



**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES AND
MIDWIVES**

**STANDARDS FOR APPROVAL OF NURSING
AND MIDWIFERY PROGRAMMES**

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INTRODUCTION

In exercising its mandate of regulating the nursing and midwifery professions to safeguard public interest, in conformity with Law **№ 25/2008 of 25/07/2008** article One paragraph 4^o stipulates that the National Council of Nurses and Midwives (NCNM) has ‘to determine the requirements for the approval of course programmes of nursing and midwifery and to ensure its implementation’.

The purpose of establishing nursing and midwifery education standards is to meet the required international standards and to ensure that provider institutions have the capacity to provide and maintain a high standard of education and training that meets National and public expectations.

Nursing and midwifery services as integral parts of national health care system need well educated and trained nurses and midwives to render quality services.

The ability of the nurse and midwife to practice competently depends on the education provider fulfilling the obligations of cultivating the right dispositions and transmission of clinical skills in the student nurse or midwife. This is to enable them to act appropriately and be able to respond to the needs of clients or patients. The student needs to develop not only clinical skills but also the right behavior and attitudes to enable them to practice safely and effectively even under difficult circumstances.

These standards are for initial nursing and midwifery education and training, which were developed by a working group, composed of representatives from: nursing and midwifery teaching institutions, national referral hospitals, Higher Education Council (HEC), Workforce Development Authority (WDA), Ministry of Health and the National Council of Nurses and Midwives. Other resources consulted include: the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council Standards, ICN ‘International Principles and Framework for Standards Development in Nursing’ WHO Global Standards for Nursing and Midwifery Programmes, and the Presidential Order № 32 of 09/08/2010.

ACRONYMS

CPD: Continuing Professional Development

CV: Curriculum Vitae

HIV/AIDS: Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus/Acquired Immuno-deficiency Syndrome

ID: Identity Card

MOU: Memorandum of Understanding

NCNM: National Council of Nurses and Midwives

TV: Television

DEFINITION OF TERMS

i) Academic staff

Academic staff are education provider employees, qualified and prepared for their roles and responsibilities in relation to educating and supervising students.

ii) Assessment

A systematic process of collecting, reviewing and documenting information usually in measurable terms, to improve student learning and to determine the importance or value of the learning outcomes.

iii) Basic training

The pre-registration course in nursing or midwifery leading to the title 'Registered Nurse' or 'Registered Midwife'.

iv) Competence

Competence is the combination of the knowledge, skills, attitudes, values and abilities that underpin effective performance in a profession.

v) Department

An academic division within a university or another higher learning institution that is specialised in teaching of one or more specialties. It is smaller than and is within a faculty.

vi) Education Standards

Authoritative statements of desired education and training requirements and outcomes and their associated assessment criteria.

viii) Education

It is a process of imparting or acquiring knowledge and experience that have a formative effect on the powers of reasoning and judgement, physical ability and character of an individual.

xi) Graduate

A graduate is a student who, having undertaken a nursing programme is eligible to apply for nursing registration.

xiii) The Law

Refers to the 'Law Establishing the National Council of Nurses and Midwives and Determining its Organization, Functioning and Scope of Activities'.

xiv) Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes are the skills, knowledge and attitudes identified as the requirement for satisfactory programme completion.

xv) Mission

A mission is a statement outlining the purpose or the reason for the existence of an organization, how it will operate and with which means, in order to move towards its vision.

xvi) Philosophy

In this context, it is a set of ideas, beliefs or a system of values relating to a particular field or activity.

xix) Practice

It is any nursing/midwifery role, such as nursing management, administration, education, research, regulatory or policy development, which the graduate having become a licensed practitioner undertakes that has an impact on nursing service delivery.

xx) Programme

It is a course of study and experiences required to be undertaken before a qualification recognized by the National Qualification Framework and approved by NCNM, can be conferred.

xxi) Research

It is a systematic study into a subject involving collection, organizing and processing, analysis and interpretation of data, especially in order to discover new information, establish facts or solve a problem.

xxii) Student

A student is any person undertaking a programme leading to registration as a nurse or midwife.

xxiii) Training

Training is an organized activity aimed at imparting information and/or instructions to improve the recipient's performance or to help him/her attain a required level of knowledge and/or skill.

xxiv) Provider institution

It is an educational establishment or a school that trains nurses and/or midwives.

xxv) Vision statement

It is the compelling need which will motivate an organization and will personalize this to its people.