

GradStart Program 2025



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

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

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

START DATES

Depending on the workforce need, Mental Health - SWSLHD offers 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. At the end of the program, you can express an interest for additional placement to a different speciality unit.
- Designated Clinical Nurse Educator for GradStart to provide individual support throughout the year.
- Paid Training and study Days
- Supernumerary Days in each rotation
- Individual Preceptors

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Face to Face Education

You will be offered face-to-face training, and assessments throughout the year.

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

Academic Work

The Gradstarts will take part in mandatory academic work as part of the assessment.

Clinical Assessment

The program includes a formal assessment of 11 Mental Health clinical skills.

Online Learning

We offer various online learning modules via My Health Learning.

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

Mandatory four-day face-to-face workshop is provided to support staff with strategies to de-escalate situations involving a range of challenging behaviours

Two Clinical Placements

You will be required to complete two placements of six months each across any of the below facilities:

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

Support

Throughout the year a Nurse Unit Manager, Clinical Nurse Educator, Trained Preceptor and a Buddy Nurse will support you. You will also take part in Group Clinical Supervision, In-services and De-briefings.

Application Process

The NSW Health Department is scheduled to initiate the application process for the 2025 GradStart program in late June 2024 or early July 2024. Prospective candidates are encouraged to monitor official communications from NSW Health for precise dates and detailed instructions pertaining to the application procedure.

Eligibility

- Intend to complete your initial Nursing degree that leads to initial registration as Registered Nurse between 1 June 2024 and 31 May 2025.
- Be Registered Nurse as RN with NMBA prior to the agreed commencement date of employment.
- Be an Australian Citizen/Permanent Resident or hold a valid work rights to work in Australia.

How to choose Mental Health GradStart Program @ SWSLHD?

You can apply through the NSW Health GradStart program.

If you aspire to be a Mental Health Nurse, Please ensure to select the facility “**South Western Sydney Local Health District (SWSLHD)**” as your facility of choice and choose “**Mental Health**” as your first preference during your interview.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information, please contact:

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