

Aboriginal health professional

What do they do?

Aboriginal health professionals liaise with patients and visitors in hospitals and community health clinics. They work in a team with doctors, nurses and other health professionals to provide health care.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Treat injuries and diseases.
- ▶ Act as a communicator and interpreter on behalf of clients or other health workers.
- ▶ Maintain health records and statistics.
- ▶ Provide health education to individual clients and health staff.
- ▶ Provide cultural and life skills education.
- ▶ Provide counselling and referral for patients and their families.
- ▶ Provide input to the planning, implementation and evaluation of health programs.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health organisations
- ▶ Community health centres
- ▶ Public hospitals

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Interested in people and their health
- ▶ Good communication and negotiation skills
- ▶ Enjoy organising
- ▶ Cultural awareness
- ▶ Able to work independently and as part of a team

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker Association - www.natsihwa.org.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au
- ▶ The Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education Network - <http://www.limenetwork.net.au/pathways>

Scholarships available

- ▶ www.nrhsn.org.au
- ▶ Check professional bodies websites
- ▶ Check your State or Territory Government website for further information

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Audiologist

What do they do?

Audiologists assess hearing and determine the nature of hearing disorders. They are responsible for the non-medical management and rehabilitation of hearing loss and associated disorders of communication. Audiology is an allied health profession.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Assess the extent of hearing loss and location of the problem using a wide range of techniques, including audiometric tests such as air and bone conduction tests.
- ▶ Provide rehabilitation programs which include counselling and guidance for the hearing impaired and their families.
- ▶ Assess hearing levels of workers, such as pilots or members of the armed forces.
- ▶ Prescribe, fit and evaluate hearing aids and other devices.
- ▶ Provide training in the use of auditory and other devices and lip reading.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Private Practice
- ▶ Larger public hospitals
- ▶ Community Health Centres
- ▶ Opportunities for employment are very good in rural areas.

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ An interest in people
- ▶ Able to inspire confidence and cooperation
- ▶ A sympathetic and tactful approach to people's problems
- ▶ Good communication skills
- ▶ Analytical and problem solving ability

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Audiology Society of Australia - www.audiology.asn.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

Scholarships available

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- ▶ Check professional bodies websites
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nrhsn about us

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Chiropractor

What do they do?

Chiropractors diagnose and treat neuro-musculoskeletal disorders such as spinal problems and sporting injuries.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Treat patients by adjusting the spinal column to manipulate joints and soft tissues.
- ▶ Assess disorders by examination of patients and by using diagnostic equipment such as x-rays, spinal analysis and electromyography.
- ▶ Reduce physical interference to the nervous system, which may cause pain, impairment of normal function or lowered resistance to disease.
- ▶ Prescribe treatment to be followed including preventative and corrective exercise and diet.
- ▶ Perform pre-employment examinations and workplace assessments.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Most chiropractors work in private practice.

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ An interest in people and good interpersonal skills
- ▶ Enjoy health sciences
- ▶ Attention to detail
- ▶ A reasonable level of physical fitness
- ▶ Able to work independently

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Chiropractors Association of Australia - www.chiropractors.asn.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

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Dentist

What do they do?

Dentists diagnose and treat diseases, injuries and abnormalities of teeth and gums, undertake preventive procedures, conduct surgery and perform other specialist techniques.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Examine patients' teeth and gums using dental equipment and X-rays
- ▶ Diagnose dental conditions and plan oral health care in consultation with patients
- ▶ Provide preventive treatment such as scaling, cleaning and fluoride therapy.
- ▶ Repair decayed and broken teeth by placement of various filling materials, and when necessary extract and replace teeth
- ▶ Treat diseases of the gums, tooth nerves and root canals
- ▶ Perform surgical operations to the mouth, jaws, teeth and related structures
- ▶ Administer local and general anaesthetics when necessary for carrying out treatment
- ▶ Design, construct and fit dentures, crowns and bridges for the replacement of lost or unsound teeth

Where do they work?

- ▶ Private practice
- ▶ Community Health Centres
- ▶ Commonwealth/State Health Departments

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Good with hands and ability to do precise and detailed work
- ▶ Good communication skills
- ▶ Able to concentrate
- ▶ A sense of caring and sensitivity

Want further information?

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Australian Dental Association
www.ada.org.au

The Good Guide
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Dietitian

What do they do?

Dietitians are responsible for assessing the nutritional needs of patients, planning appropriate diets and educating patients and their families. Dietetics is an allied health profession.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Assess people's nutritional needs.
- ▶ Advise on nutrition and diet for general good health or for special needs such as sport or medical conditions.
- ▶ Implement and manage nutrition services and programs.
- ▶ Develop marketing and public relations communications and nutrition programs and policies.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Hospitals
- ▶ Community Health Centres
- ▶ Nursing homes
- ▶ Consultancy and private practice
- ▶ State and Commonwealth health departments
- ▶ Food manufacturers

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ A critical and enquiring mind
- ▶ Good organisational skills and initiative
- ▶ Good verbal and written communication skills
- ▶ Able to work effectively with people
- ▶ Interest in food, nutrition and health
- ▶ An interest in food science

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Dietitians Association of Australia - www.daa.asn.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

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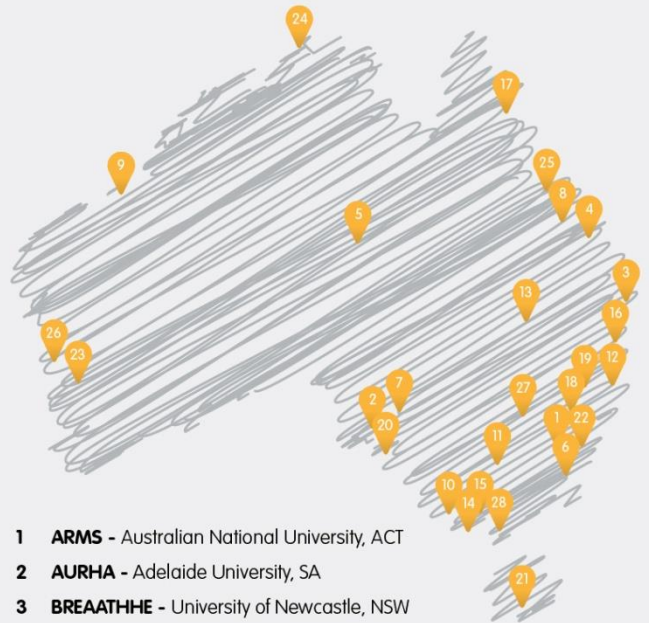
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Exercise Physiologist

What do they do?

An exercise physiologist provides scientific support to sports people by studying how their bodies respond to physical activity.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Study heart rate data
- ▶ Analyse blood samples
- ▶ Measure sports person's strength and flexibility
- ▶ Attend training sessions to monitor sporting performances.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Private practices
- ▶ Professional sports teams
- ▶ Sporting laboratory

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Enjoy competitive sport
- ▶ Enjoy science
- ▶ Observant
- ▶ Eye for detail
- ▶ Problem-solving skills

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Exercise and Sports Science Australia - www.essa.org.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

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Doctor (General Practitioner)

What do they do?

Doctors diagnose physical and mental illnesses, disorders and injuries and prescribe medications and treatment to promote or restore good health. Medical practitioners are involved in a wide range of activities including consultations, attending emergencies, performing operations and arranging medical investigations.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Provide overall care for patients and prescribe and administer treatments, medications and other remedial measures.
- ▶ Prescribe and administer medication.
- ▶ Inoculate patients to prevent infectious or contagious diseases.
- ▶ Provide pre- and post-natal care to mothers and babies.
- ▶ Order and analyse laboratory tests, x-rays and other diagnostic images and procedures.
- ▶ Report births, deaths and notifiable diseases to government authorities.
- ▶ Arrange for patients to be admitted to hospital or aged care facilities.
- ▶ Refer patients to other medical specialists and exchange relevant medical details.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Private and Public hospitals
- ▶ Community Health Centres
- ▶ Private Practice

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Ability to work in a team
- ▶ Good communication skills
- ▶ Self-confidence and maturity
- ▶ Able to inspire confidence and cooperation
- ▶ High degree of motivation and self-discipline

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Australian Medical Association - www.ama.com.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au
- ▶ The Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education Network - <http://www.limenetwork.net.au/pathways>

Scholarships available

- ▶ www.nrhsn.org.au
- ▶ Check professional bodies websites
- ▶ Check your State or Territory Government website for further information.

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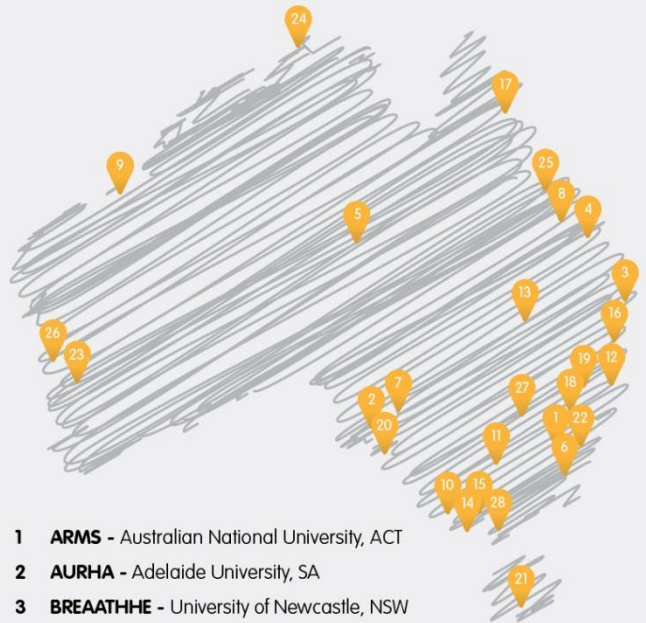
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Health Promotion Officer

What do they do?

Health promotion officers work with various groups to assist individuals and the community to improve their health. Health promotion officers often take part in public campaigns and community programs covering a range of health issues, e.g. family, the environment and social change, nutrition, exercise.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Plan and coordinate health promotion programs for community groups.
- ▶ Inform and involve other health professionals in community health issues.
- ▶ Design and develop public information campaigns using newspapers, radio and TV and/or pamphlets, posters and other printed material.
- ▶ Carry out research on health issues.
- ▶ Evaluate health promotion programs.
- ▶ Make recommendations on issues that affect the health and well-being of the community.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Commonwealth/State Health Departments
- ▶ Public and Private Hospitals
- ▶ Community Health Centres
- ▶ Councils

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Good communication and negotiation skills
- ▶ Good organisational ability
- ▶ Able to work independently and as a team member
- ▶ A creative thinker
- ▶ Enjoys working with people

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Australian Health Promotion Association - www.healthpromotion.org.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

Scholarships available

- ▶ www.nrhsn.org.au
- ▶ Check professional bodies websites
- ▶ Check your State or Territory Government website for further information.

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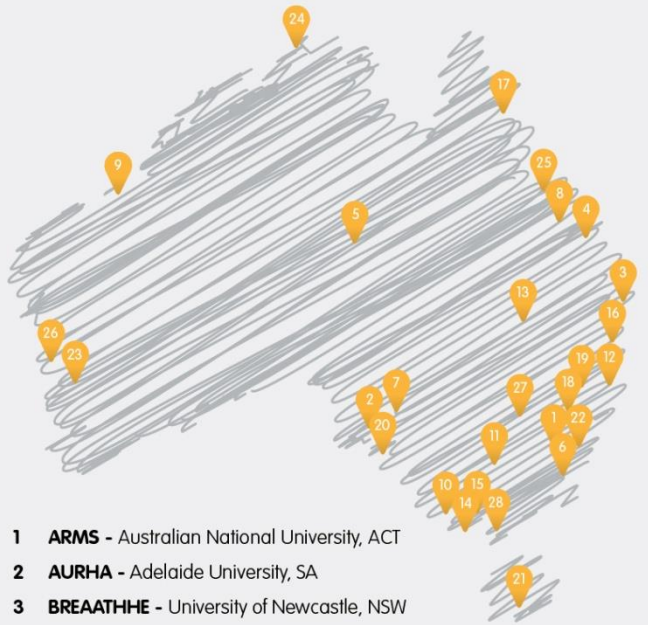
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Medical Imaging Technologist

What do they do?

A medical imaging technologist operates x-ray and other imaging equipment that produce radiographs and other images which are used for diagnosis of disease and injuries. From these images management and treatment can be recognised.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Receive and interpret requests for general practitioners for x-rays
- ▶ Work out which imaging techniques to use
- ▶ Calculate details of procedures such as length and intensity of exposure to radiation
- ▶ Prepare patient for procedure
- ▶ Use radiation safety procedures
- ▶ Develop x-ray films.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Hospitals
- ▶ Health clinics

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Likes science
- ▶ Accuracy with work
- ▶ Can work as part of a team
- ▶ Eye for detail
- ▶ Enjoy helping people

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Inside Radiology - www.insideradiology.com.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

Scholarships available

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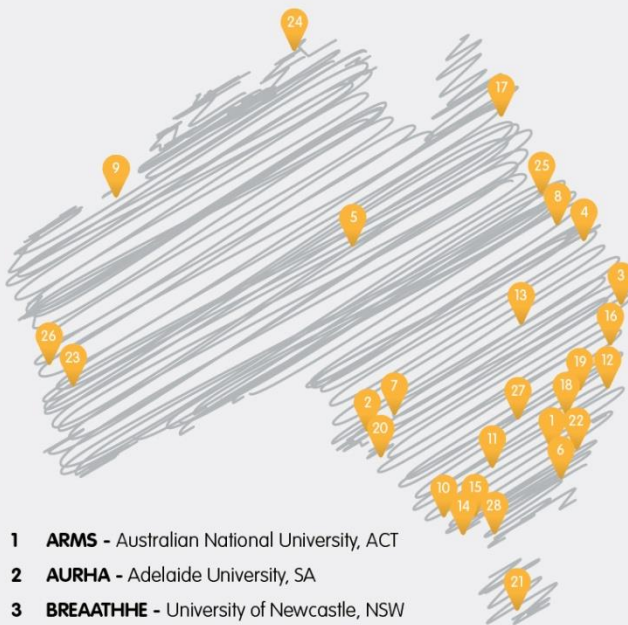
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Midwife

What do they do?

Midwives provide supervision, care and advice to women during pregnancy, labour and the postpartum period.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Provides care, education and support during the childbearing cycle.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Public and private hospitals
- ▶ Health Clinics
- ▶ Private organisations and industry
- ▶ Private homes

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Good communication skills
- ▶ Able to work as part of a team
- ▶ Calm in stressful situations
- ▶ Good at making decisions

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Australian College of Midwives - www.acmi.org.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

Scholarships available

- ▶ Nursing and Allied Health Scholarship and Support Scheme (NAHSSS)
Free call: 1800 338 061
Website: www.sarrah.org.au
- ▶ The Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarship Scheme (Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islanders only)
Free call: 1800 688 628
Website: www.rcna.org.au

Other scholarships become available from time to time. Please check via your State or Territory Government website for further information.

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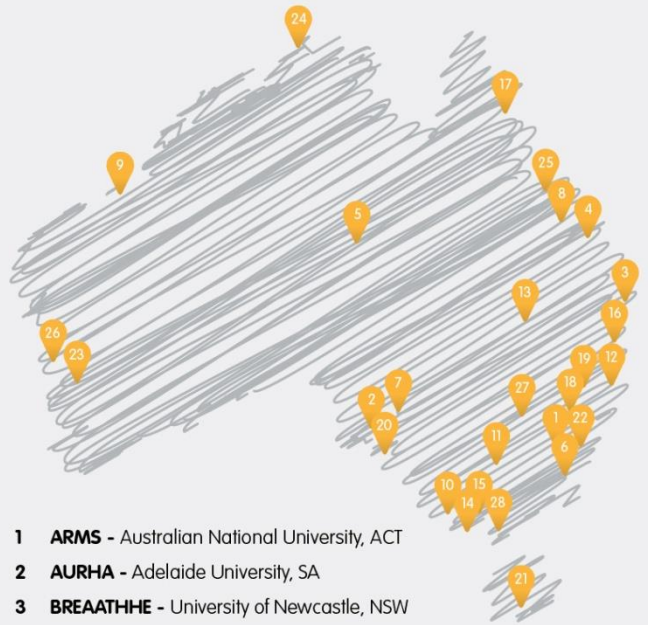
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Nuclear Medicine Technologist

What do they do?

Nuclear Medicine Technologists use radioactive pharmaceuticals, injected or ingested into the body, to diagnose and treat a range of diseases. Nuclear Medicine Technologists may specialise in areas such as ultrasound, positron emission tomography, computer programming or bone mineral densitometry.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Perform laboratory procedures including blood and specimen collection and quality control testing.
- ▶ Administer radio pharmaceuticals as tracers to demonstrate the function of organs in the body.
- ▶ Provide treatment for cancer patients.
- ▶ Maintain and operate equipment, such as gamma cameras and computing systems, to acquire images, process and analyse patient data.
- ▶ Ensure the safe handling, storage and disposal of radioactive materials.
- ▶ Perform quality control and testing procedures of instrumentation, radio pharmaceuticals, data, images and computing systems.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Large Public and Private Hospitals Oncology (cancer) centres

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Interested in science
- ▶ Able to work accurately and with detail
- ▶ Able to communicate well and work as part of a team
- ▶ Patience and empathy
- ▶ Comfortable with computers and new technologies

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Australian and New Zealand Society of Nuclear Medicine - www.anzsnm.org.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

Scholarships available

- ▶ www.nrhsn.org.au
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Nurse (Registered)

What do they do?

Registered nurses assess, plan, provide and evaluate preventative, curative and rehabilitative care for patients. They supervise enrolled nurses to carry out patient care duties.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Supervise, or carry out, nursing care of patients.
- ▶ Observe, monitor, assess and document patients' conditions and responses to treatment.
- ▶ Give medication in accordance with legislation and pharmacology.
- ▶ Monitor and adjust medical equipment used in patient care and treatment.
- ▶ Prepare patients for operations or provide post-operative care.
- ▶ Assist in the rehabilitation of patients.
- ▶ Assist with patients' discharge planning.
- ▶ Provide emotional and psychological support to patients and their families.
- ▶ Answer questions and provide information to patients and families about treatment and care.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Public and private hospitals
- ▶ Aged care facilities
- ▶ Community Health Centres
- ▶ Private organisations and industry
- ▶ Schools and education departments
- ▶ Psychiatric and mental health services
- ▶ Employment opportunities in rural areas are very good

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Good communication skills
- ▶ Able to assume responsibility and a leadership role
- ▶ Able to take the initiative in emergencies
- ▶ Tolerance, patience and tact
- ▶ Able to work as part of a team
- ▶ Mentally and physically fit
- ▶ Good at making decisions

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Australian College of Nursing - www.acn.edu.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

Scholarships available

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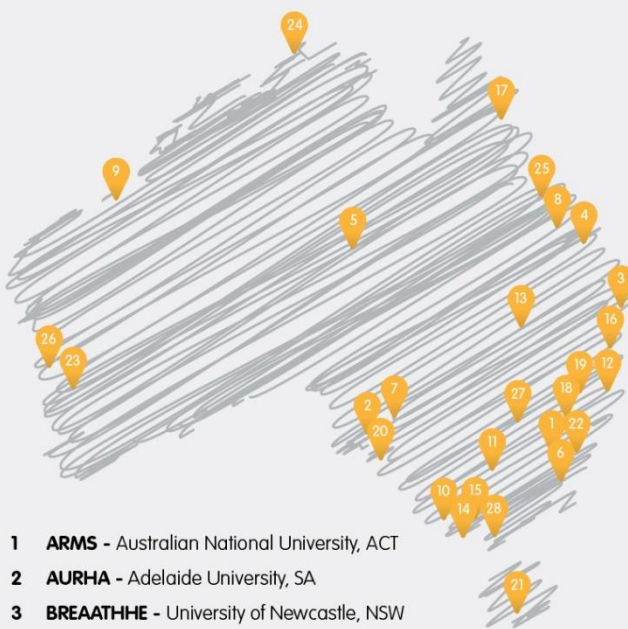
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Nutritionist

What do they do?

A nutritionist provides advice on dietary habits to help with achieving a healthy lifestyle.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Consult with individuals and groups about dietary habits
- ▶ Prescribe diet plans
- ▶ Talk with other health professionals about nutrition
- ▶ Monitor clients diets and progress
- ▶ Analyse health related data and look at nutrition behaviours of particular populations groups
- ▶ Plan and implement intervention programs
- ▶ Provide consulting and counselling services to hospitals.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Hospitals
- ▶ Community Health Services
- ▶ Universities
- ▶ Private practices

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Enjoy food and food preparation
- ▶ Interested in health
- ▶ Good communication skills
- ▶ Can work as part of a team
- ▶ Enjoys research and science

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ The Nutrition Society of Australia- www.nsa.asn.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

Scholarships available

- ▶ www.nrhsn.org.au
- ▶ Check professional bodies websites
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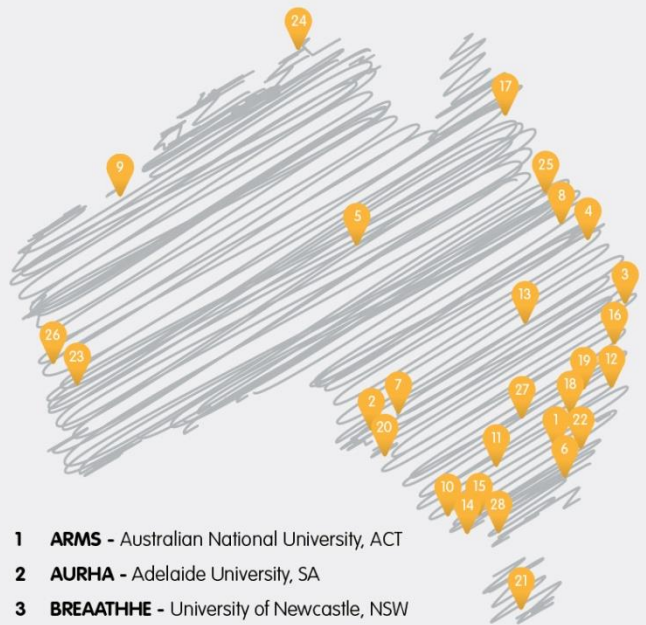
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Occupational Therapist

What do they do?

Occupational Therapists assess and treat people who, because of illness, injury or circumstance, are limited in their ability to undertake the activities of everyday life. They assist people to regain lost functions, develop their abilities and social skills, and maintain and promote independence in their everyday tasks. Occupational Therapy is an allied health profession.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Conduct tests to assess functional, emotional, psychological, developmental, physical capabilities.
- ▶ Select and design a variety of activities that assist an affected movement or function and help individuals to regain personal care skills such as eating and dressing.
- ▶ Assist children with disabilities to integrate into education programs.
- ▶ Assess the ability of injured workers to return to their usual employment or to perform alternative duties.
- ▶ Design and modify the everyday environment of clients to allow for better access and independence.
- ▶ Advise on the use of specialised equipment such as home modifications, adapted kitchen utensils, wheelchairs and other assisting technology.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Public and private hospitals
- ▶ Community health centres
- ▶ Commonwealth/State health Departments
- ▶ Specialist aged/disability centres
- ▶ Mental health services
- ▶ Private industry and organisations

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Patience, initiative, flexible attitude
- ▶ Practical, innovative and observant
- ▶ Able to solve problems
- ▶ Good interpersonal skills
- ▶ Can work independently or in a team

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Occupational Therapy Australia - www.otaus.com.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

Scholarships available

- ▶ www.nrhsn.org.au
- ▶ Check professional bodies websites
- ▶ Check your State or Territory Government website for further information.

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Optometrist

What do they do?

Optometrists perform eye examinations and vision tests to determine the presence of visual and other problems relating to the eye, and prescribe lenses, other optical aids or therapy.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Determine the nature and extent of vision problems and abnormalities by examining patients' eyes using a variety of instruments, techniques and tests.
- ▶ Correct vision defects by prescribing glasses or contact lenses, special optical aids such as telescopic and microscopic devices, exercises, or changes in working conditions (such as improved lighting).
- ▶ Check glasses and contact lenses for accuracy and comfort, and advise patients on how they should be worn and cared for.
- ▶ Manage minor eye conditions or refer patients when eye diseases are detected and medical or surgical treatment is required.
- ▶ Advise on the application of visual standards and contribute to industrial safety programs.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Most optometrists are self-employed or work for other optometrists in private practice. Optometry practices are like those of doctors or dentists and are usually located in office-type premises in or near shopping areas

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Patient and caring manner
- ▶ Able to carry out accurate and precise work
- ▶ Good communication skills
- ▶ Enjoy helping people
- ▶ An interest in science

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Optometry Australia - www.optometrists.asn.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

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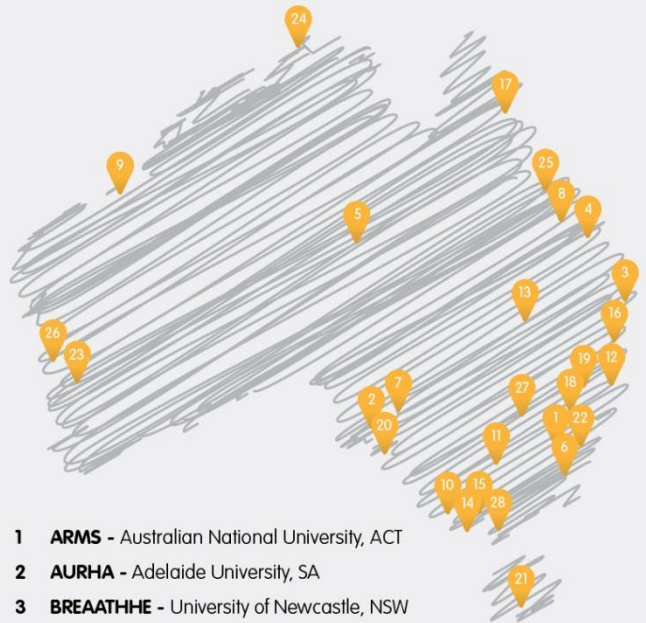
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Orthoptist

What do they do?

Orthoptists diagnose and treat eye movement disorders and vision problems. Orthoptics is an allied health profession.

Tasks and Duties

- ▶ Measure and assess visual acuity (ability to discriminate detail), focusing ability, eye movement, binocular function and colour vision.
- ▶ Detect and treat disorders of the eyes which prevent normal vision such as strabismus (turned eye) and amblyopia (lazy eye).
- ▶ Assessment and management of eye movement disorders (for example, following a head injury).
- ▶ Conduct specialised tests to determine the effects of eye diseases such as glaucoma.
- ▶ Provide educational information to patients and members of the community about eye conditions and their effects.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Hospital eye departments
- ▶ Rehabilitation centres
- ▶ Private clinics with an Ophthalmologist
- ▶ Ophthalmic Technology companies

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Interested in people's health needs
- ▶ Interest in science
- ▶ Good communication skills

Want Further Information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Orthoptics Australia - www.orthoptics.org.au
- ▶ The Good Guide
www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

Scholarships available

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Osteopath

What do they do?

Osteopaths diagnose, treat and provide preventative advice on the musculoskeletal system of the body, using manual techniques to alleviate stresses to improve the body's function.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Treat patients using a variety of manual techniques (e.g. soft tissue stretching, muscle relaxation, gentle mobilisation)
- ▶ Treat biomechanical complaints (e.g. backache, general joint problems, sports injuries, headache, arthritis, asthma, stress and repetitive strain injuries), some breathing problems and a wide range of general medical complaints.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Private practices and clinics

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Good with hands
- ▶ Physically fit
- ▶ Interested in people and their health

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Osteopathy Australia - www.osteopathy.org.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

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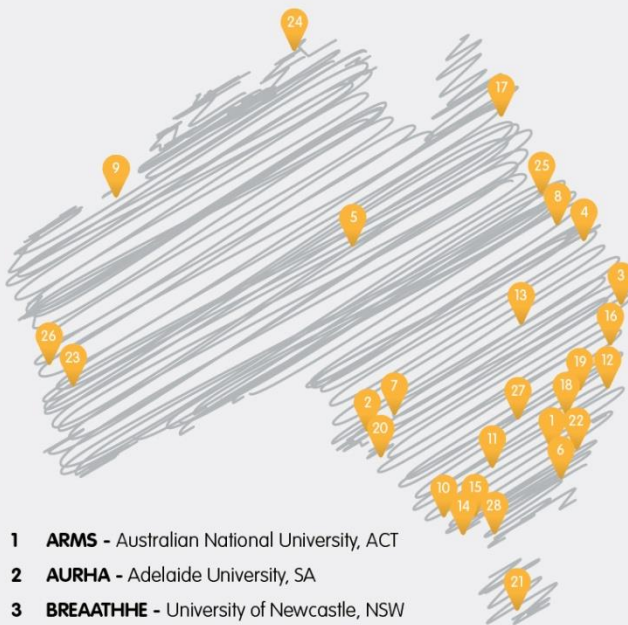
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Paramedic

What do they do?

Ambulance officers provide pre hospital emergency care and treatment for patients. They work closely with members of other emergency services such as firefighters, police and other health professionals.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Attend medical emergencies and accidents which may require the administration of advanced life support skills.
- ▶ Attend public gatherings, such as large sports events, where accidents or other health emergencies may occur.
- ▶ Drive ambulances to sites of emergencies and transport patients to medical facilities.
- ▶ Provide routine transport for frail and aged patients from home to hospital and return to attend specialist medical treatment appointments.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Most Paramedic Officers are employed by Ambulance Services in each state. Paramedic Officers usually work in teams and in rostered shifts

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Physically fit
- ▶ Able to think clearly and act quickly
- ▶ Able to handle stressful situations

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Paramedics Australasia- www.paramedics.org
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

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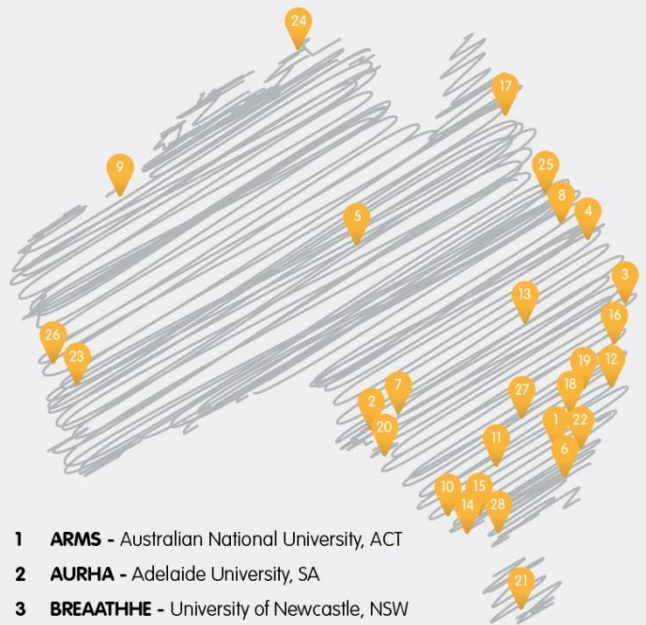
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Pharmacist

What do they do?

Pharmacists supply, dispense and manufacture medicines and drugs in hospitals and community pharmacies and advise on their appropriate use. They also conduct research into the formulation, production, storage, quality control and distribution of medicines and drugs.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Prepare or supervise the dispensing of medicines, ointments and tablets.
- ▶ Counsel patients on how their medicines are to be taken or used.
- ▶ Advise members of the public and other health professionals about medicines (both prescription and over the counter medicines), including appropriate selection, dosage and drug interactions, potential side effects and therapeutic effects.
- ▶ Select, give advice on and supply non-prescription medicine, sickroom supplies and other products.
- ▶ Develop legally recognised standards and advise on government controls and regulations concerning the manufacture and supply of medicines.
- ▶ Work in the research and development of medicines and other health-related products.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Public and Private Hospitals
- ▶ Community Pharmacies
- ▶ Industrial and Pharmaceutical Companies

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Careful and methodical
- ▶ Able to work without supervision
- ▶ Good communication skills
- ▶ Able to deal sensitively with patients' needs
- ▶ Interest in chemistry and science

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Pharmacy Guild of Australia - www.guild.org.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

Scholarships available

- ▶ www.nrhsn.org.au
- ▶ Check professional bodies websites
- ▶ Check your State or Territory Government website for further information.

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Physiotherapist

What do they do?

Physiotherapists assess, diagnose, treat and prevent neurological, cardiorespiratory and musculoskeletal disorders caused by injury and disease. Physiotherapy is an allied health profession.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Assess the physical condition of patients to diagnose problems and plan treatment.
- ▶ Use techniques to strengthen and stretch muscles and joints to improve patient mobility.
- ▶ Perform spinal and peripheral joint mobilisation and manipulation.
- ▶ Use techniques and exercise to help improve people's lung function and breathing affected by disease and major surgery
- ▶ Use equipment such as ultrasound and electrotherapy to ease pain, reduce swelling and improve range of movement.
- ▶ Retrain patients to walk or to use walking frames, splints, crutches and wheelchairs.
- ▶ Educate patients, their families and the community to prevent injury and disability.
- ▶ Plan and implement community fitness programs.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Public and private hospitals
- ▶ Community health centres
- ▶ Private practice
- ▶ Specialist sports injury centres
- ▶ Aged and disability centres

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Patience
- ▶ Genuine interest in people
- ▶ Good health and physically fit
- ▶ Problem-solving skills
- ▶ Good communication skills
- ▶ Team player
- ▶ Self-direction and determination

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Australia Physiotherapy Association - www.physiotherapy.asn.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

Scholarships available

- ▶ www.nrhsn.org.au
- ▶ Check professional bodies websites
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Podiatrist

What do they do?

Podiatrists look after the health of people's feet by diagnosing, treating and preventing foot abnormalities, and by educating the public about good foot health. Podiatry is an allied health profession.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Diagnose, treat or provide advice on foot disorders.
- ▶ Treat deformities such as flat feet and foot imbalance by the use of corrective devices such as orthoses.
- ▶ Work with patients at risk of foot disorders such as people with diabetes.
- ▶ Perform surgical procedures on the foot.
- ▶ Treat abnormalities of bones, joints, skin and nails such as bunions, toe deformities, ingrown toenails, corns, warts and other infections.
- ▶ Recommend footwear for specific foot conditions.
- ▶ Prescribe orthotic devices for protection and correction of a wide range of foot and leg irregularities.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Public hospitals
- ▶ Community health centres
- ▶ Nursing homes
- ▶ Private practice

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Desire to work with people on a one-to-one basis
- ▶ Independent and motivated
- ▶ Interested in health care
- ▶ Good communication skills
- ▶ Good with hands

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Australian Podiatry Council - www.apodc.com.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

Scholarships available

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Psychologist

What do they do?

Psychologists study human behaviour, conduct research and apply research findings in order to minimise behavioural and emotional problems. Psychologists assess and treat psychological problems. Psychologists are interested in how people think, feel and behave.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Administer therapeutic interviews and provide counselling.
- ▶ Administer psychological tests and assess the results to identify the source of problems and determine treatment.
- ▶ Research psychological aspects of topics such as study motivation, teaching skills, occupational behaviour, working conditions and organisational structures.
- ▶ Design tests to assess and predict mental and emotional states, as well as performance.
- ▶ Design and implement programs to modify and improve behaviour.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Private practice
- ▶ Community health centres
- ▶ Mental health services
- ▶ Schools and education departments
- ▶ Welfare services - eg substance abuse services, youth services
- ▶ Police force, law courts and prisons
- ▶ Vocational, Training and Recruitment organisations
- ▶ Industrial companies and organisations

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Interested in people and human behaviour
- ▶ Able to solve problems and an inquisitive mind
- ▶ Patience and perceptiveness
- ▶ Good communication skills

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Australian Psychological Society - www.psychology.org.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

Scholarships available

- ▶ www.nrhsn.org.au
- ▶ Check professional bodies websites
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Radiation Therapist

What is a Radiation Therapist (also known as Therapeutic Radiographer)?

Radiation Therapists design treatment plans for patients and administer radiation therapy treatment in conjunction with radiologists or other medical specialists. Radiation Therapy is an allied health profession.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Calculate the precise radiation dose required and generate dosage distribution.
- ▶ Identify surface anatomy and localise treatment volume using simulators and/or CT scanners.
- ▶ Operate treatment machines, ancillary equipment and computer verification systems.
- ▶ Observe and record quality assurance procedures and record dosage on patients' record sheets.
- ▶ Advise the patient about self-care procedures for radiation treatment side effects.
- ▶ Participate in patient and community education regarding radiation therapy.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Hospitals or radiation oncology (cancer) centres

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Interest in science
- ▶ Able to work accurately and neatly
- ▶ Able to communicate well
- ▶ Able to work as part of a team
- ▶ Patience and empathy
- ▶ Comfortable with computers and new technologies

Want further information?

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- ▶ Australian Institute of Radiography - www.air.asn.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

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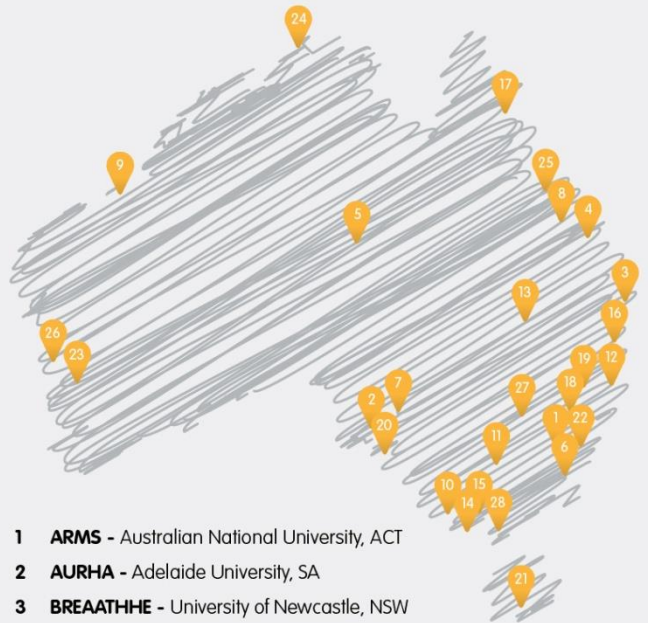
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Radiographer

What is a Radiographer (also known as a Medical Imaging Technologist)?

Radiographers operate x-ray and other imaging equipment to produce radiographs (x-ray films) and other images which are used in the diagnosis and subsequent management of disease or injury. Radiography is an allied health profession.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Determine the appropriate imaging techniques which will provide information to assist with diagnosis of a medical condition.
- ▶ Calculate details of procedures such as length and intensity of exposure to radiation.
- ▶ Develop x-ray films.
- ▶ Operate special equipment such as fluoroscopy equipment (provides a moving image of the part being examined), angiography equipment (images blood vessels) and computed tomography (CT) equipment (provides cross-sectional images of the body).

Where do they work?

- ▶ Public and private hospitals

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Interested in science
- ▶ Able to work accurately and quickly
- ▶ Good communication skills and able to work as part of a team
- ▶ Interested in helping people
- ▶ Comfortable with computers and new technologies

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Our Network

Peak Body

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www.rhwa.org.au
03 9860 4700

Vic

RWAV
www.rwav.com.au
03 9349 7800

QLD

Health Workforce
Queensland
www.healthworkforce.com.au
07 3105 7800

Tas

Health Recruitment
Plus Tasmania
www.healthrecruitmentplus.com.au
03 6334 2355

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NSW Rural
Doctors Network
www.nswrdn.com.au
02 4924 8000

SA

Rural Doctors Workforce
Agency
www.ruraldoc.com.au
08 8234 8277

WA

Rural Health West
www.ruralhealthwest.com.au
08 6389 4500

NT

PHN Northern Territory
www.ntphn.org.au
08 8982 1000

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Social Worker

What do they do?

Social workers help people to deal with personal and social problems, either directly or by planning or carrying out programs with groups or communities. Social Work is an allied health profession.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Counsel individuals and families through a crisis that may be due to death, illness, relationship breakdown or other reasons.
- ▶ Provide clients with information on services to assist them and provide practical support to obtain services such as crisis accommodation or social security benefits.
- ▶ Assist groups of people to support each other and learn social skills.
- ▶ Help community groups to plan and carry out programs to help themselves, for example assisting newly arrived immigrants to form an association.
- ▶ Research community problems and implement programs.
- ▶ Lobby to change social welfare policies and procedures in the pursuit of social justice for all members of the community.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Hospitals
- ▶ Community health centres
- ▶ Youth and child welfare agencies
- ▶ Psychiatric and mental health services
- ▶ Juvenile and Family law courts
- ▶ Aged and disability services
- ▶ Commonwealth Departments e.g. Centrelink
- ▶ Counselling and mediation services

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Maturity
- ▶ Keen analytical abilities
- ▶ Able to view other people's problems objectively
- ▶ Good communication skills
- ▶ Able to work alone or in a team
- ▶ Commitment to listening to and helping others

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Australian Association of Social Workers - www.aasw.asn.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

Scholarships available

- ▶ www.nrhsn.org.au
- ▶ Check professional bodies websites
- ▶ Check your State or Territory Government website for further information.

nrhsn *about us*

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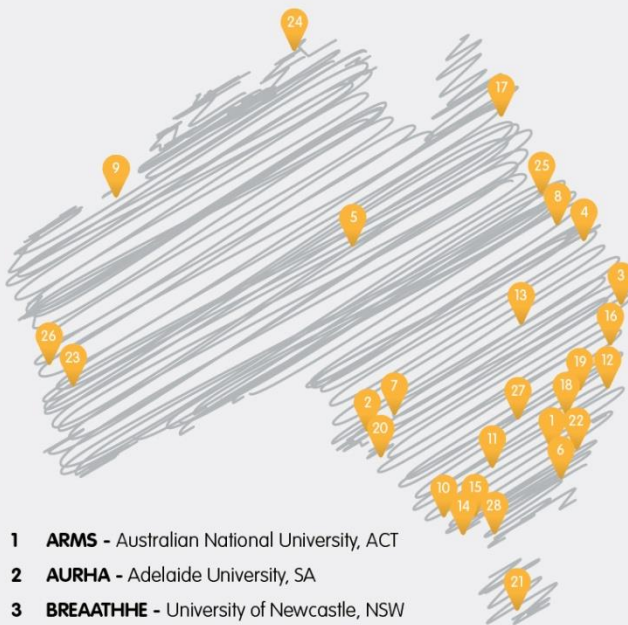
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Speech Pathologist

What do they do?

Speech Pathologists diagnose, treat and provide services to people of all ages with communication disorders including speech, language, voice, fluency and literacy difficulties. Speech Pathologists also work with people who have difficulties with eating or swallowing.

Tasks and duties

- ▶ Determine the nature and severity of a client's communication problems which may require the use of special equipment and tests.
- ▶ Plan and carry out treatment and management.
- ▶ Treat children who are unable to communicate effectively due to conditions such as cleft palate, hearing loss, delayed speech or language development, cerebral palsy or emotional disturbances.
- ▶ Treat adults whose language, speech or voice has been affected by surgery, disease or disorders of the nervous system, brain damage or hearing loss.
- ▶ Help to overcome stuttering in both children and adults.
- ▶ Assess and treat children and adults who have difficulty chewing and swallowing.

Where do they work?

- ▶ Private and Public Hospitals
- ▶ Aged, Rehabilitation, Disability Services
- ▶ Community Health Centres
- ▶ Private Practice
- ▶ Specialist centres such as Autistic Centres

What abilities do I need?

- ▶ Interested in language and communication
- ▶ Able to inspire confidence/cooperation
- ▶ Interested in people
- ▶ A patient and tactful approach to people's problems
- ▶ Interested in the human sciences

Want further information?

Additional course and entrance information is available from university admissions centres, universities, careers advisers and from the following websites:

- ▶ Speech Pathology Australia - www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au
- ▶ The Good Guide - www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

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