

In2Health Aboriginal Health Worker (AHW) Traineeships for Practices

- The Aboriginal Health Worker traineeship program is a new component of the *In2Health* employment program.
- Trainees are currently available for recruitment into Aboriginal Health Work traineeships. We have 8 students currently completing the Aboriginal Primary Health Care Certificate III course at Shellharbour TAFE. Many have previous community liaison and work experience in the community or retail sector.
- Trainees have completed a 5 week pre-employment course including the first module of their course - *'Working in primary healthcare settings'*, first aid certificate, and customer service training.
- All trainees have also completed 30 hours of work placements in a variety of primary health care or community health settings as part of their first course module.
- All trainees have completed a full police check, full immunisation including Hepatitis B and current first aid certificate.
- Traineeships are for 12 months for full time employment or a pro-rata period of up to 24 months for part time hours.
- Employers are eligible to receive up to 10K in wage subsidies. The cost to the employer is approximately \$15K/yr for a full time trainee or a pro-rata amount for part time trainee. This wage subsidy is available for trainees of all ages.
- Ideally trainees will combine traineeship hours and TAFE study requirements through a minimum 3 day/week workplace traineeship and 1 day at TAFE to complete coursework.
- Interested employers will be provided with a selection of resumes and the opportunity to interview potential trainees.
- Should you then wish to proceed with selecting a trainee, the employer together with the trainee will develop a training plan to complete remaining Aboriginal Primary Health Care Certificate III modules and additional courses that are required to meet your business needs.
- On the job mentoring and employer support will be provided by *In2Careers* for the duration of the traineeship.

AHW roles for your practice

As a trainee they can provide:

Clinical Support (under supervision of a Practice Nurse)

- assist with history taking and patient engagement for health checks
- assist with health check data collection and screening procedures
- explain health terminology and medical procedures and support patients during consultations

Practice Support

- manage patient enquiries for the IHI PIP and PBS Co-Payment Measure
- manage patient flow and clinic appointments
- conduct recall and reminder phone contacts with patients
- assist the practice develop culturally appropriate marketing, policies and procedures
- assist with providing in house cultural awareness training to staff

Community Liaison

- liaise with patients to support them to complete forms, and make follow up appointments to practice staff or external healthcare providers
- conduct community liaison and engagement activities to promote your practice to local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

At completion of their course graduates can assist with claiming the following MBS items:

- assist GP in preparing Team Care Arrangement (TCA) in assessing the patient, identifying the patient's needs and making arrangements for services
- receive referrals from GPs following a health assessment MBS 715 or Team Care Arrangement MBS 732. A maximum of 10 AHW follow up visits can be claimed following a health check MBS 715 item. A maximum of 5 follow up AHW visits are able to be claimed following a TCA.
- collect patient information for a Health Check MBS 715. AHWs can assist the GP to conduct clinical checks such as blood pressure, blood glucose, weight and waist measurements.
- plan and run health education group health promotion programs

For further information about an AHW trainee in your practice contact:

*Estela Gimenez
Indigenous Health Project Officer – Closing the Gap Ph: 4220 7600.*