

Bendigo Health Mental & Wellbeing Service

Bendigo Health is an accredited health organisation, consisting of acute care services, rehabilitation centre, residential care, mental health services, palliative, hospice care and a broad range of extended and community services.

Bendigo Health's Mental Health & Wellbeing Service provides Child, Young Person, Adult and Older Adult Community Mental Health Service to people in the Loddon Campaspe Southern Mallee region of Victoria. Inpatient mental health services for Young Persons, Adult and Older Persons, includes a Parent Infant Unit, and our residential programs include Youth and Adult Prevention and Recovery Care (PARC) sites and a Dual Diagnosis unit.

Mental Health Graduate Nurse Program

If you interested in working in an exciting and innovative area of nursing, offering you a wide range of opportunities for work variety and career advancement, then the Mental Health Graduate Nurse Program (GNP) is for you. The principal aim of our specialist Mental Health GNP is to support new graduates during their first year of nursing to develop the skills, knowledge, experience and values required to become an effective member of the mental health nurse workforce.

Bendigo Health Mental Health & Wellbeing Services actively supports and encourages educational opportunities for staff, offering a comprehensive range of programs to facilitate continuing professional development. With Mental Health services increasing, there are many enhanced career opportunities for Mental Health Nurses.

Mental Health Graduate Nurse Program (GNP)

- Program commences January 27, 2026
- GNP is conducted over 52 weeks, 4 days a week (0.8 EFT), rotating through day and evening shift. No night shifts are expected during the year
- First week consists of 5 comprehensive orientation days to support work readiness
- 12 paid study days held monthly over the year
- Three clinical rotations of 4 months each in either Child & Adolescent, Youth, Adult or Older Person Inpatient, Residential or Community settings. Graduate preferences for rotations are invited
- Community rotations are supernumerary and inpatient rotations have at least 3 supernumerary days on commencement
- Preceptors are allocated on each rotation
- Inpatient rotations have access to a Graduate Support Nurse
- Monthly individual and group clinical supervision is mandatory for all graduates
- Comprehensive, ongoing, competency based skills assessments on each rotation
- Successful completion of the Graduate Program meets the requirements for making application of 30 credit points of advanced standing in the Post Graduate Diploma of Mental Health Nursing exit point of the Master of Mental Health Nursing

Mental Health GNP and postgraduate studies

Our Graduate Program links with, and attracts credit towards, the Master of Mental Health Nursing at La Trobe University.

Please see the web page for further details: <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/courses/master-of-mental-health-nursing>

Successful Graduates will be asked to submit an application to the Master of Mental Health Nursing at La Trobe University. When doing this please upload your offer of graduate year, Bachelor of Nursing transcript and your current AHPRA registration as a Registered Nurse to indicate you meet the entry criteria.

All successful graduates will reach the level of Graduate Diploma of Mental Health Nursing by the end of their Graduate year.

For La Trobe University course information contact:

Professor Phil Maude
Postgraduate Mental Health Coordinator
La Trobe Rural Health School
Email: p.maude@latrobe.edu.au

Admissions enquiries - 1300 135 045



Excellent Care. Every Person. Every time.

Program Completion

To successfully complete the Bendigo Health Mental Health Graduate Nurse Program, participants are required to:

- Complete 12 months employment at Bendigo Health
- Attend and participate in 12 paid study days
- Demonstrate an appropriate level of competence in mental health nursing practice for a beginning practitioner
- Successfully complete the theoretical components for recognition of postgraduate qualifications in Mental Health Nursing by La Trobe University.



Graduate Nurse Program Information:



For enquiries contact MHPDU via email
mhpdutraining@bendigohealth.org.au

Or call 5454 7612 to book an appointment to speak with one of our friendly educators.



MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING SERVICE

GRADUATE NURSE PROGRAM

Information for Prospective Mental Health Graduate Nurses

