

## Registered Nurse

### What does a Registered Nurse Do?

The ICN definition of nursing states that:

Nursing encompasses autonomous and collaborative care of individuals of all ages, families, groups and communities, sick or well and in all settings. Nursing includes the promotion of health, prevention of illness, and the care of ill, disabled and dying people. Advocacy, promotion of a safe environment, research, participation in shaping health policy and in patient and health systems management, and education are also key nursing roles (ICN 2010).

In Australia nursing is also defined through the enrolled nurse, registered nurse and nurse practitioner competencies and the code of conduct and code of ethics for nurses in Australia.

### Where do I study to become a Registered Nurse?

- Bachelor of Nursing – University of Wollongong/ Charles Sturt University/ University of Sydney/ University of Newcastle/ University of New England
- Bachelor of Nursing/ Bachelor of Clinical Practice (Paramedics) – Charles Sturt University
- Bachelor of Nursing/ Bachelor of Early Childhood Teaching – Charles Sturt University
- Bachelor of Nursing Post Registration – University of Sydney (this degree is designed primarily for registered nurses who hold either a certificate or diploma in nursing and wish to upgrade their qualifications.)
- Bachelor of Nursing/ Bachelor of Arts – University of Sydney
- Bachelor of Nursing – University of Technology Sydney.
- Bachelor of Nursing – University of Western Sydney
- Bachelor of Nursing – The University of Notre Dame (Sydney Campus)
- Bachelor of Nursing – Avondale College Sydney (linked with Sydney Adventist Hospital)

### A day in the life of a Rural Registered Nurse

- Provide individualised person-centred health care to maximise the health outcomes for the patient / resident
- Work within a multidisciplinary health care team to ensure seamless continuity of care and service for patients / clients
- Support and inform patients / clients and their families to ensure clinical interventions and service delivery
- Maintain accurate detailed patient records and records to meet legislative requirements
- Participate in relevant patient safety, quality education and professional development

### Career opportunities

- Public Hospitals
- Aboriginal Health
- Community Health Centres and Aged Care Facilities
- Management, education and research
- Nursing Specialties

### What sort of person should I be?

- Ability to accept responsibility
- Ability to meet the many and varied challenges
- Commitment to ongoing professional development
- Friendly, warm, caring and empathetic
- Skilled at both written and verbal communication
- An organised and clear thinker
- Ability to relate to people of varied backgrounds
- Ability to work with others in a team and adapt to new situations