

SOUTH EAST LOCAL HEALTH NETWORK

2020 Transition to Professional Practice Program (TPPP) for Registered Nurses

About the South East Health Services

The South East Local Health Network (SELHN) covers a large geographical area which consists of the Upper and Lower South East and extends all the way to the Victorian border.

The SELHN has 6 Hospitals and three Commonwealth Funded Residential Aged Care facilities. Community Health services also provide Country Health Connect outreach services across the region. It services a resident population of approximately 66,000. Services provided within SELHN include accident and emergency, day and inpatient surgery, aboriginal health, obstetric services, community health and aged care services.

The main health hub for the area is in Mount Gambier with other facilities located nearby in Bordertown, Kingston, Millicent, Naracoorte and Penola. The health services of the South East vary in size and function and offer a broad and challenging range of surgical, medical, maternity, aged care, theatre, accident and emergency and outpatient services.

What does the TPPP for Registered Nurses look like in the South East Local Health Network?

The SELHN Transition to Professional Practice Program (TPPP) provides new graduates with:

- Support and guidance in their first year of practice as a Registered Nurse (RN)
- Experience working in a country setting that assists participants to become resourceful, flexible and adaptable - a great start and solid foundation for your nursing career

The SELHN TPPP program aims to support the newly qualified Registered Nurses to consolidate and develop skills and knowledge reflected in high quality nursing practice. The transition program is evidence-based, developed by rural nurses and midwives and informed by the practical experience of our rural and regional workforce.

Differences in location, size/type of health unit will make each Registered Nurse experience in their first year unique. These opportunities enable development of the skills required for a 'rural generalist' RN. This may include surgical, medical, maternity, aged care, theatre, accident and emergency and outpatient services. A SELHN TPPP incorporates practice support, clinical time allocated to enhance learning supported by an online learning platform and a minimum of four professional development/study days.

Opportunities exist for clinical rotation to specialty areas within the larger health services. Some sites may offer opportunity to work across health units. TPPP Operating Theatre positions in the South East will be available at Mount Gambier and Millicent. Theatre experience is available with possible negotiation in Naracoorte however this is not a specific program across the entire year.

There is a local health network approach to management of the program and education days are scheduled with TPPP participants from SELHN.

The health unit contact person will be able to answer questions about the TPPP at their site including information about:

- Start dates – most programs commence between January and March although there may be some

programs which commence later

- Whether the position is full time or part time
- What experiences that particular site can offer and whether clinical rotations are available
- Whether the program includes rotations to more than one health unit
- The TPPP with a speciality focus e.g. perioperative, aged care
- The local community, transport, accommodation and the local area

Combined Registered Nurse and Registered Midwife TPPP

If you are also a new Registered Midwife and interested in a combined Registered Nurse and Registered Midwife TPPP Naracoorte and Mount Gambier are pleased to offer this program. The combined program gives graduates new to both the nursing and midwifery professions support as they start their careers. A separate application for the combined RN/RM TPPP can be submitted via the Registered Midwife TPPP application portal which will be available mid July 2019.

For more information about the Combined RN/RM Program contact:

Carol Salmon

Nurse & Midwife Education Facilitator

carol.salmon@sa.gov.au

The South East Local Health Network will be offering TPPP RN positions in the following health services:

1. Naracoorte Health Service

Naracoorte Health Service has 80 Beds including 39 acute beds and 41 aged-care facility plus 6 Day Surgery Chairs, 4 Chemotherapy Chairs, Accident & Emergency and Theatre suite with 180 theatre sessions per annum. Naracoorte Health Service also has an average of 150 births per year from 37 weeks. Private pathology, Bensons Radiology with CT Scan are located on site.

Contact: Pam Schubert, DON/M

Email: pam.schubert@sa.gov.au

2. Bordertown Memorial Hospital

This is a 83-bed facility, including 21 acute and 62 aged-care bed facility, Day Surgery Unit with 6 Chairs, and a 24/7 Accident and Emergency Department. Bordertown applicant has the option to complete a rotation in Mount Gambier.

Contact: Jennie Jacobs, EO/DON&M

Email: jennie.jacobs@sa.gov.au

3. Mount Gambier & District Health Service

Mount Gambier & District Health Service has 107 acute beds including Midwifery, 6 Mental Health Beds, 4 Dialysis chairs, 22 Emergency Treatment Beds, 6 Chemotherapy chairs, 4 theatres, 12 Day Surgery chairs, Pre-admission and Consulting clinics. SA Pathology and Benson Radiology are located on site with CAT scan, MRI, Ultrasound & general radiology available. The Maternity Paediatric Unit has an average of 500 births per year, with specialist obstetricians and paediatricians and a level 4 nursery taking babies from 34 weeks gestation.

Rotations

Mount Gambier applicants are required to complete a rotation in one of the smaller health units.

This can be one of the following units, but is subject to change:

1. Mount Gambier Private Hospital

17 acute beds – collocated on the Mt Gambier & District Health Service site.

2. Millicent & District Hospital and Health Service

25 acute beds & 60 Commonwealth funded nursing home beds and includes a theatre suite with 3 day surgery chairs and a 24 hour Accident and Emergency Department

3. Penola Soldiers Memorial Hospital

Six Acute and 36 Aged-Care beds with a 24-hour Accident and Emergency Department.

4. Kingston Soldier's Memorial Hospital

10 Acute and 32 Aged-Care beds with a 24-hour Accident and Emergency Department

For more information for **Mount Gambier, Millicent, Penola and Kingston:**

Contact: Miriam Bayes - TPPP Program Coordinator

Mt Gambier & District Health Service

Tel: 08 8721 1521 or Email: Miriam.bayes@sa.gov.au

Comments from 2018 TPPP Registered Nurses:

"the program is excellent and I had a great experience"

"I learnt so much"

Where to get more information?

Applicants are encouraged to attend one of the following information sessions:

Face to Face

Room 5, Glenside Campus, 226 Fullarton Road

Thursday 18 July 2019: 11:00am - 12:30pm

For applicants located in rural areas or on rural placement, the information session will be repeated on Friday 19 July, from 2.30-3.30 in the following locations:

- Port Pirie Regional Health Service
- Whyalla Hospital
- Mount Gambier Hospital
- Riverland General Hospital
- Port Augusta Hospital
- Port Lincoln Hospital

Please meet in main foyer of the health unit no later than 2.15pm to be taken to the room allocated.

Further information contact:

Sandra Gilbert

Sandra.gilbert@sa.gov.au

We are continually working to increase opportunities for TPPP positions in the health services.

Please check the SA Health TPPP updates section for news of any change as to where TPPP positions are offered.