

# Post-Graduation Trends and Support Needs of Nursing Graduates

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## **Abstract**

This study aimed to clarify graduates' employment status and support needs. Two hundred and seventy nursing graduates (1st to 12th year) of the School of Nursing, Faculty of Medicine, Fukuoka University, who were working in a hospital affiliated with Fukuoka University, were surveyed using a questionnaire. The questionnaire consisted of seven items, including basic attributes, job-related difficulties, and expectations of the university in terms of post-graduation support. The number of respondents was 209 (77.4% response rate). Most of the respondents were female (204; 98.0%), and 40% had 5-10 years of nursing experience. Eighty-four (40%) had experienced a change of department. The most common difficulties experienced in the first year of nursing were "insufficient nursing skills," "inexperience in using medical equipment," and "insufficient self-learning," while many of the free descriptions were related to "multiple tasks and priorities" and "gap between training and field work." To overcome the problems, they consulted their supervisors, colleagues, friends, and others around them. Expectations of the university in terms of graduate support included "training in nursing topics," "career change counseling," and "mental support." In terms of support for graduates, the survey suggested the need for holding training sessions on nursing topics, a place to connect with faculty members, and the establishment of an alumni network that can provide and share information.

**Key words:** Nursing Students, Graduate Trend Survey, Post-graduation Support Needs