

Ballarat Health Services- Mental Health Services Graduate Nurse Program

The Mental Health Graduate Nurse Program at Ballarat Health Services- Mental Health Services allows newly graduated Registered Nurses the opportunity to undertake a well-supported year within the bed-based Mental Health Units at Ballarat Health Services. Benefits of the Program include:

- Rotations through four-six areas including the Adult Acute Unit, Aged Acute Unit, Aged Residential Mental Health Unit, Secure Extended Care Unit, Mother and Family Unit, and Prevention and Recovery Care Unit;
- An Orientation Program including the Ballarat Health Services Orientation, overview of relevant policies, procedures and base knowledge, and tours of the clinical areas prior to commencing;
- Supernumerary days at the commencement of each clinical rotation;
- Ongoing support from the Undergraduate/Graduate/Post-Graduate Co-Ordinator and Mental Health Education Team;
- Study days in addition to Professional Development Leave per the EBA, which if completed along with the prescribed assessment tasks, qualify applicants to Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) at RMIT and the University Of Melbourne's Graduate Diploma in Mental Health Nursing Practice degrees;
- Clinical Supervision from an experienced Mental Health professional which allows for reflective practice in a safe, supportive environment.

The Mental Health Graduate Nurse Program takes applicants at the start of the year and mid-year.

Following completion of the Mental Health Graduate Nurse Program there is an opportunity to apply for a post graduate position within the Service. It is a requirement of most tertiary institutions who deliver post graduate studies in Mental Health Nursing that applicants have employment for the duration of their study. The Post Graduate Year offers two six month rotations to select bed based areas and various Community Mental Health Teams, for those who are interested in experiencing or working towards a career in Community Mental Health Nursing.

For further details please contact Bree Achterbosch, Undergraduate/Graduate/Post-Graduate Co-Ordinator- Mental Health on 5320 4100 or by email at breanna.achterbosch@bhs.org.au.