

I am a current nursing student based in Darwin. Would this review encompass the views of current students?

My background

I commenced my nursing studies in the 1980's in the hospital-based system but left after 1 year. I returned to nursing studies over 30 years later and have now completed 15 of the 24 required units.

The major concerns I hear from fellow students are the availability of placements and graduate positions. Both of these factors impact on students decisions to remain in nursing studies. This is not an issue solely of the university I attend. Just this week, a student from Western Australia stated that they were considering leaving their studies due to the low number of graduate positions and limited availability of employment at the completion of their studies in that State.

As a mature age student, my current career provides a good income and a more certain future than nursing. For me, undertaking nursing is a financial risk for my family. I could see why other students select a different career option. I returned to nursing not to provide for my future, but because this my calling. In my classes, I have found several students who feel the same or have had interactions with nursing when a family member was ill, which shaped their life.

If there is a session being held in Darwin, Northern Territory, I would like to attend.

Thank you

Kind Regards
Joanne Barrett