

Health Promotion



Health promoters work with communities and groups to plan and develop ways to help people improve and manage their health. They also work with government and other agencies to improve environmental conditions that contribute to ill health.

INDUSTRY ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

There are no specific entry requirements to become a health promoter. However, employers prefer you to have a tertiary qualification in health promotion, health, social sciences or education, along with knowledge of a related field such as child health, youth work, community housing, or nutrition.

HOW MUCH COULD I EARN AFTER MY DEGREE?

Pay for health promoters varies depending on your qualifications, experience, employer and workplace.

- Health promoters who have no qualifications and work in entry-level positions can expect to start on \$29,000 a year
- Those who have qualifications and work in senior positions may earn up to \$70,000
- Health promotion managers can earn up to \$92,000

Source: District Health Boards/PSA Allied, 'Public Health & Technical Multi-Employer Collective Agreement (MECA) 2007-2010'.

WHAT ARE THE CHANCES OF GETTING A JOB?

Opportunities for health promoters are growing, because the Government has increased funding for strategies to promote good health and well-being. These strategies among many include; promotion of oral health to children and adolescents, tobacco control, promoting physical activity, and campaigns to help prevent obesity. Opportunities for Māori and Pasifika health promoters are especially good because a number of government health initiatives target these groups.

WHAT TYPES OF EMPLOYERS CAN I WORK FOR?

Health promoters can work for:

- District Health Boards
- Primary health organisations such as doctors' practices
- Non-governmental organisations such as community development groups

Health promoters work throughout New Zealand. However, many work in lower socioeconomic areas such as parts of Northland and the East Coast. Demand for health promoters is also high in areas where there are large numbers of refugees, such as Wellington.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Health promoters may progress to work in management positions or specialise in another area of health promotion.

Information Source: www.careers.govt.nz

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"I found the passion presented by my lecturers infectious and a direct influence on my success when completing my degree at AUT. They made sure they were approachable, exhibited an open door policy and engaged with us in small groups during class. My final year placement resulted in a full time job at Breast Screening Aotearoa where I work as a health promoter developing resources and media advertising, and working with community groups and businesses to encourage women to get regular checks".



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