

## Information for 'Return to Practice Program'

### Castlemaine Health

Castlemaine Health (CH) is situated in Castlemaine, 120 km north-west of Melbourne. The first hospital was opened in 1853 and since that time Castlemaine Health has expanded its services to meet the needs of the local community. The hospital currently offers a variety of services and also provides clinical and educational opportunities for medical, nursing, and allied health students.

Castlemaine Health services a population of 17,000 in the Shire of Mount Alexander. These services include Medical, Surgical, Midwifery, Rehabilitation, Residential Aged Care, Allied Health and a range of outreach and community based services.

Castlemaine Health is accredited with the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards and the Commonwealth Aged Care Residential Standards Agency.

The Clinical Education Unit supports participants of Graduate Nurse, Refresher, Return to Practice and Initial Registration of Overseas Nurses Programs. Castlemaine Health has an excellent reputation for supporting students and nurses within the clinical environment and offers a range of rural clinical experiences.

The hospital website details further information on the hospital, its staff and the services we provide: [www.castlemainehealth.org.au](http://www.castlemainehealth.org.au)

### Course commencement dates

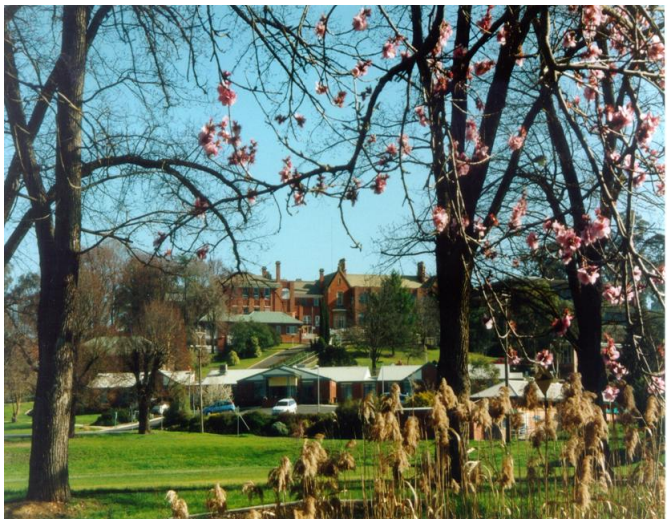
In 2012 the Program will be commencing in February, May and October.

- February 13, 2012
- May 28, 2012
- October 8, 2012

### Program duration

The program is designed to be completed in a minimum time frame of 320 hours (equivalent to 8 weeks) however it also depends on an individual participant's progress and a participant may be deemed suitable for registration in a shorter or longer timeframe, depending on assessment.

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) requirements, participant's progress and whether the program is undertaken on a fulltime or part-time basis are all considerations which may impact on the length of the program for an individual



### Fees

Course fees for the program are \$5,000. This fee includes program materials and access to Castlemaine Health's education resources. A non-refundable fee of \$500 will be required to confirm acceptance of a position, with the remainder of the fees due prior to program commencement.

## **Prerequisite requirements**

Participants must meet all documentation requirements set out by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA). Evidence (letter) of assessment by the AHPRA must be sited prior to course commencement. Castlemaine Health also requires a current (6 month) police check.

## **Accommodation**

Accommodation is available at the hospital for a discounted fee of \$100 per week (subject to change as per Castlemaine Health procedure). Accommodation is in a house environment with cooking and cleaning facilities available. Rooms are provided on a single or shared basis.

The hospital accommodation is situated onsite and is approximately a 10 minute walk from the railway service and a 15 minute walk to the centre of town. The hospital is located on a limited bus service route.

For further information on accommodation, please contact human resources on (03)5471 1492.

## **Program information**

The Castlemaine Health Return to Practice Program has been designed in accordance with the Nurses Board of Victoria's "Standards for Course Accreditation, 2008". The design reflects the Program aims, philosophy, objectives and expected participant outcomes.

The Program comprises a combination of theory and practical work undertaken concurrently. The theory component of the Program includes the participant's attendance and active participation in the education and training program offered on site at Castlemaine Health, the Continuing Nurse Education program and other approved study days.

Participants are required to keep a professional journal to facilitate the use of reflective practice as a learning strategy, to promote theory practice synthesis and enhance critical thinking skills. In order to complete the Program, participants must participate in, and complete, all components of the Program.

### **The theory component is delivered in a variety of modes:**

- Castlemaine Health orientation and in-services
- Study days
- Learning packages
- Self directed learning exercise/s
- Marked questionnaires
- Competency tests
- Clinical supervision
- Utilising available educational resources

### **The theory topics are inclusive of the following but may not be limited to:**

#### *Contemporary issues in nursing*

- Regulation of nursing including a review of the Nurse's Act
- Role, scope and professional responsibilities of the RN and EN nurse
- Ethics
- Cultural diversity in Australian and local health care
- Recent history of health care in Australia
- Nursing Law and relevant Acts
- Role of AHPRA and a review of guidelines
- Introduction to National competency standards

### *Professional issues in nursing*

- Computers in healthcare
- Self-directed and life long learning skills
- Journaling and critical thinking
- Communication and documentation in nursing
- Evidence-based practice in nursing

### *Health care context*

- Orientation to the health care facility where clinical experience will be obtained
- Introduction to local issues

### *Occupational and Health & Safety*

- Manual Handling and 'No Lift' principles for patient transfers
- Infection Control and hand hygiene
- Fire, safety and evacuation

### *Clinical risk assessment and management*

- Principles of risk management
- Safe medication management

### *Clinical skills*

- Completion of compulsory clinical competencies
  - Basic Life Support
  - Medication competency
- Management of intravenous therapy including central venous devices
- Oxygen therapy, including BiPAP and airway management
- Use of equipment utilised in Australian healthcare facilities

### *Nursing in Australian healthcare system*

- Medical terminology and acceptable abbreviations
- Documentation requirements
- Industrial issues
- Funding models
- Public and Private system
- Role and responsibility of other health care professionals
- Managing medical patients in an acute setting
- Managing surgical patients in an acute setting
- Mental Health care overview
- Gerontic nursing
- Any other relevant topics identified by participants

### **Methods to assess theory will include but are not limited to:**

- Participation at prescribed study days and in-services
- Assessment of compulsory clinical competencies
- Successful completion of learning packages
- Achieving the desired mark for questionnaires
- Participating in clinical supervision and demonstrating critical thinking skills
- Completing self directed learning requirements.

## **Clinical component and support**

### **Clinical component**

Participants will undertake clinical placements within Castlemaine Health in a supportive environment. Placements include a variety of clinical settings and are designed to ensure all AHPRA requirements are met.

## **Clinical support**

During placements participants are supported by the ward staff and the Clinical Education Unit. Participants will have both group and individual support sessions to ensure participants are supported throughout the program.

## **Practical component assessment**

Participants' practical work is assessed in accordance with the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council's (ANMAC) National Competency Standards for the Registered Nurse and the Enrolled Nurse. The practical component requires participants to successfully complete a number of clinical skills in order to complete the Program

## **Our expectations**

During the program participants must abide by Castlemaine Health policy, guidelines and procedures. The hospital expects participants to conduct themselves in a professional manner and to adhere to current professional nursing guidelines on ethics, confidentiality and behavior. Failure to comply may result in termination of the participant's enrolment in the program.

Refer to [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au).

## **Information about Castlemaine**

Castlemaine is situated in rural Victoria, 120 km north-west of Melbourne. It is well serviced and accessible by road and rail. Castlemaine has a reputation for being a relaxed and friendly community with a rich history dating from the 1850's goldfields era. To find out more about Castlemaine please visit the following websites which have detailed information on Castlemaine and its surrounds.

- [www.castlemaine.org](http://www.castlemaine.org)
- [www.maldoncastlemaine.com](http://www.maldoncastlemaine.com)
- [www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au](http://www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au)

## **Further information**

Further information about our program can be obtained by contacting:

Administration Assistant – phone (03) 5470 4223 or email [lawassist@castlemainehealth.org.au](mailto:lawassist@castlemainehealth.org.au)

Clinical Nurse Educator – phone (03) 5471 1683 or email [cne@castlemainehealth.org.au](mailto:cne@castlemainehealth.org.au)

Please be aware that answers to enquiries may be delayed by up to a week.

Applications should be submitted to:

Laura Keogh  
Castlemaine Health  
P O Box 50  
Castlemaine VIC 3450

or by email to:  
[lawassist@castlemainehealth.org.au](mailto:lawassist@castlemainehealth.org.au)

