

**Informed choices**

*In order to make an informed choice about the suitability of this course, you must take into account the essential skills and knowledge in addition to the critical aspects of assessment of this course or qualification.*

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| **Study Area- Health** |
| **The Diploma of Nursing is a Level 5 Qualification under the Australian Qualification Framework (AQF).**  Entry to the Diploma of Nursing is very competitive. As part of an application for this course, you will be required to sit and pass a 2 hour test on literacy and numeracy. There are also other language entry requirements for this course (See the website). On completion of this qualification, graduates can gain employment in the health industry. The role of the Enrolled Nurse requires direct patient care and this is a large part of the role requirements. Subsequently applicants need to consider their ability to perform the core skills and their suitability for the course.  Further information about this course level including the necessary skills for successful completion are available at: <https://www.aqf.edu.au/aqf-levels> |
| **Industry Career Pathways** |
| For information on employment outcomes click the Job Opportunities tab on the Diploma of Nursing course page.  For further information and details relating to employment, work roles, tasks and career pathways related to Health, please visit:   * [www.myfuture.edu.au](http://www.myfuture.edu.au/) - for up to date career resources to help explore and plan careers * [Aged & Community Services Australia](https://acsa.asn.au/) - for more information on careers * For more detailed information on registration requirements go to <https://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/News/2018-10-24-revised-esl-standards.aspx>   Please visit our [Pathways to nursing](https://www.northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/courses/industries/health-beauty-and-fitness/enrolled-nursing/pathways-nursing) page for information on how to achieve your goal of studying nursing if you do not meet entrance requirements and other Health industry area pathways offered at North Metropolitan TAFE. |

**Core Skill Requirements (Inherent Requirements)**

To work in the industry area identified, the following skills needs to be considered.

# Observational skills – this includes the ability to:

* notice changes in people’s behavior, ability and the environment
* recognise the deteriorating patient
* identify safety hazards and risks
* observe and understand non-verbal cues (e.g. facial expressions, body language)
* identify signs of verbal distress and / or aggression

# Communication skills – this includes the ability to:

* communicate effectively with a range of people (e.g. clients, families, co-workers)
* use appropriate language and respect when working with people from different cultures
* listen attentively to what is being said
* read and understand written information
* understand and follow written and verbal instructions
* understand and respond to verbal and non- verbal communication
* write comprehensive communication appropriate to the situation
* use technology to communicate (e.g. computer for reports, emails, documents)
* communicate and work with other people as a team

# Technical and / or Motor skills – this includes the ability to:

* deal with physical demands of manual tasks (e.g. bending, squatting, kneeling, crouching, repetitive movements, carrying, reaching)
* be on your feet for extended periods of time, both walking and standing
* grasp, push, turn and manipulate objects
* use equipment and other technology (e.g. computers, push wheelchairs, manual handling equipment)
* have sufficient vision to safely perform the required range of skills
* hear and differentiate sounds that may alert you of a problem (e.g. alarms, calls )
* deal with body fluids (e.g. urine, faeces, blood)

# Cognitive / intellectual skills – this includes the ability to:

* gather, understand, organise, recall and communicate information
* use judgment / basic problem solving skills (e.g. to respond to immediate safety risks)
* understand other people’s perspectives / opinions and respect their choices
* understand and use maths effectively (e.g. measurements, calculations, 24 hr clock)
* maintain a sufficient level of concentration to complete an activity / task
* be attentive in interaction with others ( e.g. to identify risks, to identify changes)
* perform tasks in a safe manner and within reasonable timeframes

# Behavioural and social skills – this includes the ability to:

* demonstrate patience and willingness to work with a variety of people
* able to work under pressure
* demonstrate professional behaviour (e.g. punctuality, maintaining confidentiality and respect personal boundaries)
* control your emotions and reactions and withhold personal opinions
* tolerate close proximity with individuals
* interact with all genders
* adapt to change
* take responsibility for own actions – including responsible use of social media
* comply with legal requirements of industry (e.g. criminal history check)

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| **Language, Literacy & Numeracy** |
| The Language, Literacy & Numeracy requirements are core skills for all job roles at all levels. The Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF) indicates that the five core skill areas are reading, writing, numeracy, oral communication and learning which we apply in our personal and community; workplace and employment; and education and training.  Some of the core language, literacy and numeracy (LLN) skills for entry into this Industry are:   * **Learning –** legal and ethical guidelines of work, understand human needs, individual differences, service standards, safety policies and procedures * **Reading Skills -** reading and understanding client charts and treatment plans, procedures and work instructions, industry specific terminology and symbols, workplace safety signs * **Writing Skills -** completing forms, charts, progress notes, WHS reports, taking messages * **Oral Communication** –active listening skills, communicating with clients and their family and team members. Communicating with clients who have impaired communication. Effective questioning, application of telephone skills and providing information to team members * **Numeracy Skills –** measure fluids, read weights and measurements, read, interpret and document in charts, calculate timeframes * **Problem Solving Skills –** identify and respond to client’s needs on a daily basis * **Technology Skills –** use software to update observation notes and record product purchases |
| **Other Considerations** |
| * Students are required to have access to a computer and internet *(NM TAFE students can access computers via its libraries – available at Joondalup and Mt Lawley campuses).* |
| **Workplace Health and Safety** |
| All workers must understand their workplace health and safety obligations and safety requirements under the:   * WA Occupational Safety & Health Act 1984, which imposes obligations on people at workplaces to ensure workplace health and safety. * Occupational Safety & Health Regulations 1996 (WA) that describes what must be done to prevent or control certain hazards which cause injury, illness or death. * Codes of Practice, which are designed to give practical advice about ways to manage exposure to risks common to industry.   All workers must be able to participate in Risk Assessments, Incident Reports and Hazard Identification. |

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| **Industry Legislation or Licensing** |
| All workers must meet the qualification and / or legislative requirements set by industry standards. To work in the industry as an Enrolled Nurse, professional membership with Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) is required  A Criminal History Check conducted through the National Police Check, is required to work in health and aged care. Individuals are responsible for any cost associated with obtaining a Criminal History Check, Department of Health Clearance and Working with Children Check. For further information go to:  <https://www.police.wa.gov.au/Police-Direct/National-Police-Certificates>  <https://workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au/> |
| **Before you enrol** |
| * If you intend to enrol in the Diploma of Nursing course, please review the inherent requirements listed in this statement and determine whether you might experience challenges in meeting them. * If you think you might experience challenges related to your disability, health condition or for any other reason, you should discuss your concerns with the Head of Program or Head of Discipline Nursing, a Student Services Staff member or a Disability Access and Equity Officer. * If you have made an informed choice that this is not the right pathway for you, please consider another qualification or the following programs:   + [North Metro TAFE Foundation Studies](https://www.northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/courses/industries/english-languages-and-foundation-studies)   + [Job Skills Centres](https://www.jobsandskills.wa.gov.au/jobs-and-skills-centres) for career pathway advice   + <https://www.goodcareersguide.com.au/> |