

Nurse Re-entry Program

Frequently Asked Questions (For Practices)

This document answers common questions about the Nurse Re-entry Program. The program supports nurses who have been out of the nursing workforce for 5-10 years to return to nursing in a paid, supervised placement through general practice.

What is the role of a host practice in the program?

Host practices provide paid, supervised placements for re-entry nurses, facilitating up to 450 hours of practice to help them meet Nurse and Midwifery Board Australia (NMBA) requirements. Eligible practices can receive a \$2,000 grant per placement to support supervision.

Is my practice eligible to participate?

To be eligible to participate, practices must be accredited and have a registered nurse (minimum 12 months general practice experience) available to supervise for the required level and duration (determined by NMBA).

What are the supervision requirements for my RN?

Your existing RN supervising the re-entry nurse must provide 75 hours of direct supervision initially, then direct/indirect/remote supervision for the remaining hours. They will act as a mentor, documenting progress and ensuring NMBA standards are met.

How can I use the \$2,000 grant?

Eligible host practices will receive a single lump-sum payment of \$2,000 per placement to support the facilitation of paid, supervised practice for eligible and provisionally registered nurses.

Is the practice required to pay the re-entry nurse a wage?

Yes, practices are required to provide eligible re-entry nurses with a paid, supervised placement. Employment and salary arrangements for the re-entry nurse are made directly between the nurse and the supervising practice.

What if our supervising RN is unavailable during the placement due to illness or leave etc.?

As per the requirements of the NMBA, the re-entry nurse must cease practice if no approved supervisor is present. If your practice nominated a secondary supervisor in the supervised practice plan, they may provide temporary supervision during the indirect supervision phase (after the initial 75 hours of direct supervision is completed). Please refer to the [NMBA Supervision guidelines for nursing and midwifery](#) for more.

Does my practice need to be accredited to host a re-entry nurse?

To participate, your practice needs to be accredited and eligible to receive payments in the Department's Workforce Incentive Program (WIP).



What documentation does my practice need to provide the nurse?

This program requires practices to provide supporting documents and reports to re-entry nurses to help them gain general or full registration with the NMBA after the supervised practice placement is completed.

Can I employ the re-entry nurse after the placement finishes?

Yes, you are encouraged to employ the nurse in your practice once the placement finishes, as the nurse will be fully qualified and trained in your practice. Ongoing employment opportunities are to be discussed directly between the nurse and the practice. employment opportunities with the nurse during the placement to build a sustainable workforce.

Why should my practice consider the Nurse Re-entry Program?

By supporting a nurse to return to the nursing workforce through a paid, supervised placement in your practice, you will have the opportunity to expand your team with a nurse who is trained in your practice and ready to deliver patient care from day one, improving access to care in your community.