

Educators Guide to Continued Learning: Ongoing Professional Development

Orientation and workplace activities set the foundation for knowledge and practice change, but encouraging staff to engage in ongoing professional development helps drive improvement. Palliative care champions or train-the-trainer roles can support consistent and quality practice, build capacity and job satisfaction, and contribute to a service's ability to meet aged care quality standards.

This resource summarises key learning resources and programs that can support ongoing professional development. In addition, the [Training and Education](#) pages in palliAGED offer a comprehensive overview of:

- [online learning opportunities for aged care and primary care staff](#),
- [information about formal qualifications](#), and
- [details on what learning materials are available through the National Palliative Care Program](#).

Education and learning frameworks

State-based and regional frameworks have been developed to guide education and training in palliative care for aged care. They often link to freely available resources. Examples include:

- [End-of-Life and Palliative Care Education and Training Framework](#), Department of Health and Aged Care, Government of Western Australia
- [Care at end of life: Education and training framework](#), Clinical Excellence Queensland, Queensland Health
- [Palliative Care Workforce Capabilities Framework](#), Queensland University of Technology

There are broader frameworks for workforce capabilities also relevant to aged and care including

- [National Dementia Education and Training Standards Frameworks](#)
- [NDIS Workforce Capability Framework](#)

General eLearning opportunities

Aged Care Provider Portal

Services Australia hosts the [Aged Care Provider Portal](#) which includes information and training relating to their online services for aged care payments (General: Residential Care: Support at Home: Transition Care: Home Care: Flexible Care).

Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission

Provides a range of education resources, information and workshops available to assist aged care service providers to achieve high quality care, innovation and continuous learning.

- [Alis online learning](#): Registered provider training opportunities

Care for First Nations

Services Australia collates a range of [booklets and learning resources](#) relevant to Indigenous Health Services.

CareSearch

National program providing evidence and learning resources for everyone providing care at the end-of-life and resources for people affected by the need for palliative care across the lifespan.

- [My Learning modules](#) supporting use of evidence in practice on topics such as 'Supporting staff new to palliative care' and 'Supporting Carers'
- Home to specific resources for [allied health](#), [nurses](#), and [GPs](#) and different settings of care, including primary health care, specialist palliative care and for patients and carers
- Offers a large and diverse set of health professional [education options](#) supported by an extensive [Evidence Centre](#).

EQUIP Modules

The [Equip Aged Care Learning Packages](#) have been funded by Department of Health, Disability and Ageing and are available for anyone interested in the aged care sector, including personal care workers, nurses, allied health professionals, volunteers and families. Modules cover a range of important topics including palliative care and end of life.

Older Person Advocacy Network

The [Talk to us first \(OPAN\)](#) module covers the role of advocacy and presents case studies from residential aged care and home care services. OPAN also provides free education and information sessions for aged care professionals.

General eLearning opportunities

Formal Qualifications and In-person education

A number of Australian universities and organisations also offer degree and postgraduate programs in palliative care in aged care, an up-to-date list of these can be found at palliAGED – [Formal Qualifications](#).

PCC4U/PEPA

Offers a range of education and training resources including [placements](#) and [undergraduate training resources](#).

Dementia Training Australia

[Dementia training, education and resources](#) for the Australian workforce including free essentials training workshops and free online courses. A [Changed Behaviour Toolkit](#) is also available.