

Care or Support Worker

Average salary: \$49,000

Career trend: growing very strongly

Job description

Care or support workers in ageing, disability, home or community care support people to enjoy the best possible quality of life. As part of a team, but often working independently, care or support workers look after the physical, emotional, cultural and social needs of their clients. They have the opportunity of building lasting relationships with a range of clients.

What care or support workers do

Care or support workers in ageing, disability, home or community care improve the quality of life of the people they care for by supporting clients who live in their own homes in their day-to-day living.

Every situation is different. Care or support workers assist clients with all aspects of everyday living – personal care, companionship, washing, cleaning, laundry, preparing and cooking meals and shopping. They oversee their client's health and wellbeing, monitor their safety, if qualified supervise medication requirements and provide encouragement and support to help them stay as independent as possible.

Care or support workers may also support people who are reasonably independent but need additional assistance to help them with tasks like banking, transport, shopping, and housework, observing and promoting their client's choice, independence and dignity.

Care or support workers often work flexible hours meaning they can fit their work in and around family commitments or study.

You'll like this job if...

You're compassionate, empathetic, attentive and proactive. You're enthusiastic, self-motivated and good at multi-tasking. You have excellent communication and organisational skills. You come up with practical solutions to problems. You are reliable, follow directions and you're comfortable working within the job role requirements.



Will I get a job?

- Exceptional growth in this occupation is predicted, with 77,400 new jobs in Australia in the next four years, bringing the total to 241,000.

What will I earn?

- Up to \$950 median full-time weekly salary (before tax, excluding super).

Roles to look for

- Support worker
- Aged care worker
- Disability support worker
- Care worker
- Community care worker
- Personal carer

A day in the life...

Work as a care or support worker may involve these tasks:

- monitor a client's needs, circumstances and goals by speaking with the client, family members and health professionals
- provide input into and undertake the tasks detailed in the client's care plan
- record and report all relevant information
- accompany aged people and people with a disability during their daily activities
- cook and prepare meals and beverages
- organise social activities
- perform housekeeping tasks such as vacuuming and cleaning
- assist aged people and people with a disability with personal care activities such as bathing, dressing and mobility
- provide companionship, friendship and emotional support
- shop and run errands
- live-in with a client.

Main employing industries

- Healthcare and social assistance
- Government
- Local councils

Other jobs you may like...

- Nursing support
- Personal care worker
- Special care worker

VET qualifications

The following government-subsidised qualifications are available in NSW:

Certificate IV in Ageing Support (CHC43015)

- Up to 2 years full-time
- Available as a traineeship
- Graduates employed or in further study: 86.6%*

Certificate III in Individual Support (CHC33015)

- Up to 1 year full-time

- Available as a traineeship
- Graduates employed or in further study: 83.1%*

Certificate IV in Disability (CHC43115)

- Up to 2 years full-time
- Available as a traineeship
- Graduates employed or in further study: 90%*

VET offers possibilities for hundreds of careers.

For more information, visit



www.vet.nsw.gov.au

Information sources Income: Australian Government Department of Employment, Australian Jobs Report 2017, Occupation Matrix. ANZSCO ID: 2211. Earnings can vary greatly depending on the skills and experience of the worker, and the demands of the role. Job prospects: Australian Government Department of Employment 2017 employment projections to May 2022. Graduate outcomes: National Centre for Vocational Education Research. *Approximately 6 months after they completed VET.

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