

Nursing & Midwifery Policy Communiqué

February 2012

The **Nursing & Midwifery Policy Communiqués** are produced monthly for Directors of Nursing of public health services. Also available on the *Nursing in Victoria* website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/publications>

Please circulate me to wards/areas where nurses and midwives work in your organisation!

T&D Grant (Nursing and Midwifery)

Health services are reminded that:

- they must confirm their actual numbers of graduates and postgraduate nursing and midwifery places for the academic year 2012 by **10 February 2012**, and
- the new T & D guidelines are effective **1 March 2012** for places starting in the first half of 2012.

The revised guidelines (informed by the T & D review completed in 2011) will be published in mid-February.

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/furthering/training/funded-programs>

Revised NMBA PII registration standard & guidelines for midwives

All nurses and midwives should note that the NMBA has now released:

- Revised Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII) registration standard for nurses and midwives, and
- New PII guidelines for midwives.

The standard takes effect from **10 January 2012**.

<http://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards.aspx>

NAHRLS Rural scheme Update

The Commonwealth funded NAHRLS program eligibility has been revised and can now be accessed to cover leave (including Recreation Leave, planned sick leave, maternity leave etc).

NAHRLS provides locum placements for up to 14 days to enable nurses, midwives and eligible allied health professionals in rural areas to take CPD (and from **1 January**) other planned leave.

Website: <http://www.nahrls.com.au>

HWA's Graduate Information Portal

A national web-based Graduate Nursing and Midwifery Information Portal has been set up to assist nursing and midwifery graduates that do not find employment through the states usual process (eg Computer Match in Victoria) to find out where there are vacancies.

As from **30 January 2012**, employers (both public and private) can use the site to advertise positions that could be filled by a graduate.

Website: www.nmgj.org.au

NPS draft Prescribing Competencies Framework

The National Prescribing Service (NPS) is consulting on its draft prescribing Competencies Framework. An online survey for health professionals and consumers is available until **29 February 2012**.

<http://surveys.nps.org.au/s3/Health%20Professionals%20Prescribing%20Competencies>

For information:

Revised Return to Nursing Factsheet

We have revised our factsheet on returning to practice to reflect updated NMBA policy. It also has important advice for nurses and midwives who are considering a break in practice.

http://www.health.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0011/384635/1112019_Getting-back-into-nursing-or-midwifery-Factsheet-4-WEB.pdf