Create
YOUR FUTURE IN CANBERRA

Expand
YOUR CAREER WITH ACT HEALTH
Canberra is Australia’s capital city. It’s nestled within the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) which spans 2,359 km².
**Australian Capital Territory**

**GENERAL FACTS**

Population: 410,300  
(Australia: 24.5 million)

Median age: 34.7 years  
(Australia: 37.2 years)

**INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT**

Median total income: $61,484  
(Australia: $46,854)

Unemployment rate: 4.7%  
(Australia 6.9%)

**HOUSING**

Average weekly household rental payment: $374

Average weekly household mortgage payment: $501

**LOCATION**

149km to the South Coast

210km to the Snowy Mountains

285km to the centre of Sydney
If you’re looking for a place to create your future—one that is full of brilliant possibilities—Canberra is your city.

Big things happen here: in politics, science, research, health, education, business and the arts—creating the potential for exciting careers and opportunities.

Canberra also has the power to surprise people—with food and wine, with art and culture, with our heritage and with our warm welcome.

We look to the future, not the past, and we actively pursue our dreams. Are you ready to pursue yours?

facebook.com/canberrayourfuture
Facts to tell your friends

Canberra averages more hours of sunshine than Sydney, Melbourne or Adelaide! Canberra receives an annual average of 7.2 hours of sunshine per day versus Sydney (6.6); Melbourne (5.7); and Adelaide (6.9).

The ACT has the highest average full-time income of any state or territory in Australia. Average full-time weekly income $1,663; Australia is $1,454 (May 2014).

Canberrans have the highest life expectancy in Australia for males and females! It’s the only state or territory to have a male life expectancy over 80 years. ACT – Males 80.5; Females 84.7 years; Australia – Males 79.5; Females 84 years.

Canberra has over 2,400 kilometres of bicycle tracks, trails and lanes—the most extensive network per capita of any Australian city.

Canberrans enjoy the shortest commuting times of any capital city, spending on average 3hrs 30mins commuting per week. Sydney 5:42; Brisbane 5:00; Melbourne 4:48; Adelaide 4:24; and Perth 4:06.

Canberra is home to some of Australia’s premier events appealing to all interests including Floriade, Australia’s biggest flower festival and Summernats, the largest car festival in the southern hemisphere.

Canberra has a very multicultural population with around one quarter of our residents born overseas.

More people in Canberra volunteer for community and not-for-profit organisations than in any other Australian capital. 21.2 per cent of Canberra’s population volunteered in 2011, well ahead of the national average of 17.8 per cent.

The ACT has the best performing school system in Australia with the highest percentage of children completing year 12 and continuing on to university or employment.
Living in Canberra

We’re open to the good things in life! Ours is a vibrant and multicultural world-class city, but it’s not so big as to lose its community appeal—you won’t feel like you’re just a number.

Canberra’s location puts it in the heart of the south-east. Close to the south-coast beaches of New South Wales in summer and a short drive to the snowfields in winter.

Canberra is one of the few Australian cities where you can enjoy four distinct seasons with plenty of sunshine all year round.

Getting around is easy, convenient and quick. Traffic jams and pollution are virtually unheard of, there are no toll roads and most car journeys around Canberra will take 20 minutes or less. Our roads and public transport are getting better and stronger, with new rapid bus routes, new ticketing technology and a brand new light rail system.

More and more residents are leaving the car at home and walking, cycling or catching the bus to get around. We have over 2,400 kilometres of cycle paths, the largest network per capita of any city in Australia.

If you’re into being active, Canberra is the place for you. We have the highest participation in sport and recreation of any Australian state or territory. Perhaps that’s why we live longer!

Love the outdoors? Canberra’s natural surroundings inspire an outdoor lifestyle! You’ll enjoy mountain biking at the world class Mount Stromlo facility, sailing on Lake Burley Griffin, golfing at one of our 10 courses, skiing at the Snowy Mountains or surfing on the South Coast.

Canberra is a city of endless pleasures with a calendar that’s overflowing with cultural, sporting and family events, places to see and things to do. Our natural surroundings, outdoor lifestyle, and a supportive community help us find that important work/life balance.

We’re constantly entertaining. Our action-packed, year-round program of major events ranges from international blockbuster exhibitions, to world-class sporting events, diverse festivals and fascinating historical exhibitions, not to mention our gourmet food and wine events—there’s something for everyone!

Renowned for being one of the most cultured cities in Australia, Canberra has the highest attendance for galleries, museums, cinemas, libraries and archives. And no wonder! This is the city where in one day you could view an epic exhibition of some of the world’s most highly coveted artefacts, attend a local theatre production, and immerse yourself in the music of one of Australia’s biggest headlining bands.

In Canberra, the question is not so much ‘What to do?’ but rather ‘Where to start?’
Learning in Canberra

The life of the mind is important in Canberra. With access to the highest-ranking education and cultural facilities in Australia and some of the greatest thought-leaders in the world, Canberra has become the destination of choice for students wanting a first-class education.

Whether you’re an Australian or an international student, you’ll find all the services and facilities you need in Canberra from both an academic and social perspective. We offer an environment that combines an easy-going attitude with top class teaching facilities. You’ll have access to renowned academic resources, including the National Library of Australia, the largest in the country.

Canberra is home to some of Australia’s most prestigious universities and educational institutions, including the Australian National University, Australia’s highest ranked university in 2018, the University of Canberra, and campuses for the University of New South Wales (incorporating the Australian Defence Force Academy), the Australian Catholic University and Charles Sturt University. Collectively they offer choice, convenience and advancement across most fields of study.

When it comes to vocational education and training, Canberra’s biggest provider is the Canberra Institute of Technology which offers over 500 courses across six locations. A strong connection with industry means you gain invaluable connections for employment and real-world experience.

Canberra’s school system is recognised as the best in Australia with the highest rate of students completing secondary schooling and continuing on to further education.

The ACT Government’s 86 public schools, along with over 44 independent and Catholic schools, offer high-quality learning in modern, well-equipped and supportive environments.

Students in Canberra enjoy a balanced education with opportunities for intellectual, sporting and cultural development. International students are made particularly welcome, with high-quality government education in a safe, friendly and multicultural city.

Students in the ACT also have the opportunity to learn with the latest technology in one of the world’s best-connected education systems.

ACT HEALTH
Excellence, Collaboration, Integrity & Care
Migrating to Canberra

Canberra is built on the collective spirit and potential of Australia’s people—and we welcome everyone. Around 25 per cent of our population was born overseas and every year, thousands of international students choose to study here.

Looking to create a future in Canberra? If you’re a skilled worker or business person and you can demonstrate commitment to migrating to Canberra, you may qualify for ACT nomination.

This nomination will help you to obtain an Australian visa and will give you access to some exclusive settlement services offered through the ACT Government’s Skilled Migration team that will help you settle into life in Canberra.

To be successful in your nomination you must meet a range of criteria which can be viewed at www.canberrayourfuture.com.au

ACT nomination is not a visa application. It will only assist you in meeting the requirements for your visa. You will also need to meet Department of Home Affairs criteria which can be viewed at www.homeaffairs.gov.au

“Compared to Sydney and Melbourne I think Canberra is really special and offers the perfect environment for students.”

MAN LAN TSANG (ALFRED)
Working in Canberra

Canberra is a place to actively pursue your dreams.

As our nation’s capital, big ideas emerge, circulate and grow here, thanks to unique links between leading thinkers in business, government, education and research. Together with our dynamic economy, highly educated workforce and an innovative business culture, you’ll have access to unique career and business opportunities.

Whilst the Australian and ACT Governments are major employers in the city, over half of Canberra’s workforce is employed in our private sector, with more than 25,000 businesses servicing the region, from multi-nationals to micro businesses.

And because Canberra is a ‘20 minute city’, getting to work is a breeze on our network of toll-free roads, cycle paths and efficient public transport system. You’ll spend less time commuting and more time doing the things you and your family enjoy.

So can you imagine working in an environment that combines an easy going attitude and work-life balance with a strong and dynamic economy, a highly educated workforce and innovative business culture. That’s what it’s like working in Canberra! And right now there are jobs available for suitably qualified workers.

Our unemployment rate is low compared to most cities in Australia, and the pay’s good too! Workers in Canberra enjoy the highest average full-time income in Australia.
Expand your Career in Health

We are expanding and building a sustainable, innovative, world class health system and are looking for highly skilled, motivated, enthusiastic people to bring our vision to life.

The ACT Government is expanding health and hospital services to support the needs of our growing community—with an extra $443 million in the 2017-18 budget to fund new health infrastructure and services.

A career at ACT Health recognises and rewards skill and experience, and provides career pathways in clinical, research, education and management.

Take a look—some of the best jobs in health are available in Canberra!

NEW INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

- In July 2018 we will open Canberra’s first dedicated rehabilitation hospital—the University of Canberra Hospital: Specialist Centre for Rehabilitation, Recovery and Research—with capacity for 140 inpatient beds, 75 day places and additional outpatient services.

- We’ve committed more than $71 million to expanding our exceptional Centenary Hospital for Women and Children—with Paediatric Intensive Care Unit, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Paediatric High Dependency Unit, dedicated paediatric recovery area and adolescent mental health services.

- We’ve scoping a brand new public hospital for northern Canberra, which will have an estimated investment of $248 million.

- In 2018 we will open our third community walk-in health centre—and we’ve already started planning more.

- We train highly skilled medical crews and staff the rescue helicopter to transfer critically ill patients throughout the ACT and surrounding areas.

LEADERS IN TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

- We are developing a Digital Health Strategy to guide how technology will support exemplary person-centred care. Activities will be clinician led and will bring transformational change to the delivery of health care.

- We’re investing in technology to improve patient safety by rolling out clinical systems at the patient’s bedside. Clinicians will electronically manage patient medication, place pathology orders and collections, and enter chart observation data which will support automated calculations and early recognition of deterioration.

- Our positive patient identification system uses GS1 patient barcodes, cross referenced with staff identification and specimen collection labels, to significantly reduce wrong blood in tube incidents.
EXCELLENCE IN PREVENTIVE HEALTH

- We are developing a healthy and active living strategy, backed with $4 million in new resources, to address high risk factors for chronic disease and support Canberrans to make healthy and active living their way of life.

CLINICAL TRIALS

- We are conducting a wide range of clinical trials across many areas of health care. One in particular is the $430,000 partnership established between our Canberra Region Cancer Centre and world-class research institute the Garvan Institute of Medical Research in Sydney, to conduct a Molecular Screening Therapeutics Trial for treating rare cancers—cutting edge personalised medicine in action and a new paradigm for cancer treatment. The partnership allows cancer patients to be part of a trial right here in Canberra with our very own doctors.

RESEARCH

- We have strong partnerships with leading Australian tertiary education institutions, including the Australian National University, University of Canberra, Canberra Institute of Technology and Australian Catholic University, and links with other regional universities.
- We are delivering the next generation of research-driven personalised healthcare using novel data science technology.
- In 2018 we will establish a Professor of Allied Health Research position in collaboration with the University of Canberra, and will develop inter-professional clinical education projects.
- Our staff can be part of allied health research forums with international and nationally renowned speakers.

MENTAL HEALTH

- We have a dedicated Minister for Mental Health, and are strengthening our focus on this important area by establishing an ACT Office for Mental Health.
- The brand new University of Canberra Hospital: Specialist Centre for Rehabilitation, Recovery and Research has a dedicated adult mental health ward—providing a purpose built setting to promote recovery.
- We are adding new beds at the Dhulwa Mental Health Unit.

REMUNERATION

- We offer highly competitive pay rates and excellent employment conditions!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

- We are dedicated to promoting a culture of learning, research and innovation—supporting our nurses, allied health professionals, medical professionals and staff to expand their skills and further their knowledge.
- We support staff development through post-graduate scholarship schemes and provide monetary support and leave time for study.
- We have partnered with the University of Canberra in the development of the University of Canberra Clinical School for nursing, midwifery and allied health at the Canberra Hospital.
- Our hospitals and facilities provide state-of-the art equipment and technology, and give staff opportunities to perform a wide range of procedures—breadth that is not always seen in major city hospitals.
- We are building a new skills centre where we will train our clinical teams in management, leadership and innovation to equip them to run multi-million dollar budgets.