

Assistant in Nursing (AIN) for Aboriginal People



Health



Why not start your career as an Assistant in Nursing today through a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) such as TAFE – one of the many exciting career options is available in the NSW public health system. A career in health provides unique opportunities and opens the door to some fantastic experiences. If this sounds like the kind of career you'd like, then take the time to explore the options on offer.

What sort of work do AINs do?

Assistants in Nursing support the care of patients in hospitals, nursing homes, clinics and institutions for the aged or disabled. Tasks include:

- Responds to a patient's emotional, spiritual and cultural need under the direction of the Registered Nurse.
- Observe and reports any changes in the patient's condition (temperature, pulse etc).
- Help patients to move around and to communicate
- Assist with pressure area care by assisting other team members to lift and turn bed bound patients
- Help to shower, bathe and shave patients
- Assist patients with dressing and eating
- Assist with rehabilitation exercise and basic treatments
- Prepare bed areas
- Perform simple dressing
- Ensure dignity and privacy for the patient

How to become an Assistant in Nursing?

There are 2 types of qualifications that enable you to qualify as an Assistant in Nursing :

1. **Acute Care pathway Certificate III Health Services Assistance** (National Code HLT 32507).
This qualification allows you to work in hospitals and acute settings.
2. **Certificate III Aged Care** (National Code CHC 30208).
This qualification allows you to work in nursing homes and residential care facilities. AINs in aged care/ disability services are sometimes known by other titles.

The qualification will provide you with an opportunity to develop knowledge and acquire skills in:

- Basic anatomy and physiology
- Observation and monitoring of patients
- Providing patient care in a team setting (under the direction of a registered nurse)
- Transporting non-urgent or stable patients and
- Communicating and working effectively with patients and colleagues.

How can you start a career as an AIN in Health?

You can start by completing an accredited course in your chosen specialty area, for example:

- TAFE Vocational Education & Training (TVET) schools based Certificate III in Health Service Assistance during Years 11 & 12
- Post secondary school Certificate III qualification in Health Service Assistance. This qualification provides formal, nationally recognised training to enable you to work as a support member in the delivery of nursing care in an acute care environment.

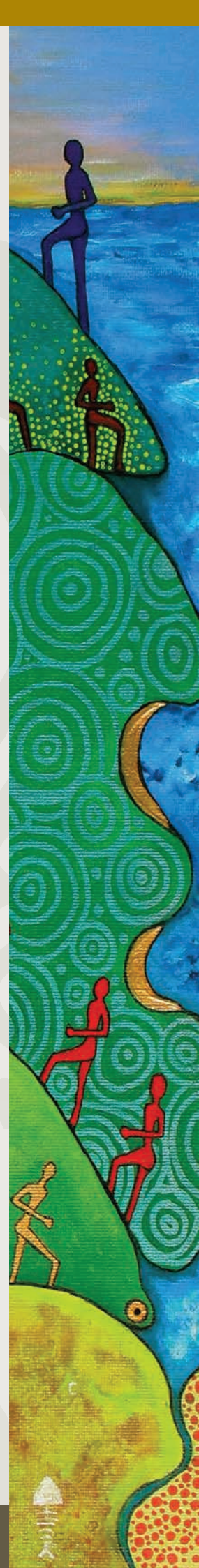
Another way to do the course is as a new entrant traineeship. A traineeship enables you to work and study at the same time.

Studying Nursing Subjects at School

Some schools offer the TAFE Vocational Education and Training (TVET) pathway in nursing as part of Years 11 and 12. As of 2011 completion of those subjects can count towards your final HSC and ATAR scores.

If this is an option that you would like to consider, talk to your school careers adviser to find out what opportunities are available, how many hours you will need to attend clinical placements and if the subjects are available through your school.

Some schools and hospitals also work in partnership with universities to grant credit for these subjects if you enrol into a Bachelor of Nursing. Again talk to your career adviser for information.



Common career or training pathways for you

Once you complete an Assistant in Nursing qualification you are able to go on to further nursing studies by undertaking a nursing/midwifery cadetship. A cadetship involves studying full time either at TAFE or university and working for NSW Health during semester breaks.

The Assistant in Nursing qualification is nationally recognised and once completed, you can apply for recognition and a credit transfer towards other relevant qualifications such as the:

- Diploma of Nursing (Enrolled Nurse) or
- Bachelor of Nursing (Registered Nurse)

Working as an Assistant in Nursing can help you pay your way while you complete further study. For example, the Aboriginal Nursing & Midwifery Cadetship Program.

The AIN qualification is also a pathway to other assistant roles in healthcare such as aged care and allied health assistance. You need to contact training providers to find out more about how this works.

Where can you find more information?

To find out more information on careers in health, speak to your School Career Adviser, Job Search Networks or employment agencies and education institutions each TAFE and university has.

For more information on other clinical career pathways such as Audiometry, Medicine or Oral Health please refer to the links below.

An Aboriginal Education Centre which you can contact directly.

NSW Health – Job search

www.health.nsw.gov.au

TAFE NSW

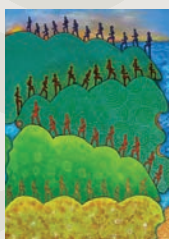
www.tafensw.edu.au/

NSW Universities

www.australian-universities.com/directory/nsw-universities/

UAC

www.uac.edu.au/



Stepping Up by artist Jessica Birk. Aboriginal people from all parts of NSW on a journey towards the top of the hill. With one foot firmly on the earth, the other just hovering above in an effort to achieve more, with the sky being the only limit to people's opportunities.



good health-great jobs

An initiative of NSW Health to halve the gap in employment outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people within a decade.



Designed by Aboriginal Elder Harold Thomas in 1971. Yellow represents the sun (giver of life) and yellow ochre. Red represents the red earth (the relationship to the land) and the red ochre used in ceremonies. Black represents the Aboriginal people.

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