



## **Mental Health Graduate Nurse Program 2021 (Mental Health Only & Mental Health/Nursing streams)**

Mental Health nursing is an exciting, dynamic and fascinating area of nursing. It requires a combination of specialised knowledge, reflection, clinical and interpersonal skills to promote a client's wellbeing and recovery. Peninsula Health provides a wide diversity of mental health services.

Although the Graduate year at Peninsula Health offers experiential learning opportunities via employment, we also require Graduates to undertake concurrent study to achieve the Graduate Diploma in Mental Health Nursing during this period. It is appreciated this can be very demanding on our Graduates but is necessary for continued working within the specialist field of mental health nursing.

### **Professional Development**

All new Graduate Nurses will complete an orientation program incorporating all required essential skills training. Graduate Nurses are supported in their development with monthly professional development days, covering a range of mental health topics and opportunities for clinical case presentations.

### **Clinical Rotations/Experiential learning opportunities (Areas may change)**

All Mental Health Graduate Nurses complete two 6 months rotations in either;

- Acute Adult Inpatient Unit
- Acute Aged Inpatient Unit
- Or General Nursing stream (For Mental Health/Nursing applicants only and duration may be less than 6 months)
- Community Care Units
- PAPU

Upon successful completion of the year, Graduates will then offered two further 6 month rotations whilst they complete their studies.

### **Support**

Graduates are supported throughout the Graduate Program by a dedicated Early Career Nurse Educator. They will receive Clinical Supervision and reflective practice groups throughout this time and continue Clinical Supervision throughout their employment with Peninsula Health.

### **Post-Graduate Study**

All Mental Health Graduates must be eligible for and enrolled in post graduate studies. All applicants must therefore provide proof of achieving a minimum credit (or 60%) grade on their academic transcript. The Graduate Diploma must be completed within 2 years of commencing the graduate year. The completion of all clinical placement time, a Clinical Portfolio and all assessment items during the Graduate year will enable application for Advanced Standing towards the Post Graduate Diploma with Universities linked to Peninsula Health.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

*How many positions do you offer?* **There are approximately 8-10 positions in the program.**

*Why is it a 2 year program?* **Your Graduate Diploma will take two years to complete so your employment will consist of an additional twelve month contract to ensure you are supported throughout your study period.**

*I won't be registered to commence in February; do you have a mid-year intake?* **No, all Graduates must commence in February to meet university requirements of the Graduate Diploma of Nursing (Mental Health).**

*I am an International Student – am I able to apply for a position at Peninsula Health?* **All applicants must be eligible for and registered with Allocation and Placement website to secure a first-round position. Please speak to CEDU directly about eligibility for second-round positions.**

*I am not a Victorian resident. Am I eligible to apply?* **The Victorian Allocation and Placement Service gives preference to Victorian residents and students at Victorian universities but speak with us to discuss your intentions prior to applying.**

*Is it possible to undertake an Honours program during the GNP?* **No. All Graduates are required to undertake concurrent post graduate studies in Mental Health.**

*If I am successful in gaining an interview, when and where will these interviews be held?* **Due to the current social distancing restrictions our interview processes are under review and will be confirmed soon. Updated information will be available during the online information sessions and via our website soon**

*Are the interviews individual or group interviews?* **Our interview processes are under review due to the current Covid-19 restrictions. Updated information will be available during the online information sessions and via our website soon**

*I have not completed a clinical placement at Peninsula Health. Will I be considered for a position?* **Yes - If you have not completed a placement at any of our sites it is highly recommended that you log in to one of our Information Sessions**

*I already know that I want to apply to Peninsula Health for my grad year. Do I still need to attend an information session?* **Yes – these sessions will provide valuable information and assist you to navigate the application and interview process.**

*Where can I get more information?* – **Please see our Application and Interview Guidelines for more information**

*If I have further questions who do I contact?* **Please contact the Continuing Education & Development Unit (CEDU)**

**CEDU**

**☎ - 9784 7732**

**✉ - [gnmp@phcn.vic.gov.au](mailto:gnmp@phcn.vic.gov.au)**

## Application Guidelines

- **All applicants must be registered through the Victorian Allocation and Placement Service**
- Candidate registration & Health Services application opens on July 13<sup>th</sup> at <https://allocations.pmcv.com.au>
- All applications to Peninsula Health programs must be made on-line at [www.peninsulahealth.org.au](http://www.peninsulahealth.org.au) Please note that you will need to sign up to use our electronic eRecruitment portal.
- Applications open on Wed July 15<sup>th</sup> and close at midnight on Wed Aug 5<sup>th</sup>.

### Step 1

- Register with Allocation and Placement Service website
- Select Peninsula Health as one of your preferences
- Please ensure you select the correct program to match your application to us.
- Select mental health graduate program if your primary interest is to become a mental health nurse

### Step 2

Ensure you have each of the following requirements:

- A one page covering letter outlining why you have selected Peninsula Health.
- A written piece of no more than 250 words on
  - Why you want to be a mental health nurse?
  - Which stream are you applying for?
  - Confirm your commitment to completion of Post Graduate studies during your Graduate Program if you are choosing the 2 year program.
- A concise Resume/CV of no more than 3 pages following recommended template (see page 5).
- Most recent Academic Transcript with key to results **showing a minimum of a credit (or 60%) grade**. Where credit is given for previous studies, an Academic Transcript covering those subjects must be provided.
- 3 relevant and recent clinical appraisal summaries. We appreciate you may only have experienced only one mental health placement probably in second year. Please include this as one of the three summaries.

### Step 3

- From July 15<sup>th</sup> apply on-line for the Graduate Nurse Program (Mental Health)
- Cover letter should be addressed to  
Samantha Sevenhuysen  
Director –Education and Training
- Cover letter must include your Allocation and Placement Service candidate number
- Academic Transcript and Clinical Appraisal Summaries may be:
  1. Uploaded in the remaining 'Application Documents' portal – please do not save documents in 'My Documents' as we cannot view or access them
  2. Emailed to [gnmp@phcn.vic.gov.au](mailto:gnmp@phcn.vic.gov.au) - Please include your name and program (Mental Health) in the subject line
  3. Delivered in person or posted to  
The Continuing Education and Development Unit (CEDU)  
Peninsula Health  
PO Box 52  
Frankston, VIC, 3199

**Please note** - you will receive a return 'Received' email for all documents sent to the gnmp email address. Please contact us if you have emailed documents and not received this confirmation.

## **Interview Guidelines**

The interview process is currently under review due to social distancing restrictions and will be confirmed during the information sessions and via our website soon.

## **Following Your Interview**

At Peninsula Health we continually seek to improve our services. We would like your opinion about your experience in applying for the Graduate Program and your interview. We will email you a link to an anonymous survey a few weeks following your interview. We would appreciate your honest feedback so that we can assess the quality of our processes and value of improvements made following previous surveys.

## **Successful Applicants**

If you are successfully matched to Peninsula Health on Monday October 19<sup>th</sup> we will contact you by phone (usually the same day). You will then receive an invitation to a Welcome and Information session to go through the remaining requirements prior to commencing your graduate year

For further information contact CEDU at [gnmp@phcn.vic.gov.au](mailto:gnmp@phcn.vic.gov.au) or 9784 7732

## **Resume Guidelines**

### ***General Information***

- Font – Arial/Calibri or similar (no smaller than size 11)
- Font colour – black only
- No graphics or photos
- Single column only
- Maximum of three pages in length

### ***Education/Qualifications***

- Reverse chronological order (most recent at top)
- Include start and end date

### ***English Language Requirement (all applicants must include this section)***

Please indicate which of the following categories you meet

1. Enrolled Nurse – please provide registration number
2. Primary Language pathway – 6 years of primary/secondary education in recognised country (2 years must be in years 7-12)
3. Extended Education pathway – at least five years continuous full-time equivalent education in a recognised country. Education must be at Certificate III or higher
4. English language test pathway – copy of test results required

### ***Clinical Placements***

- Please list in reverse chronological order
- Include venue and type of setting e.g. rehabilitation, day surgery, aged mental health, or Birthing
- List start and end dates
- Do not provide list of all skills practised during placements

### ***Employment/Relevant Voluntary Work***

- Reverse chronological order
- Include start and end dates where relevant
- List company/organisation and role held

### ***References***

- Two clinical referees – one must be Registered Nurse and the other referee must be a mental health clinician.
- Include name, organisation, role and contact detail including email address and phone number

**NOTE** - Please do not include career aims/objectives, hobbies and interests or awards unless related to studies