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| Making it free to study Nursing and MidwiferyInformation brief – Additional postgraduate nursing positions in specialty areasSeptember 2022 **OFFICIAL** |

## Background

Victoria’s healthcare workforce faces long-standing pressures that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Amid increased demand for care, ongoing action is needed to address issues regarding the supply and distribution of the healthcare workforce. The Victorian Government is implementing a range of initiatives to support Victoria’s healthcare workforce, including free university and specialist training for thousands of nurses and midwives.

This initiative aims to boost to the health system, with more than 17,000 nurses and midwives recruited and trained as part of a massive hiring and upskilling initiative – building an army of home-grown health workers to care for Victorians.

**This component of the package provides additional funding for nursing and midwifery postgraduate programs delivered by public health services. The department will provide more information on funding arrangements to health services directly in September 2022.**

## Funding purpose

This funding will provide additional investment in postgraduate nursing and midwifery programs across Victoria’s public health services. These programs provide targeted skills development and play a key role in enabling health services to grow and retain the specialist nurse workforce.

In particular, this funding will support health services to train and develop specialist nursing capability in emergency care, intensive care, oncology, midwifery and other areas of high need.

## Funding principles

This funding builds on investment provided via the training and development grant and is available to health services providing formal postgraduate programs for nurses and midwives.

## Funding eligibility

Funding is available to health services that provide formal postgraduate programs for nursing and midwifery. More details are available in the training and development funding guidelines published by the department.