

Nursing





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Andrew

 Nursing

 Registered ED Nurse

Andrew's favourite subject at school was biology, and he had a passion for sports and being healthy. He wasn't sure what he wanted to study, but after his careers advisor suggested he might like a career in nursing, he went for it.

After hearing nursing students at Whitireia did a lot of practical work and placements, he enrolled in the Bachelor of Nursing.

“Over half my time at Whitireia was spent in placements, it's one of the reasons I chose to study there. I have dyslexia, and I'm much better at learning something in a practical environment than in a classroom.”

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Andrew's placements provided him with a range of experience. He was able to put the theory into practice, but also get an idea of what work he wanted to pursue after graduating. He had placements in ABI (Acute Brain Injury), community mental health, the EDOU (Emergency Department Observation Unit), the cardiothoracic ward, and ICU.

“I really enjoyed my placements. I learnt a lot from them, especially acute brain injury (ABI). You see how someone's life can change in an instant, from something that's not their fault at all. It could be the smallest thing, and they've lost their whole world.”

Andrew knew he wanted to work somewhere where every day was different. Not long after graduating, Andrew was working in the Emergency Department (ED) at Wellington Hospital.

“I love coming to work every day not knowing what I'll be doing. I'm the type of person who always has to be moving, ED is definitely the right place for me. The team there is also great, they're always looking out for each other - it's like a family.”

For now, Andrew's loving ED. Next, he wants to pursue postgraduate study, and eventually, take advantage of the work opportunities for nurses in places like Antarctica or Africa.

Follow the QR code below to read the full story.



Inspired by whānau, two sisters support each other to graduate with a degree in nursing from Whitireia

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Sisters Jerykah and Javaanah Toimata-Holtham, who are 13 months apart, have just qualified with a Bachelor of Nursing from Whitireia and WelTec | Te Pūkenga and both are now working full time as nurses in the Wellington region.

“I left Wellington Girls College before I finished highschool,” says Javaanah, “and Jerykah ended up completing her schooling in Australia. Neither of us really knew exactly what the future held for us, and we had started doing casual work just to earn some money.”

“But we have strong family ties to healthcare through our Pacific heritage, and our whānau encouraged us to think about this pathway as a possible way forward,” says Jerykah.

“Our Niue grandfather spent much of his career as a psychiatric nurse in Porirua, and following in his footsteps, Mum qualified as a nurse at Whitireia, and is still dedicated after twenty years. They are an inspiration for us and we decided to start our own journey into healthcare,” says Javaanah.

“The academic pathways at Whitireia gave us focus, and most importantly, gave us the confidence to start the bachelor degree in nursing,” says Jerykah. “During the three-year degree we lived with our grandparents for family support, and to be close to the Whitireia campus.”

Study was not always totally straightforward, as some of their programme had to be completed during COVID lockdowns, and in her final year of study Javaanah had a baby.

But Jerykah and Javaanah were supported by the Pacific Team at Whitireia who helped them secure Aniva funding to assist with their study, and travel to clinical placements. With this help, with encouragement from their whānau - and each other - both sisters remained committed to completing, and graduated this year.

Javannah now works as a community nurse with Ora Toa in Porirua.

“I love this work as it keeps me close to my community. Because I have both a Pacific and Māori background, I connect with many of the patients who are grateful to be with someone familiar as they discuss their health worries and needs. I feel this is such a valuable role, and it also allows me to be a Mum to my young baby too, as the hours are workable.”

Jerykah is aiming to be a PAR (patient at risk) nurse, and is well on the way to that, currently working as a PACU (post anesthetic care unit) nurse at Wellington Hospital. “The work is intense, I love it and am learning so much!”

“Both sisters beam with pride as they talk about the work that they do and are an inspiration to other students that nursing is an achievable career, and that it offers a very diverse range of work options,” says Carmel Haggerty, Head of School, Health & Social Services, Whitireia and WelTec | Te Pūkenga. “We are delighted that Jerykah and Javaanah have accomplished all that they have, and we look forward to seeing them continue to flourish in their work and lives.”

“We celebrate every Pacific graduate. Jerykah and Javaanah take into their nursing practice the aspirations of their I-Kiribati and Niue communities, setting new goals and career frontiers for Pacific youth,” says Jean Mitaera, Chief Advisor, Centre for Pacific Health and Social Practice.

New Zealand Diploma in Enrolled Nursing (Level 5)

📖	Level 5
🕒	18 months, full-time
📅	21 Jul 2025 (Porirua)
💰	\$11,700* (indicative for 2025 intake)
🌐	NZ \$39,000* (indicative for 2025 intake)

Become an enrolled nurse, working under the direction of a registered nurse, to provide nursing care to individuals in community, residential and hospital settings.

Programme outline

The New Zealand Diploma in Enrolled Nursing is an 18-month full-time programme, approved by Nursing Council of New Zealand, which prepares students to become an enrolled nurse.

Enrolled nurses assist registered nurses to deliver nursing care to individuals in community, residential and hospital settings. Enrolled nurses contribute to nursing assessment, care planning, implementation and evaluation, but the registered nurse remains responsible overall.

The enrolled nurse performs delegated interventions from the nursing care plan to:

- provide care and comfort for individuals and groups
- assist and support clients with activities of daily living
- observe and report changes in individual/group conditions and behaviours
- safeguard dignity and promote independence

More detail about this qualification

The New Zealand Diploma in Enrolled Nursing is taught over 18 months. Ākonga who successfully complete Part A (full year) can then enrol in Part B (half year).

Part B

Ākonga enrol for six months and work towards being prepared to work effectively, efficiently and safely within a variety of broad practice areas including

hospitals and community settings.

Ākonga who successfully complete the New Zealand Diploma in Enrolled Nursing are required to sit the Nursing Council of New Zealand State Final Examinations. When these examinations are passed, the student can apply to the Nursing Council for registration as an enrolled nurse.

Teaching and learning

The Diploma is a combination of theory (classroom base sessions at the Porirua campus) and supported clinical experience (practical/hands-on work, which is completed in a variety of community and hospital settings).

A variety of teaching processes are used in the programme including lectures, tutorials, learning packages, workshops, ākonga presentations, online learning and practical sessions in the simulation suites where 'hands-on' skills are learnt and practiced.

The programme is delivered by blended learning i.e., face to face and online learning. This means some of your lessons may be delivered via Moodle (our online learning platform), which will require you to have a computer and internet access at home.

Part A

Provides the foundational knowledge and skills required to enable ākonga to work as part of the health care team with clients/patients/residents in a range of hospital and community settings.

Course-related costs

Prior to starting the programme, you'll be required to complete health screening to provide evidence of your current immunisation status, as required by our placement providers. Further information on this and other course costs will be provided on acceptance into the programme. The following costs are approximate:

- Health screening \$270
- Medical equipment \$185
- Uniform: \$220
- Vaccinations (if required by clinical placement): Costs will vary depending on vaccination required i.e. flu, whooping cough
- Clinical Travel Costs: These will vary depending on where you live and where your placements are.

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Entry requirements

Domestic

NCEA Level 2, including 12 credits in Level 1 Mathematics; or equivalent study/work experience; and evidence of suitability based on interview, health declaration, safety check and referee reports.

International students

Proven equivalence for Domestic Entry Requirements plus IELTS 6.5 in each band.

**International fee displayed is for 1.5 years of study (equivalent to 180 credits). For fee exclusions, please see our [terms and conditions](#).*

Interview/Evidence of suitability

We may interview some applicants to determine their preparedness for study, their ability to meet the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (if applicable) and any registration board requirements in terms of being fit for registration. Applicants must be able to demonstrate the following qualities:

- effective interpersonal communication skills
- understanding of, and capability to, work in the professional health and social service sector
- commitment and motivation to succeed

Safety check

The Children's Act (2014) requires all ākongā, who may work with children during the course of their study, to be safety checked. Safety checking includes reference checking, work history, identity check, police vet and an overall assessment of the applicant's safety to work with children.

I'm unsure I meet the entry requirements

If you are unsure whether you meet the entry requirements, you should still apply. For some applicants we may recommend completion of some FREE [Tūāpapa study modules](#) prior to the start of the programme, which will build on your current skills and experiences to support your academic achievement.

Credit recognition

If you have relevant skills and knowledge through study or experiences in work or other activities, you may be able to receive credit for them when enrolling in a programme of study. This is done through a process called [credit recognition](#).

How to apply

Before you start your online application, you will need the following documentation available to upload when requested:

- Completed [Supplementary Application Form](#)
- [Referee report*](#)
- Verified ID
- Verified official transcripts

Give the referee report to someone who is willing to be your referee. Ask them to complete the forms and return them to you (so you can upload with your application).

Alternatively, completed applications can be emailed to enrolments@wandw.ac.nz

For international applicants - please email your completed application to international-admissions@wandw.ac.nz

Related study options

[Bachelor of Nursing](#)

[Bachelor of Nursing Māori](#)

[Bachelor of Nursing Pacific](#)

[Supplementary application form](#)



[Referee report form](#)



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