Overview
Government funding through the NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme), funding for training (ie Skills for All, Work Ready and the VTG) and other service funding such as local government, NGO and charities make disability service provision an employment growth area. Providing assistance to those with a disability can be an extremely rewarding career choice. This qualification is the preferred qualification by employers if you are aiming to work with those who have a disability in an aged care facility or provide at home assistance as it reflects the ability to work unsupervised. If you have completed the Certificate III in Disability, then you will receive substantial credit towards this qualification. Students learn from experienced disability care workers and will complete vocational placement (work experience) with an aged care home or at home service provider – both assist you gain employment in this growth area.

This qualification addresses work in residential group homes, training resource centres, day respite centres and open employment services, other community settings and clients’ homes.

These workers:

• Apply knowledge and skills gained through qualifications and/or previous experience to provide training and support to people with disabilities to enhance their ability to achieve greater levels of independence, self reliance and community participation
• Report to service managers and may liaise with health professionals and other service agencies
• May work without direct supervision and may be required to supervise and/or coordinate a limited number of lower classified workers.

Job roles
Employment outcomes resulting from the completion of this course may include the following roles:

• Disability officer- day support
• Disability support officer/worker
• Residential care officer
• Supported employment workplace carer
• Supervisor
• Senior personal care assistant
• Schools Services Officer (SSO) in primary schools

Delivery mode
The delivery is flexible and made up of the following:

• Full Time
• Part Time
• Classroom
• Online
• Distance training
• Work based
• RPL
• A combination of the above

Assessment
WISE training uses a variety of flexible assessment strategies to ensure participants have the best chance of success.

Assessment strategies include:

• Written Assessment
• Oral Questions
• Project(s)
• Observation (Vocational Placement)
Course details
To achieve a full qualification, a total of 14 units must be successfully completed: 11 core units and 3 elective units.

Core Units
- CHCCCS015 Provide individualised support
- CHCDIS002 Follow established person-centred behaviour supports
- CHCDIS005 Develop and provide person-centred service responses
- CHCDIS007 Facilitate the empowerment of people with disability
- CHCDIS008 Facilitate community participation and social inclusion
- CHCDIS009 Facilitate ongoing skills development using a person-centred approach
- CHCDIS010 Provide person-centred services to people with disability with complex needs
- CHCDIV001 Work with diverse people
- CHCLEG003 Manage legal and ethical compliance
- HLTAAP001 Recognise healthy body systems
- HLTWHS002 Follow safe work practices for direct client care

Electives
- CHCMHS001 Work with people with mental health issues
- CHCDIS004 Communicate using augmentative and alternative communication strategies
- CHCCCS024 Support individuals with autism spectrum disorder

There are a number of alternative electives offered, depending on the job outcomes students want to achieve.

Entry Requirements
There are no entry requirements into this qualification, however it is highly recommended that students complete the CHC30408 Certificate III in Disability for which they will receive credit for at least 5 units through Mutual Recognition, perhaps up to 8, depending on the electives chosen. All applicants undergo a pre-training assessment to evaluate the suitability of this qualification and, if necessary, to adjust the training and/or assessment strategies, or to recommend preparatory studies.

In order for the student to complete the qualification, however, students will need:
- Successful completion of a National Police Certificate is required to complete the Vocational Placement portion of this qualification – it is not possible to complete the qualification without completing the Vocational Placement
- Physical ability to carry out the function of a care worker

Other considerations
Prospective students should also take into account that in addition to this qualification, to work in the sector they will require:
- Successful completion and passing of a National Police Certificate
  - In South Australia, employees in the Disability Services sector also require clearance from DECD
- Mandatory Reporting (ie Working with Children Check, Responding to Abuse and Neglect) depending on the age of the client cohort
- Manual Handling is desired but not essential
- First Aid certification is mandatory in many circumstances (e.g. residential care facilities)

Course Duration
The fulltime classroom version of this course is 20w duration, plus at least 120hrs vocational placement. The part time version is up to 1 year.

For further information
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