



| NSW Department of Education

# Nursing Support and Personal Care Worker

Nursing support and personal care workers provide assistance, support and direct care to patients in a variety of health, welfare and community settings.

[education.nsw.gov.au](http://education.nsw.gov.au)



## Job title examples

- Hospital Orderly / Patient Services Assistant / Wardsperson
- Nursing Support Worker / Assistant in Nursing
- Personal Care Assistant
- Therapy Aide/Therapist's Assistant
- Home Carer

## What nursing support and personal care workers do

- assist patients with their personal care needs such as showering, dressing and eating
- assist patients with their mobility and communication needs
- participate in planning the care of individuals
- follow therapy plans such as interventions to assist those with dementia and behavioural problems
- observe and report changes in patients' condition, and report complaints about care
- assist with rehabilitation exercises, basic treatment and delivering medications
- provide direct support and assistance to therapists

## Main employing industries

- Health Care and Social Assistance

## Qualifications

The following government subsidised qualifications are available in NSW:

**Certificate II in Health Support Services** available as a traineeship or qualification

**Certificate III in Allied Health Assistance** available as a traineeship or qualification



To find out more regarding these related jobs, visit [education.nsw.gov.au/job-guides](https://education.nsw.gov.au/job-guides).

**Certificate III in Health Services Assistance** available as a traineeship or qualification

**Certificate III in Health Support Services** available as a traineeship or qualification

**Certificate III in Individual Support** available as a traineeship or qualification

**Certificate IV in Allied Health Assistance** available as a traineeship or qualification

**Apprenticeships and traineeships:** Find out how to get an [apprenticeship or traineeship](#).

**Course fees:** You may be eligible for government subsidised training under Smart and Skilled. Go to the [Course Finder](#) to find training in your area, estimate your fee and find a training provider.

## Job prospects and pay

- There are around 34,807 nursing support and personal care workers working in NSW.
- Over the next four years, employment in this occupation is expected to remain stable in NSW.

### Average weekly full-time earnings (before tax):

- Nursing Support and Personal Care Workers: \$879
- All occupations: \$1,200

Many people work part time in this occupation.

## Related jobs

- Aged or Disabled Carer
- Dental Assistant
- Special Care Worker

### Information sources

Occupations: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, 1220.0

Employment: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly, 6291.0.55.003

Skills shortages: Department of Employment, Skill Shortage List NSW 2015-16

Job prospects: Centre of Policy Studies (CoPS), Victoria University, Employment Forecast Data for NSW 2015/16 to 2022/23

Earnings: Department of Employment, [joboutlook.gov.au](https://joboutlook.gov.au), based on ABS Characteristics of Employment Survey, August 2014