

# Nurses Award 2010

The above award was first made on 3 April 2009 [\[PR986375\]](#)

This consolidated version of the award includes variations made on 11 September 2009 [\[PR988400\]](#); 15 December 2009 [\[PR990528\]](#)

NOTE: Transitional provisions may apply to certain clauses – see clause 2 and Schedule A

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[Varied by [PR988400](#)]

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## Part 1—Application and Operation

### 1. Title

This award is the *Nurses Award 2010*.

### 2. Commencement and transitional

[Varied by [PR988400](#)]

2.1 This award commences on 1 January 2010.

[2.2–2.6 inserted by [PR988400](#)]

2.2 The monetary obligations imposed on employers by this award may be absorbed into overaward payments. Nothing in this award requires an employer to maintain or increase any overaward payment.

2.3 This award contains transitional arrangements which specify when particular parts of the award come into effect. Some of the transitional arrangements are in clauses in the main part of the award. There are also transitional arrangements in Schedule A. The arrangements in Schedule A deal with:

- minimum wages and piecework rates
- casual or part-time loadings
- Saturday, Sunday, public holiday, evening or other penalties
- shift allowances/penalties.

2.4 Neither the making of this award nor the operation of any transitional arrangements is intended to result in a reduction in the take-home pay of employees covered by the award. On application by or on behalf of an employee who suffers a reduction in take-home pay as a result of the making of this award or the operation of any transitional arrangements, Fair Work Australia may make any order it considers appropriate to remedy the situation.

2.5 Fair Work Australia may review the transitional arrangements in this award and make a determination varying the award.

2.6 Fair Work Australia may review the transitional arrangements:

- (a) on its own initiative; or
- (b) on application by an employer, employee, organisation or outworker entity covered by the modern award; or
- (c) on application by an organisation that is entitled to represent the industrial interests of one or more employers or employees that are covered by the modern award; or

- (d) in relation to outworker arrangements, on application by an organisation that is entitled to represent the industrial interests of one or more outworkers to whom the arrangements relate.

### 3. Definitions and interpretation

3.1 In this award, unless the contrary intention appears:

**Act** means the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* (Cth)

**Commission** means the Australian Industrial Relations Commission or its successor

**employee** has the meaning in the Act

**employer** has the meaning in the Act

**enterprise award** has the meaning in the Act

**enterprise NAPSA** means a NAPSA derived from a State award which immediately prior to 27 March 2006 applied only to a single business or a part of a single business

**health industry** means employers in the business and/or activity of providing health and medical services and who employ nurses and persons who directly assist nurses in the provision of nursing care and nursing services

**NAPSA** means notional agreement preserving a State award and has the meaning in the Act

**NES** means National Employment Standards

**standard rate** means the minimum wage for a Registered nurse—level 1 pay point 1 in clause 14.3

3.2 Where this award refers to a condition of employment provided for in the NES, the NES definition applies.

### 4. Coverage

[Sched A renumbered as Sched B by [PR988400](#)]

4.1 This occupational award covers:

- (a) employers throughout Australia in the health industry and their employees in the classifications listed in Schedule B—Classification Definitions to the exclusion of any other modern award; and
- (b) employers who employ a nurse, principally engaged in nursing duties comprehended by the classifications listed in Schedule B—Classification Definitions.

4.2 The award does not cover employers who employ nurses in primary or secondary schools.

4.3 The award does not cover an employee excluded from award coverage by the Act.

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- 4.4** The award does not cover an employer bound by an enterprise award or enterprise NAPSA with respect to any employee who is covered by the enterprise award or NAPSA.
- 4.5** The award does not cover an employer bound by the *Pharmacy Industry Award 2010*.
- 4.6** Where an employer is covered by more than one award, an employee of that employer is covered by the award classification which is most appropriate to the work performed by the employee and to the environment in which the employee normally performs the work.

## **5. Access to the award and the National Employment Standards**

The employer must ensure that copies of this award and the NES are available to all employees to whom they apply either on a noticeboard which is conveniently located at or near the workplace or through electronic means, whichever makes them more accessible.

## **6. The National Employment Standards and this award**

The [NES](#) and this award contain the minimum conditions of employment for employees covered by this award.

## **7. Award flexibility**

- 7.1** Notwithstanding any other provision of this award, an employer and an individual employee may agree to vary the application of certain terms of this award to meet the genuine individual needs of the employer and the individual employee. The terms the employer and the individual employee may agree to vary the application of are those concerning:
- (a) arrangements for when work is performed;
  - (b) overtime rates;
  - (c) penalty rates;
  - (d) allowances; and
  - (e) leave loading.
- 7.2** The employer and the individual employee must have genuinely made the agreement without coercion or duress.
- 7.3** The agreement between the employer and the individual employee must:
- (a) be confined to a variation in the application of one or more of the terms listed in clause 7.1; and
  - (b) result in the employee being better off overall than the employee would have been if no individual flexibility agreement had been agreed to.
- 7.4** The agreement between the employer and the individual employee must also:

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- (a) be in writing, name the parties to the agreement and be signed by the employer and the individual employee and, if the employee is under 18 years of age, the employee's parent or guardian;
- (b) state each term of this award that the employer and the individual employee have agreed to vary;
- (c) detail how the application of each term has been varied by agreement between the employer and the individual employee;
- (d) detail how the agreement results in the individual employee being better off overall in relation to the individual employee's terms and conditions of employment; and
- (e) state the date the agreement commences to operate.

**7.5** The employer must give the individual employee a copy of the agreement and keep the agreement as a time and wages record.

**7.6** Except as provided in clause 7.4(a) the agreement must not require the approval or consent of a person other than the employer and the individual employee.

**7.7** An employer seeking to enter into an agreement must provide a written proposal to the employee. Where the employee's understanding of written English is limited the employer must take measures, including translation into an appropriate language, to ensure the employee understands the proposal.

**7.8** The agreement may be terminated:

(a) by the employer or the individual employee giving four weeks' notice of termination, in writing, to the other party and the agreement ceasing to operate at the end of the notice period; or

(b) at any time, by written agreement between the employer and the individual employee.

**7.9** The right to make an agreement pursuant to this clause is in addition to, and is not intended to otherwise affect, any provision for an agreement between an employer and an individual employee contained in any other term of this award.

## Part 2—Consultation and Dispute Resolution

### 8. Consultation regarding major workplace change

#### 8.1 Employer to notify

(a) Where an employer has made a definite decision to introduce major changes in production, program, organisation, structure or technology that are likely to have significant effects on employees, the employer must notify the employees who may be affected by the proposed changes and their representatives, if any.

(b) **Significant effects** include termination of employment; major changes in the composition, operation or size of the employer's workforce or in the skills required; the elimination or diminution of job opportunities, promotion

opportunities or job tenure; the alteration of hours of work; the need for retraining or transfer of employees to other work or locations; and the restructuring of jobs. Provided that where this award makes provision for alteration of any of these matters an alteration is deemed not to have significant effect.

## **8.2 Employer to discuss change**

- (a) The employer must discuss with the employees affected and their representatives, if any, the introduction of the changes referred to in clause 8.1 the effects the changes are likely to have on employees and measures to avert or mitigate the adverse effects of such changes on employees and must give prompt consideration to matters raised by the employees and/or their representatives in relation to the changes.
- (b) The discussions must commence as early as practicable after a definite decision has been made by the employer to make the changes referred to in clause 8.1.
- (c) For the purposes of such discussion, the employer must provide in writing to the employees concerned and their representatives, if any, all relevant information about the changes including the nature of the changes proposed, the expected effects of the changes on employees and any other matters likely to affect employees provided that no employer is required to disclose confidential information the disclosure of which would be contrary to the employer's interests.

## **9. Dispute resolution**

- 9.1** In the event of a dispute about a matter under this award, or a dispute in relation to the NES, in the first instance the parties must attempt to resolve the matter at the workplace by discussions between the employee or employees concerned and the relevant supervisor. If such discussions do not resolve the dispute, the parties will endeavour to resolve the dispute in a timely manner by discussions between the employee or employees concerned and more senior levels of management as appropriate.
- 9.2** If a dispute about a matter arising under this award or a dispute in relation to the NES is unable to be resolved at the workplace, and all appropriate steps under clause 9.1 have been taken, a party to the dispute may refer the dispute to the Commission.
- 9.3** The parties may agree on the process to be utilised by the Commission including mediation, conciliation and consent arbitration.
- 9.4** Where the matter in dispute remains unresolved, the Commission may exercise any method of dispute resolution permitted by the Act that it considers appropriate to ensure the settlement of the dispute.
- 9.5** An employer or employee may appoint another person, organisation or association to accompany and/or represent them for the purposes of this clause.
- 9.6** While the dispute resolution procedure is being conducted, work must continue in accordance with this award and the Act. Subject to applicable occupational health and safety legislation, an employee must not unreasonably fail to comply with a

direction by the employer to perform work, whether at the same or another workplace, that is safe and appropriate for the employee to perform.

## **Part 3—Types of Employment and Termination of Employment**

### **10. Types of employment**

#### **10.1 Employment categories**

Employees under this award will be employed in one of the following categories:

- (a) full-time;
- (b) part-time; or
- (c) casual.

At the time of engagement an employer will inform each employee whether they are employed on a full-time, part-time or casual basis. An employer may direct an employee to carry out such duties that are within the limits of the employee's skill, competence and training, consistent with the respective classification.

#### **10.2 Full-time employment**

A full-time employee is one who is engaged to work 38 hours per week or an average of 38 hours per week pursuant to clause 21.1 of this award.

#### **10.3 Part-time employment**

- (a) A part-time employee is an employee who is engaged to work less than an average of 38 ordinary hours per week and whose hours of work are reasonably predictable.
- (b) Before commencing part-time employment, the employer and employee will agree in writing the guaranteed minimum number of hours to be worked and the rostering arrangements which will apply to those hours.
- (c) The terms of the agreement may be varied by agreement and recorded in writing.
- (d) The terms of this award will apply on a pro rata basis to part-time employees on the basis that the ordinary weekly hours for full-time employees are 38.

#### **10.4 Casual employment**

- (a) A casual employee is an employee engaged as such on an hourly basis.
- (b) A casual employee will be paid an hourly rate equal to 1/38th of the weekly rate appropriate to the employee's classification plus a casual loading of 25%.
- (c) A casual employee will be paid a minimum of two hours pay for each engagement.

- (d) A casual employee will be paid shift allowances calculated on the ordinary rate of pay excluding the casual loading with the casual loading component then added to the penalty rate of pay.

## **11. Termination of employment**

**11.1** Notice of termination is provided for in the NES.

### **11.2 Notice of termination by an employee**

The notice of termination required to be given by an employee is the same as that required of an employer except that there is no requirement on the employee to give additional notice based on the age of the employee concerned. If an employee fails to give the required notice the employer may withhold from any monies due to the employee on termination under this award or the NES, an amount not exceeding the amount the employee would have been paid under this award in respect of the period of notice required by this clause less any period of notice actually given by the employee.

### **11.3 Job search entitlement**

Where an employer has given notice of termination to an employee, an employee must be allowed up to one day's time off without loss of pay for the purpose of seeking other employment. The time off is to be taken at times that are convenient to the employee after consultation with the employer.

## **12. Redundancy**

**12.1** Redundancy pay is provided for in the NES.

### **12.2 Transfer to lower paid duties**

Where an employee is transferred to lower paid duties by reason of redundancy, the same period of notice must be given as the employee would have been entitled to if the employment had been terminated and the employer may, at the employer's option, make payment instead of an amount equal to the difference between the former ordinary time rate of pay and the ordinary time rate of pay for the number of weeks of notice still owing.

### **12.3 Employee leaving during notice period**

An employee given notice of termination in circumstances of redundancy may terminate their employment during the period of notice. The employee is entitled to receive the benefits and payments they would have received under this clause had they remained in employment until the expiry of the notice, but is not entitled to payment instead of notice.

### **12.4 Job search entitlement**

- (a) An employee given notice of termination in circumstances of redundancy must be allowed up to one day's time off without loss of pay during each week of notice for the purpose of seeking other employment.

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- (b) If the employee has been allowed paid leave for more than one day during the notice period for the purpose of seeking other employment, the employee must, at the request of the employer, produce proof of attendance at an interview or they will not be entitled to payment for the time absent. For this purpose a statutory declaration is sufficient.
- (c) This entitlement applies instead of clause 11.3.

### 12.5 Transitional provisions

- (a) Subject to clause 12.5(b), an employee whose employment is terminated by an employer is entitled to redundancy pay in accordance with the terms of a NAPSA:
  - (i) that would have applied to the employee immediately prior to 1 January 2010, if the employee had at that time been in their current circumstances of employment and no agreement made under the Act had applied to the employee; and
  - (ii) that would have entitled the employee to redundancy pay in excess of the employee's entitlement to redundancy pay, if any, under the NES.
- (b) The employee's entitlement to redundancy pay under the NAPSA is limited to the amount of redundancy pay which exceeds the employee's entitlement to redundancy pay, if any, under the NES.
- (c) This clause does not operate to diminish an employee's entitlement to redundancy pay under any other instrument.
- (d) Clause 12.5 ceases to operate on 31 December 2014.

## Part 4—Minimum Wages and Related Matters

### 13. Classifications

[Sched A renumbered as Sched B by [PR988400](#)]

Classification definitions are set out in Schedule B—Classification Definitions. Employers must advise their employees in writing of their classification upon commencement and of any subsequent changes to their classification.

### 14. Minimum weekly wages

#### 14.1 Nursing assistant

	Per week
	\$
1st year	596.10
2nd year	606.40
3rd year and thereafter	616.90

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	<b>Per week</b>
	<b>\$</b>
Experienced (the holder of a relevant certificate III qualification)	637.60

**14.2 Enrolled nurses**

**(a) Student enrolled nurse**

	<b>Per week</b>
	<b>\$</b>
Less than 21 years of age	550.00
21 years of age and over	580.00

**(b) Enrolled nurse**

	<b>Per week</b>
	<b>\$</b>
Pay point 1	650.00
Pay point 2	659.00
Pay point 3	668.00
Pay point 4	678.00
Pay point 5	685.00

**14.3 Registered nurses**

Minimum entry rate for a:

**(a)** Four year degree is \$729.00 per week

**(b)** Masters degree is \$755.00 per week

Progression from these entry rates will be to level 1—Registered nurse pay point 4 and 5 respectively.

	<b>Per week</b>
	<b>\$</b>
<b>Registered nurse—level 1</b>	
Pay point 1	697.00
Pay point 2	712.00
Pay point 3	730.00
Pay point 4	750.00

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	<b>Per week</b>
	<b>\$</b>
Pay point 5	774.00
Pay point 6	797.00
Pay point 7	821.00
Pay point 8 and thereafter	843.00
<b>Registered nurse—level 2</b>	
Pay point 1	866.00
Pay point 2	880.00
Pay point 3	896.00
Pay point 4 and thereafter	911.00
<b>Registered nurse—level 3</b>	
Pay point 1	941.00
Pay point 2	959.00
Pay point 3	976.00
Pay point 4 and thereafter	994.00
<b>Registered nurse—level 4</b>	
Grade 1	1,078.00
Grade 2	1,157.00
Grade 3	1,226.00
<b>Registered nurse—level 5</b>	
Grade 1	1,088.00
Grade 2	1,147.00
Grade 3	1,226.00
Grade 4	1,304.00
Grade 5	1,441.00
Grade 6	1,579.00

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**14.4 Nurse practitioner**

	<b>Per week</b>
	<b>\$</b>
1st year	1,087.00
2nd year	1,120.00

**14.5 Occupational health nurses**

	<b>Per week</b>
	<b>\$</b>
<b>Occupational health nurse—level 1</b>	
Pay point 1	750.00
Pay point 2	774.00
Pay point 3	797.00
Pay point 4	821.00
Pay point 5	843.00
<b>Occupational health nurse—level 2</b>	
Pay point 1	866.00
Pay point 2	880.00
Pay point 3	896.00
Pay point 4	911.00
<b>Senior occupational health clinical nurse</b>	911.00
<b>Occupational health nurse—level 3</b>	
Pay point 1	941.00
Pay point 2	959.00
Pay point 3	976.00
Pay point 4 and thereafter	994.00

**15. Progression through pay points**

[Sched A renumbered as Sched B by [PR988400](#)]

Progression for all classifications for which there is more than one pay point will be by annual movement to the next pay point, or in the case of a part-time or casual employee 1786 hours of experience, having regard to the acquisition and use of skill described in the definitions contained in clause Schedule B—Classification Definitions and knowledge gained through experience in the practice settings over such a period.

## 16. Allowances

The following allowances do not apply to employees classified at Registered nurse levels 4 or 5.

### 16.1 Adjustment of expense related allowances

- (a) At the time of any adjustment to the standard rate, each expense related allowance will be increased by the relevant adjustment factor. The relevant adjustment factor for this purpose is the percentage movement in the applicable index figure most recently published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics since the allowance was last adjusted.
- (b) The applicable index figure is the index figure published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics for the Eight Capitals Consumer Price Index (Cat No. 6401.0), as follows:

<b>Allowance</b>	<b>Applicable Consumer Price Index figure</b>
Meal allowance	Take-away and fast foods sub-group
Clothing, equipment and tools allowance	Clothing and footwear group
Tools allowance	Tools component of the household appliances, utensils and tools sub-group
Vehicle/travel allowance	Private motoring sub-group

### 16.2 Clothing and equipment

- (a) Employees required by the employer to wear uniforms will be supplied with an adequate number of uniforms appropriate to the occupation free of cost to employees. Such items are to remain the property of the employer and be laundered and maintained by such employer free of cost to the employee.
- (b) Instead of the provision of such uniforms, the employer may, by agreement with the employee, pay such employee a uniform allowance at the rate of \$1.23 per shift or part thereof on duty or \$6.24 per week, whichever is the lesser amount. Where such employee's uniforms are not laundered by or at the expense of the employer, the employee will be paid a laundry allowance of \$0.32 per shift or part thereof on duty or \$1.49 per week, whichever is the lesser amount.
- (c) The uniform allowance, but not the laundry allowance, will be paid during all absences on leave, except absences on long service leave and absence on personal/carer's leave beyond 21 days. Where, prior to the taking of leave, an employee was paid a uniform allowance other than at the weekly rate, the rate to be paid during absence on leave will be the average of the allowance paid during the four weeks immediately preceding the taking of leave.

**16.3 Meal allowances**

- (a) An employee will be supplied with an adequate meal where an employer has adequate cooking and dining facilities or be paid a meal allowance of \$10.00 in addition to any overtime payment as follows:
  - (i) when required to work after the usual finishing hour of work beyond one hour or, in the case of shiftworkers, when the overtime work on any shift exceeds one hour.
  - (ii) provided that where such overtime work exceeds four hours a further meal allowance of \$9.00 will be paid.
- (b) Clause 16.3(a) will not apply when an employee could reasonably return home for a meal within the meal break.
- (c) On request the meal allowance will be paid on the same day as overtime is worked.

**16.4 On call allowance**

- (a) An on call allowance is paid to an employee who is required by the employer to be on call at their private residence, or at any other mutually agreed place. The employee is entitled to receive the following additional amounts for each 24 hour period or part thereof:
  - (i) between rostered shifts or ordinary hours Monday to Friday inclusive—2.35% of the standard rate;
  - (ii) between rostered shifts or ordinary hours on a Saturday—3.54% of the standard rate; or
  - (iii) between rostered shifts or ordinary hours on a Sunday, public holiday or any day when the employee is not rostered to work—4.13% of the standard rate.
- (b) For the purpose of this clause the whole of the on call period is calculated according to the day on which the major portion of the on call period falls.

**16.5 Travelling, transport and fares**

- (a) An employee required and authorised to use their own motor vehicle in the course of their duties will be paid an allowance of not less than \$0.74 per kilometre.
- (b) When an employee is involved in travelling on duty, if the employer cannot provide the appropriate transport, all reasonably incurred expenses in respect to fares, meals and accommodation will be met by the employer on production of receipted account(s) or other evidence acceptable to the employer.
- (c) Provided further that the employee will not be entitled to reimbursement for expenses referred to in clause 16.5(b) which exceed the mode of transport, meals or the standard of accommodation agreed with the employer for these purposes.

## **17. District allowances**

### **17.1 Northern Territory**

An employee in the Northern Territory is entitled to payment of a district allowance in accordance with the terms of an award made under the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* (Cth):

- (a) that would have applied to the employee immediately prior to 1 January 2010, if the employee had at that time been in their current circumstances of employment and no agreement made under that Act had applied to the employee; and
- (b) that would have entitled the employee to payment of a district allowance.

### **17.2 Western Australia**

An employee in Western Australia is entitled to payment of a district allowance in accordance with the terms of a NAPSA or an award made under the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* (Cth):

- (a) that would have applied to the employee immediately prior to 1 January 2010, if the employee had at that time been in their current circumstances of employment and no agreement made under that Act had applied to the employee; and
- (b) that would have entitled the employee to payment of a district allowance.

**17.3** This clause ceases to operate on 31 December 2014.

## **18. Payment of wages**

**18.1** Wages must be paid fortnightly unless otherwise mutually agreed up to a monthly maximum period.

**18.2** Employees will be paid by cash, cheque or electronic funds transfer, as determined by the employer, into the bank or financial institution account nominated by the employee.

**18.3** When notice of termination of employment has been given by an employee or an employee's services have been terminated by the employer, payment of all wages and other monies owing to an employee will be made to the employee.

## **19. Accident pay**

**19.1** Subject to clause 19.2, an employee is entitled to accident pay in accordance with the terms of:

- (a) a NAPSA that would have applied to the employee immediately prior to 1 January 2010 or an award made under the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* (Cth) that would have applied to the employee immediately prior to 27 March 2006, if the employee had at that time been in their current circumstances of employment and no agreement made under the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* (Cth) had applied to the employee; and

- (b) that would have entitled the employee to accident pay in excess of the employee's entitlement to accident pay, if any, under any other instrument.

**19.2** The employee's entitlement to accident pay under the NAPSA or award is limited to the amount of accident pay which exceeds the employee's entitlement to accident pay, if any, under any other instrument.

**19.3** This clause does not operate to diminish an employee's entitlement to accident pay under any other instrument.

**19.4** This clause ceases to operate on 31 December 2014.

## **20. Superannuation**

[Varied by [PR990528](#)]

### **20.1 Superannuation legislation**

- (a) Superannuation legislation, including the *Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992* (Cth), the *Superannuation Guarantee Charge Act 1992* (Cth), the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993* (Cth) and the *Superannuation (Resolution of Complaints) Act 1993* (Cth), deals with the superannuation rights and obligations of employers and employees. Under superannuation legislation individual employees generally have the opportunity to choose their own superannuation fund. If an employee does not choose a superannuation fund, any superannuation fund nominated in the award covering the employee applies.
- (b) The rights and obligations in these clauses supplement those in superannuation legislation.

### **20.2 Employer contributions**

An employer must make such superannuation contributions to a superannuation fund for the benefit of an employee as will avoid the employer being required to pay the superannuation guarantee charge under superannuation legislation with respect to that employee.

### **20.3 Voluntary employee contributions**

- (a) Subject to the governing rules of the relevant superannuation fund, an employee may, in writing, authorise their employer to pay on behalf of the employee a specified amount from the post-taxation wages of the employee into the same superannuation fund as the employer makes the superannuation contributions provided for in clause 20.2.
- (b) An employee may adjust the amount the employee has authorised their employer to pay from the wages of the employee from the first of the month following the giving of three months' written notice to their employer.
- (c) The employer must pay the amount authorised under clauses 20.3(a) or (b) no later than 28 days after the end of the month in which the deduction authorised under clauses 20.3(a) or (b) was made.

## 20.4 Superannuation fund

Unless, to comply with superannuation legislation, the employer is required to make the superannuation contributions provided for in clause 20.2 to another superannuation fund that is chosen by the employee, the employer must make the superannuation contributions provided for in clause 20.2 and pay the amount authorised under clauses 20.3(a) or (b) to one of the following superannuation funds:

- (a) First State Super;
- (b) Health Industry Plan (HIP);
- (c) Health Employees Superannuation Trust of Australia (HESTA);
- (d) Health Super;
- (e) National Catholic Superannuation Fund;

[20.4(f) substituted by [PR990528](#)]

- (f) Mercy Super;
- (g) Sunsuper;
- (h) Tasplan;
- (i) Australian Superannuation Savings Employment Trust (Asset Super);
- (j) UC Super; or
- (k) any superannuation fund to which the employer was making superannuation contributions for the benefit of its employees before 12 September 2008, provided the superannuation fund is an eligible choice fund.

## Part 5—Hours of Work and Related Matters

### 21. Ordinary hours of work

- 21.1 The ordinary hours of work for a full-time employee will be an average of 38 hours per week, 76 hours per fortnight or 152 hours over 28 days.
- 21.2 The shift length or hours of work per day will be a maximum of 10 hours exclusive of meal breaks.
- 21.3 The hours of work on any day will be continuous except for meal breaks.

### 22. Span of hours

- 22.1 The ordinary hours of work for a day worker will be between 6.00 am and 6.00 pm Monday to Friday.
- 22.2 A shiftworker is an employee who is regularly rostered to work their ordinary hours of work outside the ordinary hours of work of a day worker as defined in clause 22.

**23. Rest breaks between rostered work**

An employee will be allowed a rest break of eight hours between the completion of one ordinary work period or shift and the commencement of another ordinary work period or shift.

**24. Accumulation and taking of accrued days off (ADOs)**

**24.1** Where an employee is entitled to an ADO, in accordance with the arrangement of ordinary hours of work as set out in clause 22, ADOs will be taken within 12 months of the date on which the first full ADO accrued.

**24.2** With the consent of the employer, ADOs may be accumulated up to a maximum of five in any one year.

**24.3** An employee will be paid for any accumulated ADOs, at ordinary rates, on the termination of their employment for any reason.

**25. Rostering**

**25.1** Employees will work in accordance with a weekly or fortnightly roster fixed by the employer.

**25.2** The roster will set out employees' daily ordinary working hours and starting and finishing times and will be displayed in a place conveniently accessible to employees at least seven days before the commencement of the roster period.

**25.3** Unless the employer otherwise agrees, an employee desiring a roster change will give seven days notice except where the employee is ill or in an emergency.

**25.4** Seven days' notice of a change of roster will be given by the employer to an employee. Except that, a roster may be altered at any time to enable the functions of the hospital or facility to be carried out where another employee is absent from work due to illness or in an emergency. Where any such alteration requires an employee working on a day which would otherwise have been the employee's day off, the day off instead will be as mutually arranged.

**26. Saturday and Sunday work**

**26.1** Where an employee, other than a day worker, is rostered to work ordinary hours between midnight Friday and midnight Saturday, the employee will be paid a loading of 50% of their ordinary rate of pay for the hours worked during this period.

**26.2** Where an employee, other than a day worker, is rostered to work ordinary hours between midnight Saturday and midnight Sunday, the employee will be paid a loading of 75% of their ordinary rate of pay for the hours worked during this period.

## **27. Breaks**

### **27.1 Meal breaks**

- (a) An employee who works in excess of five hours will be entitled to an unpaid meal break of not less than 30 minutes and not more than 60 minutes.
- (b) Where an employee is required to remain available or on duty during a meal break, the employee will be paid overtime for all time worked until the meal break is taken.

### **27.2 Tea breaks**

- (a) Every employee will be entitled to a paid 10 minute tea break in each four hours worked at a time to be agreed between the employee and employer.
- (b) Subject to agreement between the employer and employee, such breaks may alternatively be taken as one 20 minute tea break.
- (c) Tea breaks will count as time worked.

## **28. Overtime**

### **28.1 Overtime penalty rates**

- (a) Hours worked in excess of the ordinary hours on any day or shift prescribed in clause 21—Ordinary hours of work, are to be paid as follows:
  - (i) Monday to Saturday (inclusive)—time and a half for the first two hours and double time thereafter;
  - (ii) Sunday—double time;
  - (iii) Public holidays—double time and a half.
- (b) Overtime penalties as prescribed in clause 28.1(a) do not apply to Registered nurse levels 4 and 5.
- (c) Overtime rates under this clause will be in substitution for and not cumulative upon the shift premiums prescribed in clause 29—Shiftwork.
- (d) **Part-time employees**

All time worked by part-time employees in excess of the rostered daily ordinary full-time hours will be overtime and will be paid as prescribed in clause 28.1(a).

### **28.2 Time off instead of payment for overtime**

- (a) By agreement between the employer and employee, an employee may take time off instead of receiving payment for overtime at a mutually agreed time.
- (b) The employee may take one hour of time off for each hour of overtime plus a period of time equivalent to the overtime penalty incurred.

**28.3 Rest period after overtime**

- (a) When overtime work is necessary, it will, wherever reasonably practicable, be so arranged that employees have at least 10 consecutive hours off duty between the work of successive days or shifts, including overtime.
- (b) An employee, other than a casual employee, who works so much overtime between the termination of their ordinary work on one day and the commencement of their ordinary work on the next day, that they have not had at least 10 consecutive hours off duty between those times, will be released after completion of such overtime, until they have had 10 consecutive hours off duty without loss of pay for ordinary working time occurring during such a absence.
- (c) If, on the instruction of the employer, an employee resumes or continues to work without having had 10 consecutive hours off duty, they will be paid at the rate of double time until released from duty for such period. The employee will then be entitled to be absent until they have had 10 consecutive hours off duty without loss of pay for rostered ordinary hours occurring during the absence.

**28.4 Rest break during overtime**

An employee working overtime will take a paid rest break of 20 minutes after each four hours of overtime worked if required to continue to work after the break.

**28.5 Recall to work when on call**

An employee, who is required to be on call and who is recalled to work, will be paid for a minimum of three hours work at the appropriate overtime rate.

**28.6 Recall to work when not on call**

- (a) An employee who is not required to be on call and who is recalled to work after leaving the employer's premises will be paid for a minimum of three hours work at the appropriate overtime rate.
- (b) The time spent travelling to and from the place of duty will be deemed to be time worked. Except that, where an employee is recalled within three hours of their rostered commencement time, and the employee remains at work, only the time spent in travelling to work will be included with the actual time worked for the purposes of the overtime payment.
- (c) An employee who is recalled to work will not be obliged to work for three hours if the work for which the employee was recalled is completed within a shorter period.
- (d) If an employee is recalled to work, the employee will be provided with transport to and from their home or will be refunded the cost of such transport.

## **29. Shiftwork**

### **29.1 Shift penalties**

- (a) Where an employee works a rostered afternoon shift between Monday and Friday, the employee will be paid a loading of 12.5% of their ordinary rate of pay.
- (b) Where an employee works a rostered night shift between Monday and Friday, the employee will be paid a loading of 15% of their ordinary rate of pay.
- (c) The provisions of this clause do not apply where an employee commences their ordinary hours of work after 12.00 noon and completes those hours at or before 6.00 pm on that day.
- (d) For the purposes of this clause:
  - (i) **Afternoon shift** means any shift commencing not earlier than 12.00 noon and finishing after 6.00 pm on the same day; and
  - (ii) **Night shift** means any shift commencing on or after 6.00 pm and finishing before 7.30 am on the following day.
- (e) The shift penalties prescribed in this clause will not apply to shiftwork performed by an employee on Saturday, Sunday or public holiday where the extra payment prescribed by clause 26—Saturday and Sunday work and clause 32—Public holidays applies.
- (f) The provisions of this clause will not apply to Registered nurse levels 4 and 5.

## **30. Higher duties**

- 30.1** An employee, who is required to relieve another employee in a higher classification than the one in which they are ordinarily employed will be paid at the higher classification rate provided the relieving is for three days or more.
- 30.2** Higher duties allowance does not apply to Registered nurse levels 4 and 5.

## **Part 6—Leave and Public Holidays**

### **31. Annual leave**

Annual leave is provided for in the NES. This clause contains additional provisions.

#### **31.1 Quantum of annual leave**

- (a) In addition to the entitlements in the NES, full-time employees are entitled to an additional week of annual leave on the same terms and conditions.
- (b) For the purpose of the additional weeks annual leave provided by the NES, a shiftworker is defined as an employee who:
  - (i) is regularly rostered over seven days a week; and

- (ii) regularly works on weekends.

**31.2 Taking of leave**

Annual leave will be given and taken within six months of the employee becoming entitled to annual leave of more than five weeks.

**31.3 Payment for annual leave**

Before going on annual leave, an employee will be paid the amount of wages they would have received for ordinary time worked had they not been on leave during that period.

**31.4 Annual leave loading**

- (a) In addition to their ordinary pay, an employee, other than a shiftworker, will be paid an annual leave loading of 17.5% of their ordinary pay on a maximum of 152 hours/four weeks annual leave per annum.
- (b) Shiftworkers, in addition to their ordinary pay, will be paid the higher of:
  - (i) an annual leave loading of 17.5% of ordinary pay; or
  - (ii) the weekend and shift penalties the employee would have received had they not been on leave during the relevant period.

**31.5 Payment of annual leave on termination**

On the termination of their employment, an employee will be paid their untaken annual leave and pro rata leave.

**31.6 Close down periods—medical practices**

Where an employer temporarily closes a medical practice, an employee may be directed to take paid annual leave during part or all of this period. Where an employee does not have sufficient accrued annual leave for this period, they may be required to take annual leave in advance.

**32. Public holidays**

Public holidays are provided for in the NES. This clause contains additional provisions.

**32.1 Payment for work done on public holidays**

All work done by an employee during their ordinary shifts on a public holiday, including a substituted day, will be paid at double time of their ordinary rate of pay.

**32.2 Public holiday substitution**

An employer and the employees may, by agreement, substitute another day for a public holiday.

**32.3 Public holidays occurring on rostered days off**

All full-time employees will receive a day's ordinary pay for public holidays that occur on their rostered day off except where the public holidays fall on Saturday or Sunday with respect to Monday–Friday employees.

**32.4 Accrued days off on public holidays**

Where an employee's accrued day off falls on a public holiday, another day, determined by the employer, will be taken instead within the same four or five week work cycle, where practical.

**33. Ceremonial leave**

An employee who is legitimately required by Aboriginal tradition to be absent from work for Aboriginal ceremonial purposes will be entitled to up to ten working days unpaid leave in any one year, with the approval of the employer.

**34. Personal/carer's leave and compassionate leave**

Personal/carer's leave and compassionate leave are provided for in the NES.

**35. Community service leave**

Community service leave is provided for in the NES.

## Schedule A—Transitional Provisions

[Sched A inserted by [PR988400](#)]

### A.1 General

A.1.1 The provisions of this schedule deal with minimum obligations only.

A.1.2 The provisions of this schedule are to be applied when there is a difference, in money or percentage terms, between a provision in a transitional minimum wage instrument (including the transitional default casual loading) or an award-based transitional instrument on the one hand and an equivalent provision in a modern award on the other.

### A.2 Minimum wages – existing minimum wage lower

A.2.1 The following transitional arrangements apply to an employer which, immediately prior to 1 January 2010:

- (a) was obliged,
- (b) but for the operation of an agreement-based transitional instrument would have been obliged, or
- (c) if it had been an employer in the industry or of the occupations covered by this award would have been obliged

by a transitional minimum wage instrument and/or an award-based transitional instrument to pay a minimum wage lower than that in this award for any classification of employee.

A.2.2 In this clause minimum wage includes:

- (a) a minimum wage for a junior employee, an employee to whom training arrangements apply and an employee with a disability;
- (b) a piecework rate; and
- (c) any applicable industry allowance.

A.2.3 Prior to the first full pay period on or after 1 July 2010 the employer must pay no less than the minimum wage in the relevant transitional minimum wage instrument and/or award-based transitional instrument for the classification concerned.

A.2.4 The difference between the minimum wage for the classification in this award and the minimum wage in clause A.2.3 is referred to as the transitional amount.

A.2.5 From the following dates the employer must pay no less than the minimum wage for the classification in this award minus the specified proportion of the transitional amount:

**First full pay period on or after**

1 July 2010	80%
1 July 2011	60%

**First full pay period on or after**

1 July 2012	40%
1 July 2013	20%

**A.2.6** The employer must apply any increase in minimum wages in this award resulting from an annual wage review.

**A.2.7** These provisions cease to operate from the beginning of the first full pay period on or after 1 July 2014.

**A.3 Minimum wages – existing minimum wage higher**

**A.3.1** The following transitional arrangements apply to an employer which, immediately prior to 1 January 2010:

- (a) was obliged,
- (b) but for the operation of an agreement-based transitional instrument would have been obliged, or
- (c) if it had been an employer in the industry or of the occupations covered by this award would have been obliged

by a transitional minimum wage instrument and/or an award-based transitional instrument to pay a minimum wage higher than that in this award for any classification of employee.

**A.3.2** In this clause minimum wage includes:

- (a) a minimum wage for a junior employee, an employee to whom training arrangements apply and an employee with a disability;
- (b) a piecework rate; and
- (c) any applicable industry allowance.

**A.3.3** Prior to the first full pay period on or after 1 July 2010 the employer must pay no less than the minimum wage in the relevant transitional minimum wage instrument and/or award-based transitional instrument for the classification concerned.

**A.3.4** The difference between the minimum wage for the classification in this award and the minimum wage in clause A.3.3 is referred to as the transitional amount.

**A.3.5** From the following dates the employer must pay no less than the minimum wage for the classification in this award plus the specified proportion of the transitional amount:

**First full pay period on or after**

1 July 2010	80%
1 July 2011	60%
1 July 2012	40%
1 July 2013	20%

**A.3.6** The employer must apply any increase in minimum wages in this award resulting from an annual wage review. If the transitional amount is equal to or less than any increase in minimum wages resulting from the 2010 annual wage review the transitional amount is to be set off against the increase and the other provisions of this clause will not apply.

**A.3.7** These provisions cease to operate from the beginning of the first full pay period on or after 1 July 2014.

**A.4 Loadings and penalty rates**

For the purposes of this schedule loading or penalty means a:

- casual or part-time loading;
- Saturday, Sunday, public holiday, evening or other penalty;
- shift allowance/penalty.

**A.5 Loadings and penalty rates – existing loading or penalty rate lower**

**A.5.1** The following transitional arrangements apply to an employer which, immediately prior to 1 January 2010:

- (a) was obliged,
- (b) but for the operation of an agreement-based transitional instrument would have been obliged, or
- (c) if it had been an employer in the industry or of the occupations covered by this award would have been obliged

by the terms of the transitional default casual loading or an award-based transitional instrument to pay a particular loading or penalty lower than that in this award for any classification of employee.

**A.5.2** Prior to the first full pay period on or after 1 July 2010 the employer must pay no less than the transitional default casual loading or the loading or penalty in the relevant award-based transitional instrument for the classification concerned.

**A.5.3** The difference between the loading or penalty in this award and the rate in clause A.5.2 is referred to as the transitional percentage.

**A.5.4** From the following dates the employer must pay no less than the loading or penalty in this award minus the specified proportion of the transitional percentage:

**First full pay period on or after**

1 July 2010	80%
1 July 2011	60%
1 July 2012	40%
1 July 2013	20%

**A.5.5** These provisions cease to operate from the beginning of the first full pay period on or after 1 July 2014.

**A.6 Loadings and penalty rates – existing loading or penalty rate higher**

**A.6.1** The following transitional arrangements apply to an employer which, immediately prior to 1 January 2010:

- (a) was obliged,
- (b) but for the operation of an agreement-based transitional instrument would have been obliged, or
- (c) if it had been an employer in the industry or of the occupations covered by this award would have been obliged

by the terms of an award-based transitional instrument to pay a particular loading or penalty higher than that in this award for any classification of employee.

**A.6.2** Prior to the first full pay period on or after 1 July 2010 the employer must pay no less than the loading or penalty in the relevant award-based transitional instrument.

**A.6.3** The difference between the loading or penalty in this award and the rate in clause A.6.2 is referred to as the transitional percentage.

**A.6.4** From the following dates the employer must pay no less than the loading or penalty in this award plus the specified proportion of the transitional percentage:

**First full pay period on or after**

1 July 2010	80%
1 July 2011	60%
1 July 2012	40%
1 July 2013	20%

**A.6.5** These provisions cease to operate from the beginning of the first full pay period on or after 1 July 2014.

**A.7 Loadings and penalty rates – no existing loading or penalty rate**

**A.7.1** The following transitional arrangements apply to an employer not covered by clause A.5 or A.6 in relation to a particular loading or penalty.

**A.7.2** Prior to the first full pay period on or after 1 July 2010 the employer need not pay the loading or penalty in this award.

**A.7.3** From the following dates the employer must pay no less than the following percentage of the loading or penalty:

**First full pay period on or after**

1 July 2010	20%
1 July 2011	40%
1 July 2012	60%
1 July 2013	80%

**A.7.4** These provisions cease to operate from the beginning of the first full pay period on or after 1 July 2014.

## Schedule B—Classification Definitions

[Sched A renumbered as Sched B by [PR988400](#)]

### B.1 Nursing assistant

**Nursing assistant** means an employee, other than one registered pursuant to the provisions of the State or Territory Nurse Registration Board or one who is in training for the purpose of such registration, who is under the direct control and supervision of a Registered or Enrolled nurse and whose employment is solely to assist an RN or EN in the provision of nursing care to persons.

### B.2 Nursing care

**Nursing care** means:

- giving assistance to a person who, because of disability, is unable to maintain their bodily needs without frequent assistance;
- carrying out tasks which are directly related to the maintenance of a person's bodily needs where that person because of disability is unable to carry out those tasks for themselves; and/or
- assisting a registered nurse to carry out the work described in B.5.

### B.3 Student enrolled nurse

**Student enrolled nurse** means a student undertaking study to become an enrolled nurse.

### B.4 Enrolled nurses

#### B.4.1 Enrolled nurse—pay point 1

- (a) Pay point 1 refers to the pay point to which an enrolled nurse (EN) has been appointed.
- (b) An employee will be appointed based on training and experience including:
  - having satisfactorily completed a hospital based course of training in nursing of not more than 12 months duration leading to enrolment as an EN; or
  - having satisfactorily completed a course of training of 12 months duration in a specified branch of nursing leading to enrolment on a register or roll maintained by a state/territory nurses registration board; and
  - having practical experience of up to but not more than 12 months in the provision of nursing care and/or services, and, the undertaking of in-service training, subject to its provision by the employing agency, from time to time.
- (c) **Skill indicators**
  - The employee has limited or no practical experience of current situations; and

- The employee exercises limited discretionary judgment, not yet developed by practical experience.

**B.4.2 Enrolled nurse—pay point 2**

- (a) Pay point 2 refers to the pay point to which an EN has been appointed.
- (b) An employee will be appointed to this pay point based on training and experience including:

- having satisfactorily completed a hospital based course of general training in nursing of more than 12 months duration and/or 500 or more hours theory content or a course accredited at advanced certificate level leading to enrolment as an EN; or
- not more than one further year of practical experience in the provision of nursing care and/or services in addition to the experience, skill and knowledge requirements specified for pay point 1; and
- the undertaking of in-service training, subject to its provision by the employing agency, from time to time.

- (c) Skill indicators

The employee is required to demonstrate some of the following in the performance of their work:

- a developing ability to recognise changes required in nursing activity and in consultation with the RN, implement and record such changes, as necessary;
- an ability to relate theoretical concepts to practice; and/or
- requiring assistance in complex situations and in determining priorities.

**B.4.3 Enrolled nurse—pay point 3**

- (a) Pay point 3 refers to the pay point to which an EN has been appointed.
- (b) An employee will be appointed to this pay point based on training and experience including:

- not more than one further year of practical experience in the provision of nursing care and/or services, in addition to the experience, skill and knowledge requirements specified for pay point 2; and
- the undertaking of in-service training, subject to its provision by the employing agency, from time to time.

- (c) Skill indicators

The employee is required to demonstrate some of the following in the performance of their work:

- an ability to organise, practise and complete nursing functions in stable situations with limited direct supervision;

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- observation and assessment skills to recognise and report deviations from stable conditions;
- flexibility in the capacity to undertake work across the broad range of nursing activity and/or competency in a specialised area of practice; and/or
- communication and interpersonal skills to assist in meeting psycho-social needs of individuals/groups.

### **B.4.4 Enrolled nurse—pay point 4**

- (a) Pay point 4 refers to the pay point to which an EN has been appointed.
- (b) An employee will be appointed to this pay point based on training and experience including:
- not more than one further year of practical experience in the provision of nursing care and/or services in addition to the experience, skill and knowledge requirements specified for pay point 3; and
  - the undertaking of in-service training, subject to its provision by the employing agency, from time to time.
- (c) **Skill indicators**

The employee is required to demonstrate some of the following in the performance of their work:

- speed and flexibility in accurate decision making;
- organisation of own workload and ability to set own priorities with minimal direct supervision;
- observation and assessment skills to recognise and report deviations from stable conditions across a broad range of patient and/or service needs; and/or
- communication and interpersonal skills to meet psychosocial needs of individual/groups.

### **B.4.5 Enrolled nurse—pay point 5**

- (a) Pay point 5 refers to the pay point to which an EN has been appointed.
- (b) An employee will be appointed to this pay point based on training and experience including:
- not more than one further year of practical experience in the provision of nursing care and/or services in addition to the experience, skill and knowledge requirements specified for pay point 4; and
  - the undertaking of relevant in-service training, subject to its provision by the employing agency, from time to time.
- (c) **Skill indicators**

The employee is required to demonstrate some of the following in the performance of their work:

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- contributes information in assisting the RN with development of nursing strategies/improvements within the employee's own practice setting and/or nursing team, as necessary;
- responds to situations in less stable and/or changed circumstances resulting in positive outcomes, with minimal direct supervision; and
- efficiency and sound judgment in identifying situations requiring assistance from an RN.

### **B.5 Registered nurses**

#### **B.5.1 Registered nurse—level 1 (RN1)**

- (a) An employee at this level performs their duties:
- (i) according to their level of competence; and
  - (ii) under the general guidance of, or with general access to a more competent registered nurse (RN) who provides work related support and direction.
- (b) An employee at this level is required to perform general nursing duties which include substantially, but are not confined to:
- delivering direct and comprehensive nursing care and individual case management to patients or clients within the practice setting;
  - coordinating services, including those of other disciplines or agencies, to individual patients or clients within the practice setting;
  - providing education, counselling and group work services orientated towards the promotion of health status improvement of patients and clients within the practice setting;
  - providing support, direction and education to newer or less experienced staff, including EN's, and student EN's and student nurses;
  - accepting accountability for the employee's own standards of nursing care and service delivery; and
  - participating in action research and policy development within the practice setting.

#### **B.5.2 Registered nurse—level 2 (RN2)**

- (a) An employee at this level:
- (i) holds any other qualification required for working in the employee's particular practice setting; and
  - (ii) is appointed as such by a selection process or by reclassification from a lower level when the employee is required to perform the duties detailed in this subclause on a continuing basis.

An employee at this level may also be known as a Clinical nurse.

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- (b) In addition to the duties of an RN1, an employee at this level is required, to perform duties delegated by a Clinical nurse consultant or any higher level classification.

Duties of a **Clinical nurse** will substantially include, but are not confined to:

- delivering direct and comprehensive nursing care and individual case management to a specific group of patients or clients in a particular area of nursing practice within the practice setting;
- providing support, direction, orientation and education to RN1's, EN's, student nurses and student EN's;
- being responsible for planning and coordinating services relating to a particular group of clients or patients in the practice setting, as delegated by the Clinical nurse consultant;
- acting as a role model in the provision of holistic care to patients or clients in the practice setting; and
- assisting in the management of action research projects, and participating in quality assurance programs and policy development within the practice setting.

### B.5.3 Registered nurse—level 3 (RN3)

- (a) An employee at this level:

- (i) holds any other qualification required for working in the employee's particular practice setting; and
- (ii) is appointed as such by a selection process or by reclassification from a lower level when that the employee is required to perform the duties detailed in this subclause on a continuing basis.

An employee at this level may also be known as a Clinical nurse consultant, Nurse manager or Nurse educator.

- (b) In addition to the duties of an RN2, an employee at this level will perform the following duties in accordance with practice settings and patient or client groups:

- (i) Duties of a **Clinical nurse consultant** will substantially include, but are not confined to:
  - providing leadership and role modelling, in collaboration with others including the Nurse manager and the Nurse educator, particularly in the areas of action research and quality assurance programs;
  - staff and patient/client education;
  - staff selection, management, development and appraisal;
  - participating in policy development and implementation;

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- acting as a consultant on request in the employee's own area of proficiency; for the purpose of facilitating the provision of quality nursing care;
  - delivering direct and comprehensive nursing care to a specific group of patients or clients with complex nursing care needs, in a particular area of nursing practice within a practice setting;
  - coordinating, and ensuring the maintenance of standards of the nursing care of a specific group or population of patients or clients within a practice setting; and
  - coordinating or managing nursing or multidisciplinary service teams providing acute nursing and community services.
- (ii) Duties of a **Nurse manager** will substantially include, but are not confined to:
- providing leadership and role modelling, in collaboration with others including the Clinical nurse consultant and the Nurse educator, particularly in the areas of action research and quality assurance programs;
  - staff selection and education;
  - allocation and rostering of staff;
  - occupational health;
  - initiation and evaluation of research related to staff and resource management;
  - participating in policy development and implementation;
  - acting as a consultant on request in the employee's own area of proficiency (for the purpose of facilitating the provision of quality nursing care);
  - being accountable for the management of human and material resources within a specified span of control, including the development and evaluation of staffing methodologies; and
  - managing financial matters, budget preparation and cost control in respect of nursing within that span of control.
- (iii) Duties of a **Nurse educator** will substantially include, but are not confined to:
- providing leadership and role modelling, in collaboration with others including the Clinical nurse consultant and the Nurse manager, particularly in the areas of action research;
  - implementation and evaluation of staff education and development programs;
  - staff selection;

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- implementation and evaluation of patient or client education programs;
- participating in policy development and implementation;
- acting as a consultant on request in the employee's own area of proficiency (for the purpose of facilitating the provision of quality nursing care); and
- being accountable for the assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation of nursing education and staff development programs for a specified population.

### B.5.4 Registered nurse—level 4 (RN4)

- (a) An employee at this level:
- (i) holds any other qualification required for working in the employee's particular practice setting; and
  - (ii) is appointed as such by a selection process or by reclassification from a lower level when the employee is required to perform the duties detailed in this subclause on a continuing basis.

An employee at this level may also be known as an Assistant director of nursing (clinical), Assistant director of nursing (management), or Assistant director of nursing (education).

- (b) Appointment at a particular grade at this level will depend upon the level of complexity associated with the duties described in this clause. In this connection the number of beds in a facility will be a relevant consideration.
- (c) In addition to the duties of an RN3, an employee at this level will perform the following duties:
- (i) Duties of an **Assistant director of nursing (clinical)** will substantially include, but are not confined to:
    - providing leadership and role modelling, in collaboration with others including the Assistant director of nursing (management) and Assistant director of nursing (education), particularly in the areas of selection of staff within the employee's area of responsibility;
    - provision of appropriate education programs, coordination and promotion of clinical research projects;
    - participating as a member of the nursing executive team;
    - contributing to the development of nursing and health unit policy for the purpose of facilitating the provision of quality nursing care;
    - managing the activities of, and providing leadership, coordination and support to, a specified group of Clinical nurse consultants;
    - being accountable for the establishment, implementation and evaluation of systems to ensure the standard of nursing care for a specified span of control;

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- being accountable for the development, implementation and evaluation of patterns of patient care for a specified span of control;
  - being accountable for clinical operational planning and decision making for a specified span of control; and
  - being accountable for appropriate clinical standards, through quality assurance programs, for a specified span of control.
- (ii) Duties of an **Assistant director of nursing (management)** will substantially include, but are not confined to:
- providing leadership and role modelling, in collaboration with others including the Assistant director of nursing (clinical) and Assistant director of nursing (education), particularly in the areas of selection of staff within the employee's area of responsibility;
  - coordination and promotion of nursing management research projects;
  - participating as a member of the nursing executive team;
  - contributing to the development of nursing and health unit policy for the purpose of facilitating the provision of quality nursing care;
  - managing the activities of, and providing leadership, coordination and support to, a specified group of Nurse managers;
  - being accountable for the effective and efficient management of human and material resources within a specified span of control;
  - being accountable for the development and coordination of nursing management systems within a specified span of control; and
  - being accountable for the structural elements of quality assurance for a specified span of control.
- (iii) Duties of an **Assistant director of nursing (education)** will substantially include, but are not confined to:
- providing leadership and role modelling, in conjunction with others including the Assistant director of nursing (clinical) and the Assistant director of nursing (management), particularly in the areas of selection of staff within the employee's area of responsibility;
  - coordination and promotion of nurse education research projects;
  - participating as a member of the nursing executive team, and contributing to the development of nursing and health unit policy for the purpose of facilitating the provision of quality nursing care;
  - managing the activities of, and providing leadership, coordination and support to a specific group of Nurse educators;
  - being accountable for the standards and effective coordination of education programs for a specified population;

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- being accountable for the development, implementation and evaluation of education and staff development programs for a specified population;
- being accountable for the management of educational resources including their financial management and budgeting control; and
- undertaking career counselling for nursing staff.

### **B.5.5 Registered nurse level 5—(RN5)**

- (a) An employee at this level:
- (i) holds any other qualification required for working in the employee's particular practice setting; and
  - (ii) is appointed as such by a selection process or by reclassification from a lower level when the employee is required to perform the duties detailed in this subclause on a continuing basis.

An employee at this level may also be known as a Director of nursing.

- (b) Appointment at a particular grade at this level will depend upon the level of complexity associated with the duties described in this clause. In this connection the number of beds in a facility will be a relevant consideration.
- (c) In addition to the duties of an RN4, an employee at this level will perform the following duties:
- being accountable for the standards of nursing care for the health unit and for coordination of the nursing service of the health unit;
  - participating as a member of the executive of the health unit, being accountable to the executive for the development and evaluation of nursing policy, and generally contributing to the development of health unit policy;
  - providing leadership, direction and management of the nursing division of the health unit in accordance with policies, philosophies, objectives and goals established through consultation with staff and in accordance with the directions of the Board of Directors of the health unit;
  - providing leadership and role modelling, in collaboration with others, particularly in the areas of staff selection, promotion of participative decision making and decentralisation of nursing management and generally advocating for the interests of nursing to the executive team of the health unit;
  - managing the budget of the nursing division of the health unit;
  - ensuring that nursing services meeting changing needs of clients or patients through proper strategic planning; and
  - complying, and ensuring the compliance of others, with the code of ethics and legal requirements of the nursing profession.

## **B.6 Occupational health nurses**

The duties and responsibilities of Occupational health nurses include, but are not necessarily confined to:

- the maintenance of appropriate records relating to the activities of the occupational health unit and services to clients;
- the rehabilitation of injured workers;
- preventative action in relation to occupational hazards that may lead to injury and/or illness;
- immediate and continuing treatment of occupational injuries and/or illness;
- health promotion; and
- the counselling of clients on health related matters.

### **B.6.1 Occupational health nurse—level 1**

(a) An employee at this level:

- (i) is an RN with at least four years post registration experience; and
- (ii) performs duties in relation to occupational health consistent with:
  - giving direct nursing care to a group of clients;
  - assessing nursing care needs of clients; and
  - participating in provision of education to clients.

### **B.6.2 Occupational health clinical nurse—level 2**

(a) An employee at this level:

- (i) is an RN with at least four years post registration experience; and
- (ii) performs duties in connection with occupational health which are more complex than the duties performed by an Occupational health nurse level 1.

Appointment to level 2 of this salary structure is only upon successful completion of a relevant post-registration qualification to this field of employment.

Payment at this level will commence when the employer receives reasonable proof from the employee that the qualification has been obtained. The onus of proof rests with the employee.

- (b) The duties of an employee at this level may include, but are not necessarily confined to:
- the prevention of injury/illness;
  - rehabilitation; and

- occupational hazard identification.

**B.6.3 Senior occupational health clinical nurse**

- (a) An employee at this level is:
- (i) an RN with at least five years post registration experience who:
- coordinates the occupational health nursing service; and
  - provides support and direction to four or less Occupational health nurses and/or Occupational health clinical nurses.

**B.6.4 Occupational health nurse consultant—level 3**

- (a) An employee at this level is:
- (i) an RN with at least five years post registration experience who:
- coordinates the Occupational health nursing services; and
  - provides support and direction to five or more Occupational nurses and/or Occupational health clinical nurses.

**B.7 Nurse Practitioner**

A Nurse practitioner:

- is a registered nurse/midwife appointed to the role;
- has obtained an additional qualification relevant to the state regulating authority to enable them to become licensed Nurse practitioners.

A Nurse practitioner is authorised to function autonomously and collaboratively in an advanced and extended clinical role.

**B.7.1 Role of a licensed Nurse practitioner**

- (a) The nurse practitioner is able to assess and manage the care of clients/residents using nursing knowledge and skills. It is dynamic practice that incorporates application of high level knowledge and skills, beyond that required of a registered nurse /midwife in extended practice across stable, unpredictable and complex situations.
- (b) The nurse practitioner role is grounded in the nursing profession's values, knowledge, theories and practice and provides innovative and flexible health care delivery that complements other health care providers.

**B.7.2 Scope of practice**

The scope of practice of the Nurse practitioner is determined by the context in which:

- (a) the nurse practitioner is authorised to practice. The nurse practitioner therefore remains accountable for the practice for which they directed; and
- (b) the professional efficacy whereby practice is structured in a nursing model and enhanced by autonomy and accountability.

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The Nurse practitioner is authorised to directly refer clients/residents to other health professionals, prescribe medications and order diagnostic investigations including pathology and plain screen x-rays.

Nurse practitioners exhibit clinical leadership that influences and progresses clinical care, policy and collaboration through all levels of health service.