

Top 10 Tips for Undergrad Nursing Students

From ACN Emerging Nurse Leader Kate Saw MACN (Undergraduate)

1. ASK

You are never the only one thinking the 'why' questions, and you will become a better critical thinking nurse if you are prepared to find out the 'why' and not just the 'how'.

2. ORGANISE

Poor organisation and planning is the main reason students fall behind, freak out or worse, drop out. Prioritising and planning your time around deadlines and exams will help you be at your best.

3. GET ON TOP

Life (both good and bad) happens, so plan some breathing room in your semester. Be sure to stay on top of content and attend all your lectures and classes (you very likely won't go back and watch that lecture recording if you don't attend) to avoid panic when exam time comes.

4. TAKE NOTE

Be sure to make a record of all the clinical skills and experiences you have on placement – these will be invaluable when you are applying for new grad roles!

5. WORK THE ROOM

It's never too early to start networking. Stay in touch with preceptors, educators, lecturers and peers – you'd be surprised what it might lead to.

6. EXPLORE

Start researching nursing pathways that you're interested in. Immerse yourself in volunteer opportunities, webinars and talk to nurses in your field of interest to learn everything you can.

7. REACH OUT

Find fellow students on the same journey as you that you connect with! Building a trustworthy support network will help you through the tough times and give you someone to celebrate your wins with.

8. STAND OUT

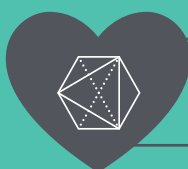
Think of ways to differentiate yourself and start building your CV. Becoming a member of your professional association, the Australian College of Nursing, is a great way to demonstrate your commitment to the profession and build your profile.

9. KNOW THYSELF

Identify strengths and weaknesses within your study style and put systems in place to give you the best chance of success.

10. ENJOY

Your time at university will fly, so make sure you spend time doing things you enjoy and taking care of yourself.



To find out more about the benefits of an undergraduate membership at the Australian College of Nursing visit acn.edu.au/undergrad.

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