



Government of Western Australia
WA Country Health Service



WA Country Health Nursing and Midwifery Opportunities

February 2025

Jillian Thomson

Nurse Manager Workforce -
Early Careers

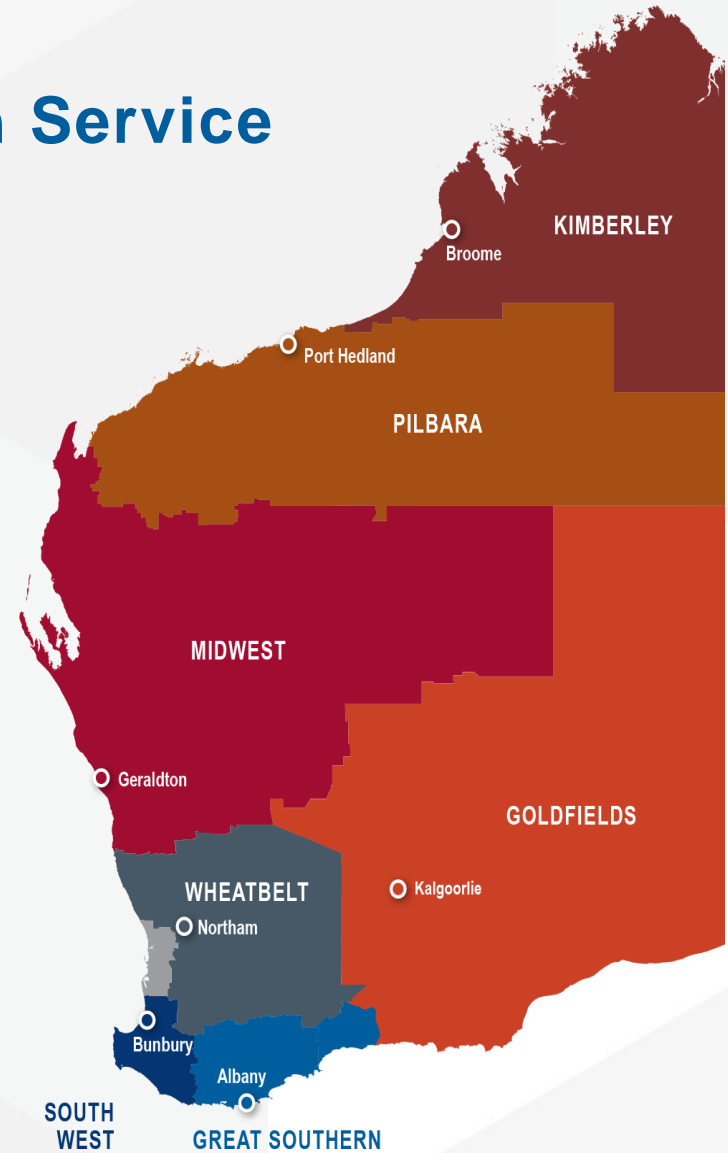


Welcome to WA Country Health Service

WA Country Health Service (WACHS) has a network of public hospitals, health services and nursing posts across over 2.55 million km² in regional and remote WA.

WACHS is committed to providing high quality, accessible health care to people across the state, from large regional centres to small remote communities.

All of the seven WACHS regions have been home to Aboriginal people for tens of thousands of years. We respectfully acknowledge the past and present traditional owners of these lands.





Country attractions

- Lifestyle & community
- Cultural diversity
- Family friendly towns
- Unique experiences:
 - broad skillset development or specialties
 - RFDS & ambulance transfers
 - Emergency Telehealth Service
- Specialised nursing & midwifery roles
- WA Health system benefits
- Extra benefits in some locations:
 - travel & accommodation subsidies
 - rural & remote allowances
- Personal and professional growth
- Unique experiences – different from metro





WACHS - a specialty for everyone!



WACHS' network of services includes everything from large regional hospitals to small nursing posts. We offer a range of specialties, including:

- Medical & surgical
- Midwifery
- Paediatrics
- Rehabilitation & sub-acute
- Emergency departments
- ICU (Bunbury) & HDU (other regions)
- Theatre / perioperative
- Renal dialysis
- Chemotherapy & cancer services
- Residential aged care
- Palliative care
- Mental health – acute inpatient
- Population (primary) health
- Aboriginal health
- Community health, child health, school health
- Remote area clinics





Government of Western Australia
WA Country Health Service

GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN WA COUNTRY HEALTH 7 AMAZING REGIONS





THE KIMBERLEY REGION

Is the State's most northern region, The major population centres in the region are Broome, Derby, Wyndham and Halls Creek..

The NQN program offers graduates a 12-month Rotational Program allows nurses to complete two six-month rotations in Broome, Derby, Fitzroy Crossing or Kununurra.

Specialities include medical/surgical, perioperative, paediatrics, and emergency. The Kimberley also offers specialised 12-month mental health and community health programs.





THE PILBARA REGION

Is a fantastic region for nurses and midwives who have an interest in rural and remote health care, Aboriginal health and working at sites both large and small. The most densely populated areas are Karratha, Hedland, Newman and Tom Price.

The NQN program offers graduates a 12-month Rotational Program at Hedland, Karratha and Newman, allowing graduates to rotate in different areas of the hospitals.

The Pilbara also offers 12-month Transition Programs in specialities such as Emergency, Cancer, Population Health, Perioperative, Aged Care, Infection Prevention and Control, Community Health and Community Mental Health.





THE MIDWEST REGION

This region incorporates four health districts – the Gascoyne, Geraldton, Midwest and Murchison. The most densely populated areas in the region are Geraldton, Dongara, Kalbarri, Morawa, Meekatharra, Carnarvon and Exmouth. The region includes the internationally recognised Ningaloo Reef and Shark Bay World Heritage Site.

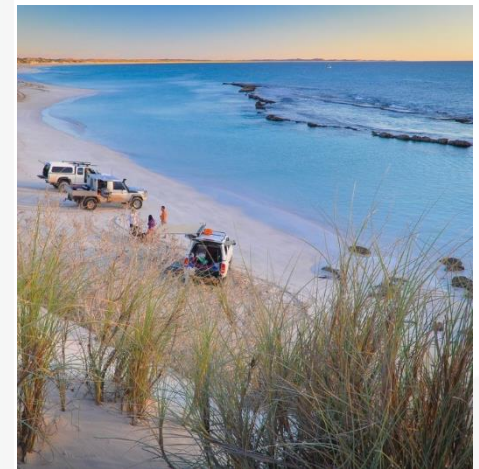
The NQN Programs offers graduates positions in a range of areas including general ward, perioperative, palliative care, post-acute care services, paediatrics, emergency, high dependency unit and mental health.

Graduates can spend 12-months at Geraldton Health Campus or Carnarvon Hospital. They can spend six-months at Geraldton then six-months at one of the Midwest's more rural and remote centres including Exmouth, Kalbarri, Meekatharra, Northampton, Morawa, Dongara and North Midlands.

The Midwest also offer **two-specialist 18-month programs**, specialising in ED and HDU, and a specialist 12-month perioperative nursing program.



The Ningaloo Coast



Cape National Park



THE GOLDFIELDS REGION

Is WA's largest region and is over three times the size of Victoria. The most densely populated areas in the region are Kalgoorlie, Esperance, Leonora and Laverton.

The **NQN Programs** offers graduates a 12 month program. It helps nurses to develop a wide range of skills in medical and surgical nursing at either Kalgoorlie or Esperance.

There are also potential rotations in emergency, paediatrics, palliative care and infection prevention and control.

The Goldfields also offers a 12 month **specialist programs** in perioperative, mental health and community health.

The **NQM Program** offers graduates a 12 month program at Kalgoorlie Hospital rotating through all aspects of midwifery care with a possibility of rotation to Esperance.





THE WHEATBELT REGION

The Wheatbelt contains the highest number of small hospital sites in any WACHS region. The most densely populated areas in the Wheatbelt are Northam, Narrogin, Merredin, Moora, Jurien Bay, Bindoon, York and Toodyay.

The **NQN Programs** offers graduates a 12 month program in Northam, Narrogin and Merredin, including rotations to the smaller sites in the region such as Beverley, Boddington, Bruce Rock, Corrigin, Dalwallinu, Dumbleyung, Goomalling, Kellerberrin, Kondinin, Lake Grace, Narembeen, Quairading, Southern Cross, Wagin, Wongan Hills, Wyalkatchem (Koorda) and York.

Graduates will develop a broad range of skills during their graduate program including managing emergency care and utilising emergency telehealth to communicate with medical staff for both inpatient, outpatient and emergency presentations





THE SOUTH WEST REGION

Is WACHS' most populated region and covers an area of 23,998 km². It is also the most visited region outside of the Perth area and has a large tourism industry.

The **NQN Programs** offers graduates a 12 month program in Bunbury, Busselton, Bridgetown, Collie, Harvey, Bridgetown, Nannup, Boyup Brook, Warren, Pemberton and Margaret River.

Graduate nurses will develop a broad range of skills in managing general medical and surgical, paediatric and aged care patients and acute emergency care.

Bunbury and Busselton also have 12 month specialist positions in Perioperative, whilst Bunbury provide a Paediatric, Community Health and Mental Health 12 month programs.





THE SOUTH WEST REGION- DUAL DEGREE

The Registered Midwives/Dual degree graduates have a 12 month program which is based between Bunbury & Busselton Hospitals with Maternity Group Practice placements at Bunbury, Margaret River and Warren Hospital. The dual degree Registered Nurse/Midwife can rotate between a maternity placement and a general ward placement for 6 months each.





THE GREAT SOUTHERN REGION

The region has major centres include Katanning, Denmark, Kojonup, Gnowangerup and Mount Barker.

The NQN Programs offers graduates a 12 month program at hospitals and health services in Albany, Katanning, Kojonup and Gnowangerup across general medical and surgical, day surgery, sub-acute care, emergency department and mental health. Graduates may rotate between the regional resource centre and the smaller sites (such as Mount Barker or Denmark) where they will develop a broad range of skills.

There is also a **specialist 12-month** mental health program.





Newly Qualified Nurse Programs Support

All nurses in a WACHS Graduate Program receive support and education to develop skills and promote professional growth. Programs include orientation, study days and support throughout each program. Plus the Backup Nurse Support Team.



Graduate Orientation Week, South West



NURSING GRADUATE PROGRAMS

In all 7
WACHS
regions

- Programs may:
 - Be rotational within one hospital
 - Be rotational across a number of hospitals in the same region
 - Include a remote area
 - Include a specialty area
 - Be a specialty area only
- Include support, education, skill development & professional growth





IMPORTANT DATES

- Applications open 9am 24th February – 1pm 19th March 2025
- Round one interviews 20th March – 8th May
- Round one offers 9th May @ 1pm- 3 days to accept/decline
- Round two interviews 19th May – 12th June
- Round two offers 13th June @12md – 3 days to accept/decline

- Ensure contact details phone and email are correct



Government of Western Australia
WA Country Health Service

WA COUNTRY HEALTH SERVICE

Nursing and Midwifery

