

THE GOOD UNIVERSITIES GUIDE 2020

NURSING

This is a detailed profile of the nursing field of study. It lists the range of specialisations available and compares degree-level courses. We examine the institutions that get the best ratings, based on real student experience and graduate outcome data, which will help you decide the right university for your educational journey.



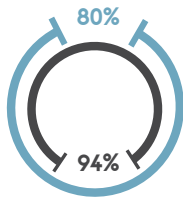
NURSING

Nurses work closely with different health professionals, patients and their families. Nurses encounter people during the most difficult times of their lives and others during the most exciting times. This makes nursing a career that is both rewarding and versatile.

FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

UNDERGRADUATE POSTGRADUATE

Proportion of students who have secured a full-time job within four months of graduating.



MEDIAN GRADUATE SALARY

\$60,500

UNDERGRADUATE

\$81,300

POSTGRADUATE

NUMBER OF STUDENTS



10,234

UNDERGRADUATE
INTERNATIONAL

72,236

UNDERGRADUATE

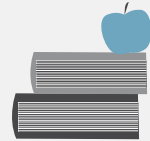
13,725

POSTGRADUATE

WHAT CAN I DO?



Registered Nursing



Education



Forensics



Aged Care



Community
Centre Care



Research

Data has been sourced from the Graduate Outcomes Survey. Results are pooled to represent graduates who completed the survey in 2018, 2017 and 2016. Graduates complete the Graduate Outcomes Survey approximately four months post-graduation.



FIVE-STAR UNIVERSITIES

NURSING

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE	GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT	LEARNER ENGAGEMENT	LEARNING RESOURCES
SWINBURNE 91.7%	SYDNEY 97.2%	SWINBURNE 79.2%	CURTIN 93.2%
NOTRE DAME 90.6%	WOLLONGONG 93.0%	UNE 72.2%	DEAKIN 92.3%
ADELAIDE 87.5%	FEDERATION 92.9%	NOTRE DAME 72.2%	SWINBURNE 91.7%
DEAKIN 84.1%	CSU 91.3%	MURDOCH 72.1%	SOUTHERN CROSS 90.0%
CURTIN 82.4%	UTS 88.4%	RMIT 70.8%	UTS 89.2%
UTS 81.6%	CDU 88.3%	WOLLONGONG 69.3%	FEDERATION 88.6%
MURDOCH 80.4%	CANBERRA 87.9%	JCU 69.2%	QUT 88.5%
FEDERATION 79.8%	DEAKIN 87.9%	DEAKIN 69.1%	
SYDNEY 79.6%	SOUTHERN CROSS 87.8%	LA TROBE 69.0%	
MONASH 79.5%	LA TROBE 87.7%	CURTIN 69.0%	
ACU 79.5%		ACU 68.6%	
NATIONAL AVERAGE = 76.5%	NATIONAL AVERAGE = 80.0%	NATIONAL AVERAGE = 62.8%	NATIONAL AVERAGE = 85.2%
MEDIAN STARTING SALARY	SKILLS DEVELOPMENT	STUDENT SUPPORT	TEACHING QUALITY
USQ \$65,200	NOTRE DAME 93.0%	SWINBURNE 87.2%	SWINBURNE 95.8%
CURTIN \$64,700	SWINBURNE 91.7%	MURDOCH 84.6%	NOTRE DAME 91.0%
QUT \$64,400	DEAKIN 90.7%	NOTRE DAME 81.7%	SYDNEY 84.7%
GRIFFITH \$64,300	ADELAIDE 90.6%	UTS 80.1%	ADELAIDE 84.4%
JCU \$64,000	SYDNEY 90.5%	FEDERATION 79.6%	DEAKIN 84.3%
TASMANIA \$63,700	MONASH 88.9%	CANBERRA 78.9%	CURTIN 84.3%
	MURDOCH 87.3%	SOUTHERN CROSS 78.2%	MURDOCH 82.9%
	SOUTHERN CROSS 87.2%	ECU 78.0%	
	WESTERN SYDNEY 87.1%	CQUni 77.5%	
	LA TROBE 86.7%	MONASH 77.5%	
	ACU 86.6%		
NATIONAL AVERAGE = \$60,500	NATIONAL AVERAGE = 85.0%	NATIONAL AVERAGE = 74.9%	NATIONAL AVERAGE = 78.1%

WHAT DO THESE NUMBERS MEAN? The ratings above represent the top 20 per cent of results for each measure in this particular field of study. For overall institution results, see the ratings section at the front of the guide.

NURSING

The following are just some of the majors you can study in this field:

- Aged care nursing
- Child and family health nursing
- Community health
- Mental health nursing
- Midwifery
- Palliative care
- Perioperative nursing
- Primary healthcare nursing
- Rural and remote health
- Surgical nursing

Nurses work closely with different health professionals, patients and their families, and are well known for their compassion and communication skills. As a nurse, you will encounter some people during the most difficult times of their lives and others during the most exciting times. This makes nursing a career that is both rewarding and versatile.

If you are interested in nursing, you could also consider a range of other health professions and para-professions. See the field of study profiles for dentistry, medicine, veterinary science, social work, rehabilitation, and health services and support. There may also be some specialisations of interest within the sciences and the humanities and social sciences.

COURSES AND SPECIALISATIONS

While most people think of nurses as working exclusively in clinical practice (looking after the sick or injured) and in hospitals, there is more variety than first appears. Many work in community education, factories, offices, schools, pharmaceutical companies, in administration or in nurse education. There are also many specialisations within clinical practice, such as emergency, aged care, midwifery or intensive care.

Although some degrees will let you specialise in a particular area, you may need to train and work in a range of areas first and complete additional study after graduation to work in the area you want to specialise in. This used to be the only way to get into midwifery, but undergraduate options are now available.

For more information, visit:

- Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF)
www.anmf.org.au

WHERE TO STUDY

In the past, if you wanted to be a nurse you would have applied to a hospital and not a tertiary institution. Nurses unions (nursing is more unionised than most occupations) agitated for 20 years to get nurse education moved out of the hospitals and into universities. Their main agenda was to increase the status and pay of nurses, and they also claimed that universities could provide the higher standard of education that nurses need. That said, since they were first opened in universities, nursing faculties on most campuses have had problems teaching the practical elements of the nursing profession and making studies exciting and relevant. To combat these issues, practical training facilities such as on-campus simulated wards have opened at many universities.

Some courses are likely to be better than others though, so look very carefully at the information available and try to get detailed outlines of any courses you are considering. Pay particular attention to the amount and kind of practical experience on offer in each course and try to visit the campus to talk with students and staff members about courses of interest.

This is an easy field to get into overall, and there are many courses available. Nursing courses take school leavers, practising nurses with years of experience and people with some experience and qualifications from other occupations, including nursing assistants. Courses vary widely in length, and several modes of study are offered (including full-time, part-time, block study and distance education). In some states, there are traineeships and VET courses offered for those wanting to enter the occupation at the 'enrolled' or 'division two' level rather than the 'registered' graduate nurse level. You can then work your way up the qualifications and career ladder. (Note: this guide includes degree-level courses only.)

Love Health & Nursing*



- Beauty & Aesthetics
- Counselling & Community Services
- Health Science
- Health & Wellbeing
- Nursing (coming soon*)
- Nutrition
- Public Health
- Sports Development



torrens.edu.au

Bachelor of Nursing (coming soon) *Torrens University Australia has applied to the Australian Nursing & Midwifery Accreditation for accreditation of a new Bachelor of Nursing. CRICOS Provider Number: 03389E

**ANN
LORRAINE
MANGKIKIS**



**NURSING
TORRENS UNIVERSITY AUSTRALIA**

"I am currently studying nursing at Torrens University. I chose this field because caring for people is my passion. The university's hands-on approach to learning has been great for me because nursing is a demanding occupation that requires critical thinking. We learn clinical skills in an interactive and practical way."