



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Health**

2026 | GradConnect



Acknowledgement of Country

Welcome, Kaya



Annie Thompson

Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer
WA Health

What to expect from today



Through the live presentations learn about

- GradConnect - how to apply? What to expect?
- Mental Health Nursing
- Aboriginal nursing and midwifery workforce and cultural safety
- WA public health service providers and St John of God Health Care – showcasing their graduate (or transition to practice) programs

During Breakout sessions interact with

- Managers and staff development teams from various hospitals and health services
- The GradConnect team
- Fellow graduates and students

If you miss a presentation – don't worry

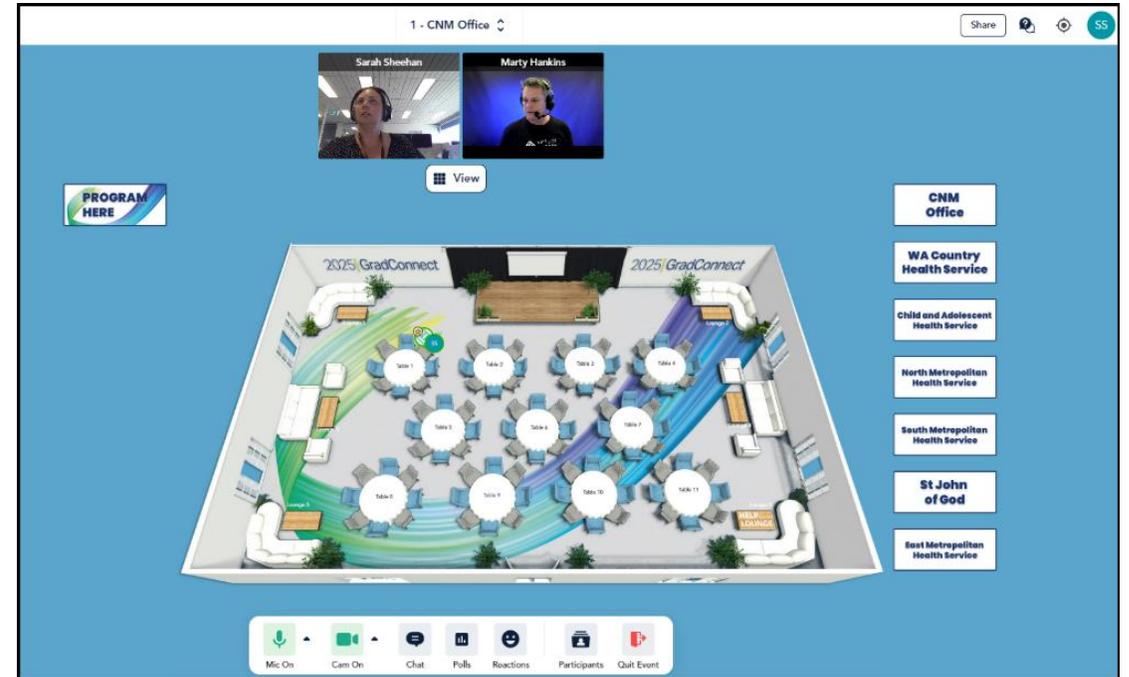
All presentations will be recorded and posted on the 2026 | GradConnect webpage

Navigating the Virtual Forum Space

When the presentations are on you will **NOT** be able to chat or interact with other people.

Stay seated and enjoy the presentations.

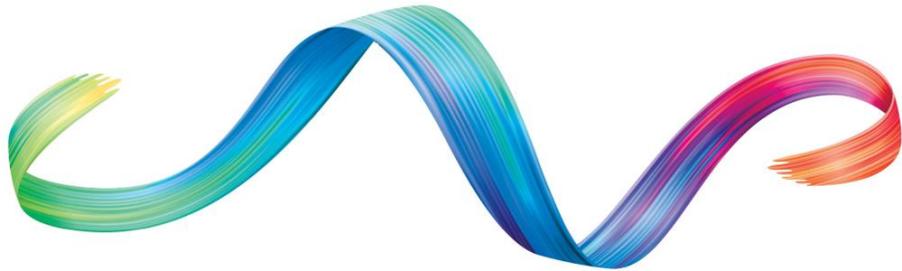
- Floor and Table Plan
- At the table or lounge
- Chat Function
- Program



Please remember

- To move between floors, scroll from the top menu and chose a health service provider
- Click on a table/lounge to chat to other people at the same table/lounge
- Turn your camera on when interacting with us 😊

What is GradConnect?



Online recruitment process for newly qualified enrolled nurses, registered nurses and midwives for paid graduate (or transition to practice) programs in Western Australia

Only 1 application to apply for programs offered by

WA Country Health Service (WACHS)

South Metropolitan Health Service (SMHS)

East Metropolitan Health Service (EMHS)

North Metropolitan Health Service (NMHS)

Child & Adolescent Health Service (CAHS)

St John of God Health Care (multiple sites)

Yaandina Community Services (aged care)



The Handbook

The 2026 | GradConnect Handbook has all the information you need to apply, including:

- Important dates
- Eligibility information
- The value-based statement
- All programs on offer, listed by Enrolled Nursing, Registered Nursing and Midwifery
- Interview tips

Resource available from the website [2026 | GradConnect](#)

Print the applicant's checklist
Make sure you are ready to apply



2026 | GradConnect
July 2026 to June 2027 start



health.wa.gov.au

Applications dates

OPEN - 23 February 2026 at 9am AWST

CLOSE - 18 March 2026 at 1pm AWST



Late submissions will not be considered under any circumstances.



2026 | GradConnect is for positions starting between
July 2026 – June 2027

Are you eligible?

Can you answer YES to these questions?

1. Eligible for Registration with Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia prior to starting program

2. An Australian or New Zealand citizen, or permanent resident, or have a valid visa with full working rights for duration of program

3. Have completed your studies after 1 January 2025 and before 28 February 2027

4. Have not previously participated in a graduate program for the profession you are applying for

Internationally qualified Nurses and Midwives

Yes!

If you can answer yes to the eligibility questions!

- This includes having NOT participated in a graduate program in another country
- Valid visa and full working rights – this needs to be finalised prior to any graduate program start date
- If you are not already registered, this process may take longer for internationally qualified nurses and midwives
- Please refer to the information on [Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia - Internationally qualified nurses and midwives](#)



Supporting Aboriginal Applicants

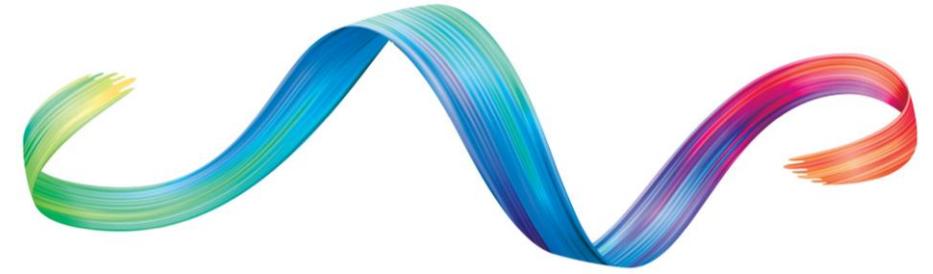
- WA Health is committed to growing the Aboriginal workforce and improving health for Aboriginal People
- WA Health is committed providing a culturally inclusive and safe workplace.
- WA Health is committed to growing the Aboriginal workforce across our health care system. [Section 51 of the Equal Opportunity Act 1984](#) applies to all GradConnect vacancies employed within WA public health services.



The WA Chief Nursing and Midwifery (CNM) Office provides candidate support for Aboriginal applicants applying through GradConnect.

To access this support, contact the GradConnect team at GradConnect@health.wa.gov.au

How to apply ?



- Applications are open on **23 February 2026 at 9am AWST**
- Go to the [2026 | GradConnect](#) webpage
- Click on the 'Apply now >' button corresponding to the cohort you are applying for (i.e., enrolled nurse, registered nurse and midwife) 
- Each link will redirect you to the online application portal

Application Tips

- Use an email address that remains valid for the duration of the process, all information related to your application will be communicated via this email address.
- Apply early – do not leave until last minute
- Draft application questions (i.e., value-based statement) in a word document
- You can edit your application up to the closing date
- If you are planning to apply for both registered nursing and midwifery programs, ensure you submit 2 separate applications

Value-Based Statement



Select any 2 of the values and write a 400-word statement describing how you would demonstrate these values clinically as a newly qualified nurse or midwife

- » Respect
- » Integrity
- » Excellence
- » Collaboration
- » Care
- » Equity

This is one of the most important parts of your application

There are fantastic tips in the handbook on addressing the value-based statement

Research your first preference site
What are their values? How can you integrate this into your statement?

Value-Based Statement - Examples

Highlight the value

How has this shaped your journey as a nurse or midwife?

Respect is a core value that guides my nursing practice. During **clinical placement**, I was assigned to a female patient who I was aware was Muslim. I had previously looked after Muslim patients and understood that modesty and gender-sensitive care were **important aspects of their cultural and religious needs**. Being aware of this, I ensured that when I went to see this patient, I knocked on the door and announced I was a male student nurse and asked if I could enter. The patient asked me to wait before allowing me to come in and expressed how grateful she was that I announced myself as she mentioned that on other occasions, not all staff showed the same consideration and thanked me for being respectful. **I felt** I had improved this patient's experience and find it meaningful that as a nurse I can align personal values with professional ones.

Collaboration has always been central to my nursing practice, and **transitioning from an enrolled nurse to a student registered nurse** has required me to adapt to how I collaborate within a team. During **a placement** in a surgical ward, a patient I was caring for in a team with my buddy registered nurse, an enrolled nurse and an assistant in nursing had a blood-soaked wound dressing that was previously clean and dry. **I asked the EN in our team** if they could do the patient's vital signs, as I wanted these to be checked for any other symptoms related to the bleeding whilst I went to get advice and assistance with the wound. Collaborating with my wider team like this ensured that the patient was getting timely care, while I sought guidance from my buddy RN and prepared to assess the wound. **This experience** strengthened my understanding of collaboration through delegation, adapting to the shift in responsibility from the role of enrolled nurse to registered nurse.

Use a clinical example

Relate to the program you are applying to

What do you need for your application



- Demographic details
- Information about studies and relevant nursing and/ or midwifery experiences
- Address the value-based statement
- Choose 2 employment preferences – Try choosing different health services
- Provide 2 referees – one must be clinical (i.e., a facilitator, please ensure you ask for their permission)
- Upload documents (i.e., proof of citizenship and CV for midwifery applicants only)



What's next?

Interviews

- ✓ ENSURE you are contactable/available during the interview timeframes
- ✓ You will be required to accept or decline your interview attendance via the application portal
- ✓ Make sure you read all the interview tips in the handbook.
- ✓ Talk to the HSPs representatives. They may be the people interviewing you!

Look at the **key dates** for Interview periods and offers of employment in the [GradConnect 2026 Handbook](#)

Offers of employment

- ✓ Offers of employment will be emailed to applicants
- ✓ You will receive information on how to accept or decline the offer
- ✓ You must ACCEPT or DECLINE your offer within two days of the date of offer

Your application will be **withdrawn** if you do not respond to the invitation for interview or do not attend the scheduled interview

If you decline or do not respond to your first preference offer within the required deadline your application will be **withdrawn**. You will **NOT be swept** to your second preference site OR the pool of remaining applicants for further opportunities

What if I am unsuccessful?

- If you are unsuccessful to your first preference site, you will be swept to your second preference site for consideration.
- If you are unsuccessful at your second preference site or there is no remaining positions available, you will be swept to the pool of remaining applicants (recruitment pool).

Don't Stress

Remember that a graduate program is not a prerequisite for commencing your nursing or midwifery career.

Vacancies are regularly posted on the [WA Health Jobs board](#).

Support and further information

- Go to the website [2026 | GradConnect](#)
- Email the GradConnect team
GradConnect@health.wa.gov.au

Read the [GradConnect
2026 Handbook!](#)

