



WORKING IN THE **Ngaanyatjarra Lands**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Preparing to work in NG Lands

What do I need to take (linen, cutlery)?

All Ngaanyatjarra Health Service (NHS) accommodation is well appointed. Consumable items such as cleaning products and special items, for example, coffee plungers, are not provided. A detailed list of standard items can be requested.

Can I take, buy or consume alcohol?

No, alcohol cannot be taken onto the Lands at all. The whole region is a dry community.

Can I take pets there?

Yes, but this is not recommended as local dogs and cats are in abundance and roam free.

Is it appropriate to take children to live there?

Yes, but not recommended, particularly if they are school age. The local education system is focused on local students who speak English as a second language.

Who will meet me on arrival?

A staff member from NHS will meet you.

Is there an orientation on arrival?

Yes, though this is currently being structured and refined. There is an initial orientation in Alice Springs as well as at site.

Is there relocation assistance?

Yes, there is relocation assistance of up to \$5,000 for staff relocating to the Lands. Costs are covered for Fly-in Fly-out workers.

Do I need any vaccinations?

It is recommended that you have Hepatitis A and B vaccinations as well as Influenza and the Boostrix vaccination (diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis [whooping cough]).

How can I get prescriptions filled?

United Discount Pharmacy in Alice Springs can arrange to have scripts filled. These will be collected each week and sent to the clinic in the mailbag. The NHS administration office can assist with this arrangement if required. Section 100 medications (items available under special arrangement) on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) are available from the pharmacy.

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What is banned in communities (paints, nail polish)?

Alcohol is banned, as is normal unleaded fuel. Opal fuel is used in the Lands. The Ngaanyatjarra Council By-laws also ban other deleterious substances like glue and any volatile liquid containing hydrocarbons including solvents.

Can my partner get a job there? Who do I talk to about this?

There is often work available for skilled and unskilled people on the Lands, however, employment cannot be guaranteed. If your partner is intending to go, contact the NHS administration office and Community Development Administrator to see what opportunities are available.

What is the climate like?

The weather in the Kurli season (January to March) is very hot and the Nyinnga season (April to August) can get very cold, especially in the mornings. The Pirriya season (September and October) can be windy and dusty. The Wiltjanyina season (November and December) is usually the season for first lightning and is quite hot although the nights can be quite cold.

What clothes do I need to take for work and leisure?

It is important to bring good solid shoes, preferably two pairs. Appropriate attire is clothes that are loose fitting and cover you well. A suitable hat and fly net is also recommended.

What insurances do I need?

NHS does not provide insurance for personal effects. If you bring your car, you should have insurance for it as well as for personal items, for example, those you bring for your accommodation. Work-related insurances are covered by NHS.

Do I need personal health insurance?

Personal health insurance is a personal choice. It is strongly recommended that you have ambulance cover.

The logo for Rural Health West is composed of three stacked rectangular blocks. The top block is orange and contains the word 'RURAL' in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The middle block is red and contains the word 'HEALTH' in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The bottom block is purple and contains the word 'WEST' in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. A white arrow-like shape points to the right from the bottom right corner of the purple block.

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