



HLT54121 DIPLOMA OF NURSING



Working as an enrolled nurse is fast paced, challenging and personally rewarding. If you're interested in this exciting profession, apply for TasTAFE's Diploma of Nursing today.

As part of the course, you'll learn a variety of skills, including how to perform clinical assessments, how to care for people with complex needs and how to administer and monitor medications. You'll also complete three placements in real healthcare facilities as well as learning in TasTAFE's state-of-the-art simulation wards.

TasTAFE's Diploma of Nursing program is delivered and assessed across three distinct phases of learning:

- **Phase 1 – Laying the foundation**
- **Phase 2 – Developing clinical competence**
- **Phase 3 – Consolidating clinical competence**

Each phase provides students with the opportunity to participate in theoretical and simulated practical learning in order to develop their skills and knowledge.

At the culmination of each phase of learning,

students are provided with workplace based professional experience opportunities across a range of healthcare settings.



Overview

The Diploma of Nursing is accredited by the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council and is an approved program of study with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia. On successful completion of the course, you'll be eligible to apply for general registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia to work as an enrolled nurse.

Note - TasTAFE does not issue the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia registration, and it is your responsibility to meet any additional requirements.

The diploma has 25 units which you can view on the TasTAFE [website](#).

Duration

There are two durations:

1. A **2-year pathway** requiring a minimum commitment of 20 hours per week.
2. An **18-month pathway** requiring a minimum commitment of 30 hours per week.

Both pathways are a full-time study load.



Attendance modes

The 2-year pathway attendance mode is:

- 1 day a week on campus from 9am - 3.30pm (days provided in timetable)
- 1 day a week virtual tutorial via Zoom (2 x 1-hour tutorials and a 1-hour study support session)
- 12 hours a week for structured and directed course content in Canvas

The 18-month pathway attendance mode is:

- 1 day per week on campus from 9am-3.30pm
- 2 days a week virtual tutorials via Zoom (2 x 1-hour tutorials and a 1-hour study support session each day)
- 2 x 1-week blocks of weekday attendance per phase
- 24 hours a week for structured and directed course content in Canvas.

Study locations

The Diploma of Nursing is available at the following TasTAFE campuses:

2-year pathway

- Alanvale (Launceston)
- Clarence (Hobart)
- Devonport

18-month pathway

- Alanvale (Launceston)
- Clarence (Hobart)

Check the TasTAFE [website](#) for intake dates.



Entry Requirements

Prior to enrolling in this qualification, learners must satisfy the following entry requirements. All pieces of evidence must be certified by a Commissioner for Declarations.

All applicants **must be 18 years old at time of course commencement** and provide evidence of the following:

1. Your completed Informed choices: Self-assessment.
2. Participate in a career conversation
3. A competency of at least Exit Level 3 in the Australian Core Skills Framework in both language and numeracy via a supervised Basic Key Skills Builder (bksb) assessment.
4. A certified copy of a national police check, less than 3 years old.
5. English language standard as explained below.

English Standard

Students admitted to ANMAC accredited Diploma of Nursing programs whose primary language is English must sign a declaration, provided by TasTAFE to state they meet the requirement below, refer point 1.

All other students must provide either evidence to support point 3 or a valid English language test result as stated in point 4, specific details provided below.

The Diploma of Nursing is an approved program of study for registration as an Enrolled nurse within Australia. This is determined through an accreditation process undertaken in consultation with the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council (ANMAC). As such, Standard 6.1a of the ANMAC Enrolled Nurse Accreditation Standards stipulates that:

“students that would be required by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) to provide a formal English language skills test when applying for registration, must provide a formal English language test result demonstrating they have achieved the NMBA specified level of English language skills, prior to commencing the program.”

The NMBA Registration Standard for English Language Skills is as follows:

1. English is your primary language and:

- a. you have attended and satisfactorily completed at least **six years of primary and secondary education** taught and assessed solely in English in a **recognised country**, including at least two years between years 7 and 12, **and**
- b. your tertiary qualification in the relevant professional discipline, which you are relying on to support your eligibility for registration under the **National Law** was taught and assessed solely in English in a **recognised country*** and:
 - i. in the case of a registered nurse and/ or midwife, you must provide evidence of having successfully completed at least a two (2) years full-time equivalent pre-registration program of study approved by the recognised nursing and/or midwifery regulatory body in a **recognised country***.
 - ii. in the case of an enrolled nurse, you must provide evidence of having successfully completed at least a one year full-time equivalent pre-registration program of study approved by the recognised nursing and/or midwifery regulatory body in a recognised country.

OR

2. Registered Nurses and midwives - N/A

OR

3. **Enrolled Nurses:** If you are applying for registration as an enrolled nurse, you must provide evidence that you have successfully completed at least five (5) years (full-time equivalent) continuous education taught and assessed solely in English, in a recognised country, which includes vocational qualifications in the relevant professional discipline which you are relying on to support your eligibility for registration under the National Law. The Board will only accept the successful completion of five (5) years (full-time equivalent) continuous education that is a combination of:

- a. vocational and secondary education taught and assessed in English; or
- b. tertiary and vocational education taught and assessed in English; or

c. combined tertiary, secondary and vocational education taught and assessed in English; or

d. tertiary education taught and assessed in English

The last period of education must have been completed no more than five years prior to applying for registration in Australia.

OR

You achieve the required minimum scores in one of the following English language tests and meet the requirements for test results specified in this standard:

1. Cambridge (C1 Advanced or C2 Proficiency)
2. International English Language Testing System (Academic) (IELTS)
3. Occupational English Test (OET)
4. Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE)

Academic)

5. Test of English as a Foreign Language internet-based test (TOEFL iBT)
6. Other English language tests approved by the National Boards from time to time and published on the Board's website with the required minimum scores. National Boards reserve the right at any time to revoke their approval of an English language test.

NOTE: We will only accept test results from:

- i. one test sitting, or
- ii. a maximum of two test sittings in a 12-month period

and only if the requirements for test results, such as when the test must be taken, type/modality of test and the required minimum scores, specified in this standard are met as set out in this standard.

Test	Overall Score Needed	Component scores needed
Cambridge (C1 Advanced or C2 Proficiency)	Minimum score of 185	Minimum overall score of 185 in each of the three components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • listening • reading • speaking and minimum score of 176 in the one component of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • writing.
IELTS	Overall score of 7	Minimum score of 7 in each of the three components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • listening • reading, and • speaking. and minimum score of 6.5 in the one component: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • writing.
OET		Minimum score of B in each of the three components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • listening • reading • speaking and minimum score of C+ in the one component: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • writing.
PTE Academic	Minimum overall score of 66	Minimum score of 66 in each of the three communicative skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • listening • reading • speaking and minimum score of 56 in one communicative skill: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • writing.
TOEFL iBT	Minimum total score of 94	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 for listening • 24 for reading • 24 for writing, and • 23 for speaking.

* Recognised country means one of the following countries or territories:

- Antigua and Barbuda
- Anguilla
- Australia
- The Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Bermuda
- British Indian Ocean Territory
- Canada
- Cayman Islands
- Dominica
- Falkland Islands
- Gibraltar
- Grenada
- Guernsey
- Guyana
- Isle of Man
- Jamaica
- Jersey
- Malta
- New Zealand
- Republic of Ireland
- Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha
- St Kitts and Nevis
- St Lucia
- St Vincent and the Grenadines
- Trinidad and Tobago
- United Kingdom
- United States of America
- US Virgin Islands.

Entry requirement information from:

1. [ANMAC Enrolled Nurse Accreditation Standards \(2017\).](#)
2. [Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia Registration Standard: English Language Skills \(2025\)](#)

Course Requirements

In addition to the entry requirements, you'll need to meet the following course requirements:

Attend professional work placements

- 11 weeks in total, achieving a minimum of 400 hours
- Full time/shift work (shifts will be between 7am to 11.30pm) Monday-Friday
May be in metropolitan, rural or remote areas of Tasmania
- You may be required to travel outside of your regional area to attend placement
- You may need a driver's licence as it's your responsibility to get to your placement.

Attend a TasTAFE campus in either Clarence (Hobart), Devonport or Alanvale (Launceston)

- 2-year pathway – 1 day a week
- 18-month pathway – 1 day per week, plus 6 simulation blocks.

Follow the uniform standards

- You need to purchase and wear TasTAFE scrubs for simulation learning days on campus and placement.

Can commit sufficient time to study regularly on a weekly basis

- 2-year pathway – minimum 20 hours a week
- 18-month pathway – minimum 30 hours a week.

Cost

Course fees

- Course fees and information about VET Student Loans can be found at the TasTAFE [website](#).

Uniform

- TasTAFE scrubs cost approximately \$90.

Placement requirements

- Costs associated with placements for immunisations, national police checks and Working with Vulnerable People cards are the responsibility of students.
- Travel and accommodation may be required for placements; costs relating to this are the responsibility of students.

Information sessions

TasTAFE hosts INFO WEEKS in May/June and November each year. Details on how to register can be found at the TasTAFE [website](#).

Applications open the week after INFO WEEK.





Recognition of prior learning

TasTAFE can assess your skills and knowledge based on your previous education, work history or life experience – which may help you to gain your qualification faster.

More information on the recognition process is available at our [website](#). Some units in this course are not available for recognition and are listed on the Diploma of Nursing page on our [website](#).

Credit transfer

If you've completed any vocational education and training in the past, you may be eligible to receive a credit transfer for specific units.

For more information visit our [website](#).

Assessment Methods

We use many assessment approaches to evaluate competence in the essential knowledge, skills and behaviours for enrolled nurse practice. Assessment in Diploma of Nursing is categorised into two groups: knowledge and performance:

Knowledge assessments include:

Quizzes, case studies, research tasks, case analysis, tests and online activities.

Performance assessments include:

- Simulations based on real-world scenarios. These allow you to demonstrate problem solving, time management and contingency skills and increase in complexity as you progress through your qualification.
- Clinical skills. Where a clinical skill can't be embedded within a simulation it's assessed via demonstration of the skill in isolation.
- Reflections. These take the form of a reflection on performance of a skill or simulation and reflection on a clinical encounter that occurred on work placement.
- Episodes of practice. These allow you to document and reflect upon a clinical situation where you performed tasks under supervision.
- Workplace evidence. This is a report from your workplace supervisor at the end of your placement and contributes to determining your competency.

Placement

Work placement is required for the Diploma of Nursing. A minimum of 400 hours of workplace experience must be achieved to successfully complete the qualification.

TasTAFE is responsible for arranging your placement, which could be located anywhere within Tasmania. Placement is scheduled between Monday to Friday, across morning and afternoon shifts (7am - 11.30pm) and excludes weekends, night shifts and public holidays. You're required to organise travel to and from placement, and accommodation if applicable.

You'll participate in 3 work placements which provide opportunities for experiential learning.

- **First placement:** 2 weeks in a community, mental health, or primary health setting.
- **Second placement:** 3 weeks in residential aged care.
- **Third placement:** 6 weeks in acute care.

At least 6 weeks before starting placement, students must:

1. Provide evidence of meeting the requirements relating to the infectious diseases specified in the [Department of Health: Australian Immunisation Handbook](#). Vaccination for people at occupational risk and comply with the requirements.
2. Submit a current COVID-19 vaccination.
3. Submit Working with Vulnerable People card.
4. Submit national police check (no older than 12 months at the time of placement).

You're not able to start placement until you provide this evidence. You're responsible for any costs associated with meeting the evidence requirements.



Diploma of Nursing informed choices checklist

The duties of an enrolled nurse can be both physically and emotionally challenging. The following information is designed to assist you in making an informed decision about your career choice. It outlines the skills and abilities needed to successfully complete the course.

To support you in making an informed choice on whether this is the appropriate course for you, please read through this section and consider if you can meet the below criteria.

Many of these criteria are required when going into a healthcare setting as a student or for on-the-job training.

For more specific information on the details and tasks relating to the nursing industry refer to the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) [website](#). For career resources to help you explore and plan your career visit the [myfuture website](#).

Fitness to practice

If you have an impairment or health issue that may place the public at substantial risk of harm, TasTAFE is obligated to report this to AHPRA, the organisation that regulates Australia's registered health practitioners.

If you have, or may have, any impairment that may affect your capacity to undertake work placement, you'll be required to provide evidence from a qualified medical professional to pronounce you fit to undertake placement or to outline any restrictions before placement being arranged.

This also applies to practical components of the course in the simulated work environment.

Communication

- The ability to develop and maintain relationships, trust and confidence
- The ability to communicate with a range of people from different backgrounds
- Communicate effectively in English, ability to speak clearly and audibly
- Demonstrate politeness, respect and empathy
- Ability to receive and reflect on constructive feedback
- Strong listening skills (for example, ability

to hear a client with breathing difficulties and assess client breath sounds)

Self-management

- Study independently
- Ability to manage your time
- Ability to prioritise tasks
- Self-motivated
- Understand deadlines and plan to meet them
- Have a dedicated study space at home
- Feel supported by my family and friends with my study
- Ability to manage stress
- Willing to seek help using the contact information provided to me
Ability to see what needs to be done
- Accept responsibility for accurate completion of work and seek help when required
- Ability to integrate and apply new knowledge to practice
- Ability to use basic problem-solving skills

Time management skills

- Ability to prioritise, plan and organise my own workload
- Capacity to manage shift work (such as early, late and night shifts over a 7-day roster)
- Accept responsibility for my actions
- Concentrate for long periods of time
- Ability to deal with bodily fluids (such as vomit, blood, urine and faeces)
- Ability to deal with the physical demands of undertaking manual tasks on a consistent basis

Teamwork

- Ability to work with other people for a common outcome
- Respect for other people and their role within the work team
- Ability to accept direction and feedback
- Ability to work under pressure and function effectively in stressful situations

Learning, literacy and numeracy

- Ability to identify own strengths and weaknesses and seek assistance where necessary
- Ability and motivation to build on past knowledge and experience
- Ability to take on new information and tasks
- Ability to read complex texts and extract relevant information (for example, client care plans, charts, procedures, reports)
- Ability to record observations, complete forms, documents, reports, taking messages
- Ability to spell with reasonable accuracy with legible handwriting
- Perform basic mathematical functions (for example, calculations; measurements, and interpret and document in charts, tables and graphs)

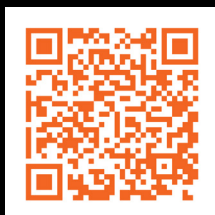
Problem-solving and observational skills

- Ability to identify potential problems and respond appropriately
- Ability to ask questions and seek clarification when necessary
- Attention to detail (for example, ability to examine and assess clients, observe changes in skin and wounds, read and interpret handwritten charts)

Use of technology

- Ability to learn and adapt to new technology
- Ability to access information and use digital media for study and work
- Willing to use online self-help resources such as tutorials
- Have a computer that is no more than 3 years old
- Use email to send and receive messages and attachments
- Use Microsoft Word (or equivalent) to create and format documents
- Use Microsoft PowerPoint (or equivalent) to create presentations
- Use an internet browser to find a website
- Use a search engine to find information on the internet
- Access to a printer
- Knowledge of online forums, wikis and blogs to communicate
- A fast, reliable internet connection
- A headset and microphone to participate in a virtual classroom
- Ability to save a Word document as a PDF
- Ability to download files and install software
- Have an up-to-date version of Microsoft Office (or equivalent) on my computer
- How to get help with computer problems

**Find out more about the Diploma of Nursing
by scanning the QR code below**



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DISCLAIMER: The information contained in the publication is correct at the time of publication (May 2025). Every effort has been made to ensure details are correct and accurate, however TasTAFE reserves the right to change information without notice.