



Republic of Namibia
Annotated Statutes

REGULATIONS

REGULATIONS SURVIVING IN TERMS OF

Nursing Act 8 of 2004
section 65(2)

**Nursing Professions Act, 1993: Regulations relating to the
Course for Diploma in Midwifery for Registration as a Midwife**

Government Notice 67 of 1999

(GG 2083)

came into force on date of publication: 15 April 1999

These regulations were made on the recommendation of the Nursing Board in terms of section 48(1) of the Nursing Professions Act 30 of 1993, which was repealed by the Nursing Act 8 of 2004. Pursuant to section 65(2) of the Nursing Act 8 of 2004, any regulation made under the repealed legislation must be regarded as having been made in terms of the corresponding provision of the Nursing Act 8 of 2004, insofar as it is not inconsistent with that Act.

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Definitions

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**Nursing Professions Act, 1993: Regulations relating to the Course
for Diploma in Midwifery for Registration as a Midwife**

1. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise indicates, any word or expression defined in the Act has that meaning, and -

- “course” means the course for the Diploma in Midwifery Science;
- “restoration” means the restoration of the name of a nurse to the register from which it was removed;
- “student” means a student for the course; and
- “the Act” means the Nursing Professions Act, 1993 (Act No. 30 of 1993).

[The Nursing Professions Act 30 of 1993 has been replaced by the Nursing Act 8 of 2004.]

Conditions for the approval of nursing schools

2. (1) The Board may, subject to subregulation (2), approve a nursing school if -
- (a) the organisational structure, the educational programme and the facilities for the conduct of the teaching programme at such school; and
- (b) the facilities for clinical practica and practica in preventative and promotional health care,

are satisfactory in the opinion of the Board; and

- (c) a person who is registered as a nurse and against whose name an additional qualification in nursing education and an additional qualification in nursing administration are registered, is designated to the Board as the person in charge of the school.

(2) The Board, on such conditions as it may determine, may approve a nursing school even if all of the conditions referred to in subregulation (1) cannot be complied with.

Admission to course

3. Any person who wishes to register for the course shall hold a -
- (a) Grade 12 or a Senior certificate or an equivalent qualification acceptable to the Board; and
- (b) three year diploma in Nursing Science.
- (2) (a) A person referred to in subregulation (1) shall submit to the person in charge of the school proof of his or her current registration as a nurse with the Board together with the application for registration for the course.
- (b) This registration as a nurse must be maintained throughout the course and until the results of the final examination are published, failing which the period of the course undergone from the date of removal as a nurse from the register until restoration (if any) shall be forfeited.

Termination and completion of the course

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4. (1) The person in charge of the nursing school shall notify the Board in writing -
- (a) if a student terminates the course for any reason before completion, including when a student is transferred to another school; or
 - (b) when a student completes the course.

(2) A notice referred to in subregulation (1), paragraph (b) shall contain a record of the theoretical and clinical instruction undergone by the student concerned.

Duration of the course

5. (1) The duration of the course shall be one year.

(2) A student may be granted leave of absence to a maximum of thirty days at such times during the course as the person in charge of the school may decide upon.

- (3) (a) A student may be granted sick leave at any time during the course, to a maximum of twelve days.
- (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) additional sick leave may be granted, but in respect of every day of such additional sick leave granted, one day shall be added to the course.
- (4) (a) The course shall be commenced *de novo* if a break occurs before the completion of the first period of six months of the course, unless the Board determines otherwise.
- (b) For the purpose of this regulation, the expression “break” means -
 - (i) an absence which is not authorised in this regulation; or
 - (ii) a transfer from one school to another.
- (c) If the Board allows a student to continue with the course after a break, the period of the break shall be added to the course until the prescribed period of the course is completed.

The Curriculum

6. (1) All the subjects of the curriculum shall be taught at an applied level throughout the course with special emphasis on -

- (a) the ethical foundation of midwifery
- (b) the law governing the practice of midwifery, including the regulations regulating the conduct of registered midwives that constitutes improper conduct or misconduct, and the conditions under which they may carry on their profession;
- (c) medico-legal risks; and
- (d) the scientific principles underlying midwifery.

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- (2) The course shall consist of-
- (a) History, Philosophy and Ethos of Nursing and Midwifery Science consisting of legal and ethical dimensions of professional practice, responsibility and accountability, inter-professional relationship, disciplinary control of the profession, scope of the midwifery practice and the registered midwife as a practitioner;
- (b) Community Health Nursing Science A consisting of -
- (i) introduction to health education, community and family health care, history, international viewpoints and the health care systems, health legislation, identification of needs, community development, epidemiology, basic human needs in a health care context, components of a comprehensive health care system, hygiene and environment hygiene, basic nutrition, factors influencing the welfare of man, voluntary support systems, health education, role of the community health nurse, introduction to communicable diseases, nursing process, and ethical and legal aspects;
- (ii) Community Health Nursing Science B, on which an oral and practical examination shall be written and consisting of health education, taking of case history, measure, examination and weighing of infants, interpretation of infants' grow charts, care of mother and child, completion of work chart, reports regarding visits to the dairy, purification services, water purification, housing schemes and immunisation technique;
- (c) Scientific foundations of Nursing, consisting of specific anatomy and physiology, genetics and embryology, physiological changes during pregnancy, birth and puerperium, medicine and its effects on the mother, foetus and new-born infant; and
- (d) Midwifery Science, consisting of -
- (i) pregnancy (normal and abnormal), labour (normal) and puerperium (normal), ante- and post-natal exercises and record-keeping;
- (ii) labour (abnormal) puerperium (abnormal), new-born baby (physiology and deviations), high risk new-born, record-keeping; and
- (iii) family planning, maternal and foetal mortality, ward administration and clinical teaching, and ethical and legal aspects.

Lectures, clinical instruction and practica

7. (1) A student shall throughout the course receive both theoretical and clinical instruction and undergo practica in the subjects referred to in regulation 6.

- (2) The clinical instruction and practica referred to in subregulation (1) shall include -
- (a) 60 hours in an ante-natal department or clinic during which period the student shall examine and receive instruction in the supervision of at least 30 pregnant women;
- (b) 12 hours in a post-natal clinic;

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- (c) witnessing five deliveries under instruction before the student shall be allowed to do deliveries;
- (d) 15 deliveries done by the student personally under supervision of a medical practitioner or a registered midwife;
- (e) 15 internal examinations by the student personally of which the findings shall be checked by a medical practitioner or a registered midwife;
- (f) breathing and relaxation techniques, ante-natal exercises and post-natal exercises;
- (g) the performance of 5 episiotomies;
- (h) the suturing of first and second degree tears of the perineum and of episiotomies and administration of a local anaesthetic, excluding pudendal block;
- (i) 25 pregnant women personally attended by the student during the first stage of labour, provided that the student must have been in actual attendance on the patient concerned for the major part of the first stage of labour in which the patient was under surveillance of the delivery team;
- (j) 2 partograms prepared by the student;
- (k) 10 physical examinations of the infant undertaken by the student for detection of physical abnormalities of the new-born;
- (l) 20 patients followed up by the student for at least five days after delivery;
- (m) 20 new-born infants nursed by the student;
- (n) 5 low birth-weight infants nursed by the student;
- (o) 2 infants at risk from duration of the delivery nursed by the student; and
- (p) 20 case records completed,

and the instruction need not to be continuous.

[The word "to" in the closing phrase is superfluous.]

- (3) During the instruction referred to in subregulation (1), a student -
 - (a) shall keep records of ante-natal patients and of the patients whose deliveries were conducted by him or her;
 - (b) shall nurse ante-natal patients suffering from abnormal conditions; and
 - (c) may receive instruction in a district approved by the Board.

(4) A student shall receive clinical instruction and practica in the wards and departments in delivering and nursing patients at night for at least a one-twelfth and for no more than one-quarter of the prescribed periods for the course, which periods need not be continuous.

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Examinations

8. (1) In order to qualify for admission to an examination in a subject, year marks as specified by the nursing school must be obtained by the student.

(2) In order to be admitted to the examination for the course a student shall -

(a) have completed at least nine months of the prescribed period of training for the course by the end of the month in which the examination is held, provided that cognisance shall be taken of any period, including additional sick leave which had to be made up;

(b) according to the assessment by the nursing school where the course was followed, be competent and suitable for admission in respect of attitude, approach, insight, knowledge and skill; and

(c) on the date of the examination, have complied with the provisions of regulation 7.

(3) The examinations shall be conducted in accordance with the regulations concerning examinations of the University of Namibia.

Registration

9. A student who has passed the examination referred to in regulation 8 shall be issued by the secretary of the Board with a certificate of registration as a midwife, without the payment of a fee, provided the notice referred to in regulation 4(1)(b) has been lodged.

Repeal of regulations

10. Government Notice No. R254 of 14 February 1975 and any amendment thereof are hereby repealed.