



Government of Western Australia
WA Country Health Service

WA Country Health Service
Nursing & Midwifery Services

Working together for a healthier country WA

WACHS Nursing & Midwifery “TRAVEL” Program

(Transition to Rural – AdVENTure & Lifestyle)

for 2nd year and above Registered Nurses & Midwives

- Would you like to see what nursing or midwifery in rural WA is all about?
- Have you thought about moving to the country, but not sure where you would like to live and work?
- Do you have an adventurous spirit and enjoy new experiences?
- Would you like to improve your knowledge and skills working with Aboriginal people?

Maybe the “TRAVEL” Program is for you!

What is TRAVEL?

TRAVEL is a program run by WA Country Health Service (WACHS) which provides the opportunity for registered nurses (RN) and Midwives to live and work in a variety of rural communities and experience what rural nursing / midwifery and lifestyle can offer.

Participants will experience 3 different rotations over a 12 month period, with approximately 4 months at each location. Travel will be provided and accommodation will be available (at a reasonable cost to participants) at each location.

Who is the program suitable for?

As climate, physical landscape, town facilities, accommodation and hospital resources vary considerably across the state; the program is most suitable for individuals who are adventurous, confident and open to new experiences. Participants need to be flexible and adapt quickly to changes in environment and clinical context. A friendly and participative approach will ensure that maximum enjoyment is obtained from each new experience.

Unfortunately, sponsorship is not available for international applicants.



Our Values: Community | Compassion | Quality | Integrity | Justice

What experience do applicants require?

Applicants must have current unconditional registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia.

RN applicants require a minimum of 12 months recent acute care nursing experience. Whilst not essential for all locations or placements (and you can still fully participate in the program without it), emergency department experience and/or triage skills will be highly regarded and increase placement opportunities and locations.

Midwife applicants must have at least 12 months recent postgraduate midwifery experience and have current birth suite skills. Due to the context of practice in small hospitals, midwives must have the capacity to work in an environment where they may be part of a small midwifery team and be confident with independent midwifery decision-making and escalation. If registered as both a Midwife and RN (not essential), they may be required to work as an RN when midwifery activity is low.

Can I choose where I go?

Participants will have the opportunity to express their preference from the list of participating locations and efforts will be made to try and accommodate preferences where possible. However this may not always be possible (and past clinical experience may limit placement options). The program should be seen as an opportunity to move outside of a participant's usual comfort zone and try a variety of practice contexts. Note: not all regions within WACHS (and not all hospitals within each region) participate in each intake period.

What other information is helpful to know?

It is expected that participants will commit to completing the full 12 month program. Employment opportunities are usually available after completion (although are not guaranteed).

As a rotational program utilising existing health service short-term accommodation which may involve shared facilities, there is single accommodation provision only (fee payable), with no capacity to accommodate families or pets within these health service facilities. Should a participant wish to be accompanied by a partner, this will need to be negotiated on an individual basis after acceptance in to the program. The capacity of a location to accommodate a partner is entirely site dependent, and will in no way be guaranteed or transferable to another location.

A travel allowance is provided for movement between rotations, and 3 weeks annual leave is pre-allocated during the program.

How do I apply?

If the program appeals to you, you need to apply online at www.jobs.health.wa.gov.au during the active applications periods for each intake. There are separate pools for RN and Midwives (check the advertisement JDF to ensure you are applying for the correct pool). You should provide statements addressing the selection criteria to demonstrate your suitability. Further information from www.wacountry.health.wa.gov.au/rotationalprograms

What if I have a question?

Should you wish more information, you are encouraged to contact Sue Hennessey, Nurse Manager Workforce Development on wachsnurses@health.wa.gov.au or (08) 97812027

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