



A snapshot of the Australian Nursing & Midwifery Federation

The Australian Nursing & Midwifery Federation

Established in 1924, the Australian Nursing & Midwifery Federation (ANMF) is the only organisation in Australia representing the industrial and professional interests of nurses, midwives and assistants in nursing.

The ANMF has over 220,000 members working across Australia in cities, rural, regional and remote locations and in every area of health, health prevention and aged care. There is a total of 334,078¹ nurses in Australia employed in nursing and contributing directly to all areas of Australia's health and aged care.

All Australians must have access to safe, quality health and aged care. To achieve this, it is important that Australia continues to have a robust, well educated and highly experienced nursing and midwifery workforce. Ensuring that every nurse, midwife and assistant in nursing receives pay and conditions reflective of their extensive level of skill and education is a priority for the ANMF.

The ANMF campaigns to raise political awareness, and political action if necessary, among its members and the community in the pursuit of improved public policy on health, aged care, education, employment, industrial relations and all areas of social justice.

Australia's health and aged care systems and its nursing and midwifery workforce face many challenges. The ANMF is working with nurses, midwives and assistants in nursing, governments, community and consumer groups, health and aged care providers and other health care professionals to progress solutions and build a sustainable health workforce for the future good health of Australia.

The ANMF Federal Office

The ANMF Federal Office has locations in Melbourne and Canberra. The Federal Office develops policy and represents ANMF members at a national level in the areas of health, aged care, education, the nursing and midwifery workforce, industrial relations and social justice.

The Federal Secretary and Assistant Federal Secretary coordinate the national activities of the Federation. Branch Secretaries manage the activities of the state and territory branches of the ANMF.

The governing bodies of the Federal Office are the Federal Council and Federal Executive. National committees cover industrial and professional issues, occupational health and safety and aged care.

The ANMF Federal Office publishes two journals:

- The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Journal (ANMJ) published monthly consists of clinical articles, a monthly feature and the latest union, nursing and midwifery news
- The Australian Journal of Advanced Nursing (AJAN), published quarterly, is a peer reviewed research journal, available at <http://www.ajan.com.au>

There is also a range of national policies, guidelines, position statements, reports and submissions about nursing, health and social justice available from the ANMF Federal Office website at: <http://www.anmf.org.au>

1. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2013). Nursing and Midwifery Labour Force 2012. Canberra: AIHW.

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ANMF Membership

ANMF membership is the most effective way for nurses, midwives and assistants in nursing to ensure that fair working conditions and rates of pay are negotiated for the entire nursing and midwifery workforce. Fair wages and working conditions help to retain nurses, midwives and assistants in nursing in the workforce, thereby improving Australia's health and aged care system. The ANMF provides a range of services to members through its state and territory branches.

Services include:

- information about wages and conditions of employment
- industrial representation
- professional indemnity insurance
- legal representation
- negotiation of awards and agreements
- resolution of workplace disputes
- information and representation on workplace issues such as occupational health and safety
- education services
- library services

Members can become actively involved in ANMF campaigns and activities through their Branch, the ANMF state and federal websites, and the ANMF publications.

Joining the ANMF

Nurses join the ANMF branch in the state or territory where they work.

- ANMF Australian Capital Territory Branch
- NSW Nurses' and Midwives Association (ANMF NSW Branch)
- ANMF Northern Territory Branch
- Queensland Nurses' Union (ANMF QLD Branch)
- ANMF South Australian Branch
- ANMF Tasmanian Branch
- ANMF Victorian Branch
- ANMF Western Australian Branch

The ANMF's International Work

The ANMF represents nurses, midwives and assistants in nursing internationally through membership of other national and international nursing organisations and professional associations. The ANMF is a member of the Commonwealth Nurses Federation, the South Pacific Nurses Forum and the International Council of Nurses (ICN).

The ANMF is affiliated to the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU), International Centre for Trade Union Rights and Union Aid Abroad - APHEDA (Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad) which is the overseas aid agency of the trade union movement. Further information about the ANMF is available at: <http://www.anmf.org.au>