Career Options: Midwifery

The Bachelor of Midwifery program will prepare you for entry into practice as a midwife.

The program develops graduate midwives who are able to direct their own learning; exercise clinical judgement; work in a range of service delivery models and clinical settings including midwifery-led models; and collaborate effectively to promote quality outcomes for women and babies.

The program is informed by international best practice, industry experts and primary health care principles. Graduates are able to practice to their full scope according to the international definition of the midwife and promote culturally sensitive care for women from indigenous and culturally and linguistically diverse communities. Students undertake extensive clinical placement providing exposure to a variety of midwifery practice settings. The program prepares graduates to meet the challenges of contemporary midwifery practice and maternity service provision in Australia and internationally.

This program includes extensive compulsory midwifery practice. Students undertake midwifery clinical experience in allocated health services and the community. Clinical placements are in addition to time spent in the midwifery laboratories that simulate the clinical environment. The placements involve morning, evening and possibly night shifts. Over the duration of the course, students are also required to follow 20 women throughout their pregnancy, birth and the period after birth. This requires students to be on-call to attend the labour and birth. Third-year students undertake a prolonged period of clinical experience with most time spent in the clinical environment. Third-year students may also have the opportunity to complete a rural or international placement.

In addition to knowledge and skills directly related to your program of study, you will also develop a range of other skills (e.g. teamwork, analytical, communication) through academic study, employment, voluntary work, sporting activities and life experience. Recognising the value employers place on these skills is an important factor in your graduate job search.

Career opportunities

The Bachelor of Midwifery will enable graduates to work across public and private health care settings including private practice, maternity and neonatal care settings, community and hospital based services, academia/teaching, research, rural and remote settings, and aid organisations.

Job vacancy websites

Australia

- CareerOne midwifery and nursing vacancies
- Graduate Opportunities (the major directory of graduate recruitment in Australia)
- Health & Community Jobs (HACJobs)
- Indeed midwifery jobs in Queensland
- Jobs.com.au midwifery vacancies
- Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association vacancy listings
• Medistaff nurse recruitment
• Adzuna midwifery and nursing vacancies
• NSW Health vacancies
• Oxley Health Service nurse recruitment
• Pharmaceutical Jobs (healthcare, medical, scientific and pharmaceutical vacancies)
• Queensland Health midwifery recruitment
• Seek nursing, midwifery and neo-natal vacancies
• Your World Healthcare
• Careerjet employment search engine
• Jora Australia
• Pulse Jobs
• My Midwives
• Mater – Midwifery Careers
• Health Staff Recruitment
• Geneva Healthcare
• Plexus Medical Recruitment
• Nursing Australia
• St John of God Healthcare

**International**

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**Targeting potential employers**

Many work opportunities are not advertised. It is common practice for jobseekers to search out these opportunities. When approaching potential employers, conducting research to identify links between your selling points (your skills, experience, interests and qualifications) and an employer’s needs, increases your chances of success. Research will also reduce the number of approaches you
need to make, saving you time in the end. Developing and using your personal and professional networks is also a valuable tool in finding these ‘hidden’ opportunities'.

- Maternity hospitals and midwife managed birthing centres
- My Hospitals
- Public hospitals in Australia

**Employment prospects and starting salaries**

[Grad Jobs and Dollars](#) provide information on employment rates and median starting salaries by field of study, for Australian university graduates surveyed four months after graduation. Information on occupations Australia-wide, such as the size of the workforce, employment prospects and average weekly earnings is available from [JobOutlook](#).

**Professional associations**

Joining a professional association is a great way to meet people in your field, who can assist you to explore your career options and potentially find employment opportunities. These associations exist in every field of employment and hold regular professional development and networking events. Students are welcome to join, and membership and can cost as little as $60 per year.

- Australian College of Midwives
- Australian Private Midwives Association
- Queensland Nurses Union
- International Confederation of Midwives

**Registration as a midwife**

To practice as a midwife in Australia, you must be registered with the [Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia](#).

**Other career-related links for midwifery students**

- [Careers in nursing and midwifery](#)
- [Graduate Entry Medicine and Dentistry Admissions Test (GAMSAT)](#)
- [Pathways to careers in health](#)
- [My Health Career](#)
- [Medecins Sans Frontieres in Australia](#)
- [Specialising – WA Dept of Health](#)
- [Midwives Australia](#)
- [Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#)
- [Volunteering – Projects Abroad](#)
- [Clown Doctors - Volunteering](#)
Sample job advertisements

RN International (Australia) Pty Ltd

Did you study nursing and/or midwifery? If so we want to hear from you! Midwives and Nurses - Positions available - Calling all students graduating this year or students that have graduated within the last 2 years. Great benefits available!!

RN International (Australia) is a friendly, professional nurse recruitment company based in Queensland, Australia. We specialise in recruiting both Australian and International nurses and placing them in hospitals and healthcare facilities across Australia. We are committed to best practice and passionate about safe patient care and practice.

We have a number of positions on offer, to be successful in one of these positions you must possess excellent customer service skills and meet the following criteria:

* Demonstrated problem solving and conflict resolution skills
* Ability to work in a fast paced environment and maintain good working relations with others
* Proven organisational skills
* High level of clinical excellence and
* A commitment to quality improvement initiatives.

All applicants must:

* be eligible to register with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia upon completion of their studies
* commit to 18-24 months employment with RN International (Australia) Pty Ltd
* demonstrate commitment to ongoing professional development
* display effective interpersonal skills and be able to build rapport with a diverse range of people
* be able to accept professional accountability and know their limitations.

If you'd like to be part of our respected team where you'll be acknowledged as a valued member please forward a covering letter briefly addressing the above criteria, include a copy of your resume.

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Careers and Employment Service, Griffith University