

# CAREER FACT SHEET

## Welfare Support Workers

### Snapshot

Welfare Support Workers provide support, information and advice to clients on emotional, financial, recreational, health, housing and other social welfare matters, and evaluate and coordinate the services of welfare and community service agencies.

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| How many are employed in this occupation?                                 | 84,600             |
| What are the average weekly earnings for full time workers?               | \$1,492            |
| How does unemployment compare with other occupations?                     | Average            |
| What are the job prospects for this occupation?                           | Medium             |
| What will be the likely future employment growth for the next five years? | Very Strong Growth |

### Main employing industries

Health Care and Social Assistance; Public Administration and Safety; Administrative and Support Services; Education and Training

### Tasks

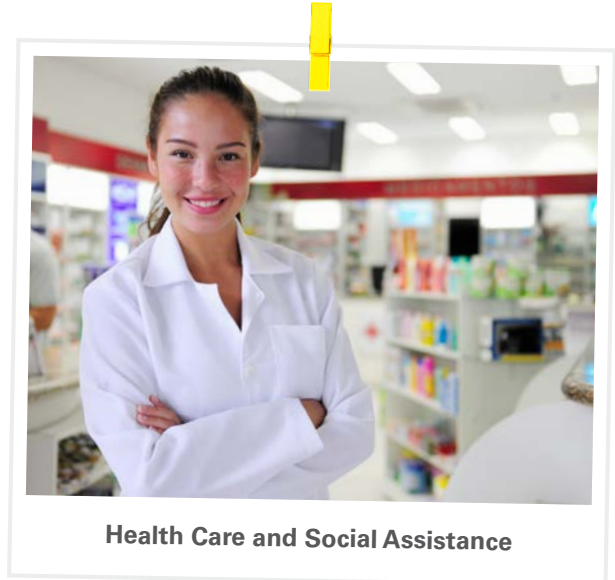
This occupation may include associated occupations with varying tasks.

- assessing clients' needs and planning, developing and implementing educational, training and support programs
- interviewing clients and assessing the nature and extent of difficulties
- monitoring and reporting on the progress of clients
- referring clients to agencies that can provide additional help
- assessing community need and resources for health, welfare, housing, employment, training and other facilities and services
- liaising with community groups, welfare agencies, government bodies and private businesses about community issues and promoting awareness of community resources and services
- supporting families and providing education and care for children and disabled persons in adult service units, group housing and government institutions
- supervising offenders on probation and parole
- assisting young people to solve social, emotional and financial problems
- preparing submissions for funding and resources, and reports to government bodies and other agencies

# INDUSTRY OVERVIEW

## Health Care and Social Assistance

Are you interested in helping people improve their health? Do you enjoy caring for others? Perhaps you would like to assist people experiencing a disability, or are keen to get involved in the wellness industry. If you are intrigued by these possibilities, a job in the Health Care and Social Assistance sector may be for you. The Health Care and Social Assistance industry encompasses a diversity of occupations, ranging from fields such as dental hygiene, optometry, pharmacy, disability services, mental health and aged-care, to fitness training, sports science, lifestyle coaching and nutrition. The Health Training Package offers over 75 Vocational and Training (VET) qualifications, so if you're interested in health you'll probably find an occupation and qualification to suit you! Don't forget it's possible to begin your Health Care and Social Assistance career by training for VET qualifications to start with before possibly working your way up to a University Degree. The Health Care and Social Assistance sector has experienced strong growth in the last ten years, making it one of Australia's largest employers and the growth is forecast to continue, so jobs in this industry are expected to be plentiful.



### Possible job pathways

- Anaesthetists
- Ambulance Officers and Paramedics
- Chiropractors and Osteopaths
- Complementary Health Therapists
- Dental Assistants
- Dental Practitioners
- Dental Hygienists, Technicians and Therapists
- Dieticians
- Generalist Medical Practitioners
- Health Information Managers
- Indigenous Health Workers
- Internal Medicine Specialists
- Massage Therapists
- Medical Imaging Professionals
- Medical Laboratory Scientists
- Medical Technicians
- Midwives
- Nurses (Enrolled and Mothercraft Nurses)
- Nursing Managers
- Optometrists and Orthoptists
- Other Medical Practitioners
- Podiatrists
- Pharmacists
- Physiotherapists
- Practice Managers
- Psychiatrists
- Psychologists
- Nurse Educators and Researchers
- Registered Nurses
- Speech Professionals and Audiologists
- Photographic Developers and Printers
- Aged and Disabled Carers
- Counsellors
- Diversional Therapists
- Health and Welfare Services Managers
- Nursing Support and Personal Care Workers
- Occupational Therapists
- Social Workers
- Special Care Workers
- Welfare Support Workers
- Welfare, Recreation and Community Arts Workers

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