What is an associate degree?

An associate degree is a two-year undergraduate course resulting in a highly practical, skills-rich qualification.

Associate degrees combine practical instruction with the technical and theoretical knowledge needed for a range of specialist and generalist careers. The curriculum is relevant and thorough, the teaching style approachable and taught by academic staff who are highly qualified and industry-experienced.

Associate degrees are an accessible way to engage with higher education and taught with employability in mind. We’ve found them ideal for those exploring a new career, returning to study, looking to undertake study for the first time, or for school leavers looking for an entry pathway to a bachelor degree.

Associate Degree of Health and Community Care

This course provides individuals with the skills and knowledge within the health environment focusing on community health, policy, law and various other aspects of coordination and management, equipping them for success in employment in the health and/or community care sector at a supervisory or management level. A focus on working independently, in order to achieve results in line with an organisation’s goals and strategic direction, are skills and knowledge that are developed and explored throughout this program.

Possible job roles include: manager in a centre within community care, community development, education and services; coordinator in large organisations; manager in a small agency/service, program area, projects or volunteer programs.

Graduates of the Associate Degree in Health and Community Care can transition to third year of a Bachelor of Community Health or Bachelor of Health Science degree.

Year 1 units

- Managing communication in the health care industry
- Understanding community development
- Principles of health and community care policy
- Health and safety in health and community care
- Counselling skills for health and community care
- Partnership in health and community care
- The sociological context of health and community care
- Personal and professional development in health and community services

Year 2 units

- Facilitating change in health and community
- Investigative project
- Managing quality in health and community care
- Work-based experience
- Organisation and management
- Accounting for managers
- Sustainable health policy and planning
- Sociological foundations

Aims, objectives and competencies

- Critically analyse, synthesise and summarise information from a range of health and community care organisations in order to draw conclusions
- Read and use appropriate literature with a full and critical understanding required to conduct research in a health and community care context
- Think independently and solve problems relating to the health and community care of a diverse range of clients
- Give a clear and accurate account of a subject, assemble arguments in a mature way and engage in debate and dialogue both with specialists and non-specialists in a health and community care context

Campus

- Hawthorn

Intakes

- Semester 1 (S1)
- Semester 2 (S2)
- Full-time or part-time, day and evening classes

Applications

- VTAC (S1 intake)
- Guaranteed ATAR 50
  (If you achieve an ATAR of 50 or above, and you’ve listed this course as your highest successful preference through VTAC, or select it first during the Change of Preference period, your place in the course is guaranteed)
- Direct application (S2)
- International students must study full-time
- swinburne.edu.au/apply

Fees (Domestic students)

- Commonwealth supported place (Band 1)

More information

- 1300 275 794
- swinburne.edu.au/associatedegree