose the facility "SWSLHD Mental Health Services" as your facility of choice.

MORE INFORMATION

If you are interested and would like to get more information about the program, please contact the following:

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