

## 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 Mental Health Services provides Child, Young Person, Adult and Older Persons Community Mental Health Service to people in the Loddon Campaspe Southern Mallee region of Victoria. Inpatient mental health services for Young Person, 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 are 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, applied experience and values to become an effective member of the mental health nurse workforce.

Bendigo Health Mental Health 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 28, 2025
- 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
- 3 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 at placement commencement
- Preceptors are allocated on each rotation
- Inpatient Graduate Support Nurse to assist with development of practice
- 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
- Once the GNP year is complete, and the graduate has gained employment, the

## 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.maunder@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:p.maunder@latrobe.edu.au)

Admissions enquiries - 1300 135 045



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## 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 the 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](mailto: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

