



Republic of Namibia
Annotated Statutes

REGULATIONS

REGULATIONS SURVIVING IN TERMS OF

Health Professions Act 16 of 2024
section 95(10)

**Nursing Professions Act, 1993: Regulations relating to the
Course leading to Enrolment as a Nurse and Midwife**

Government Notice 195 of 2000

(GG 2392)

came into force on date of publication: 7 August 2000

These regulations were made on the recommendation of the Nursing Board in terms of section 48 of the Nursing Professions Act 30 of 1993, which was repealed by the Nursing Act 8 of 2004. Pursuant to section 65(2) of the Nursing Act 8 of 2004, any regulation made under the repealed legislation must be regarded as having been made in terms of the corresponding provision of the Nursing Act 8 of 2004, insofar as it is not inconsistent with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. The Nursing Act 8 of 2004 was repealed by the Health Professions Act 16 of 2024. Pursuant to section 95(10) of the Health Professions Act 16 of 2024, these regulations are deemed to have been made under that Act.

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**Nursing Professions Act, 1993: Regulations relating to the
Course leading to Enrolment as a Nurse and Midwife**

Definitions

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

“academic year” means a period of not less than 44 weeks in any calendar year within which a part of the course of study shall be completed by any person who registers for the course of study;

“Board” means the Nursing Board of Namibia

“course” means a programme of education and training approved in terms of section 12(3) of the Act, leading to a qualification which confers on the holder of that qualification the right to enrolment as an enrolled nurse and enrolled midwife in terms of section 13 of the Act;

“nursing school” means a department or subdepartment of a university which offers professional nursing education at basic and post-basic level;

“portion” means a part of an examination for which a result is published in the examination results, and which is taken as a whole; and

“the Act” means the Nursing Professions Act, 1993 (Act No. 30 of 1993).

**[The Nursing Professions Act 30 of 1993 was replaced by the Nursing Act 8 of 2004,
which has been replaced by the Health Professions Act 16 of 2024.]**

Conditions for approval of nursing school

2. (1) The Board may, subject to subregulations (2) and (3), approve a department or subdepartment of a university as a nursing school, if -

- (a) the Board is satisfied that the tuition or training intended to be offered in relation to the course by that department or subdepartment complies with the minimum requirements of the curriculum and the standards of education and examinations prescribed by these regulations;
- (b) all required information has been furnished by the department or subdepartment concerned;
- (c) the organisational structure and the facilities for presenting the course are satisfactory in the opinion of the Board;
- (d) the curriculum, including the system of continuous assessment in respect of theory and clinical training, is satisfactory in the opinion of the Board;
- (e) facilities for clinical training are satisfactory in the opinion of the Board;
- (f) the person in charge of the department or subdepartment is a registered nurse and midwife;

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- (g) at least one registered nurse is on duty at all times at the department or subdepartment where the clinical training is presented; and
- (h) all members of the nursing staff who give clinical training are registered nurses and registered midwives or enrolled nurses and enrolled midwives.

(2) If the Board is of the opinion that a department or subdepartment of a university, in respect of which an application for approval is received, does not fully comply with the minimum requirements prescribed, but that such non compliance will not substantially affect the standard of the tuition or training intended to be offered in relation to the course, the Board may approve the department or subdepartment conditionally for a period not exceeding six months.

[The requisite hyphen is missing from the word “non-compliance”.]

(3) If, after the expiry of the period of six months, the department or subdepartment still does not comply with the prescribed minimum requirements, the conditional approval may, for good cause shown, be extended for a further period not exceeding six months or be revoked, as the Board may decide.

Requirements for admission to course

3. (1) A person who wishes to register for the course shall in the form determined by the nursing school concerned apply to the person in charge of the nursing school for admission to the course.

(2) An application referred to in subregulation (1) shall be accompanied by proof that the applicant -

- (a) holds at least a grade 10 certificate or any other equivalent qualification;
- (b) has been enrolled as a nursing auxiliary; and
- (c) has been granted permission to do the course.

Duration of course

4. The course referred to in regulation 3 shall extend over two academic years.

Objective of course

5. (1) The objective of the course is to enable an enrolled nurse and enrolled midwife to -

- (a) provide and facilitate comprehensive health services to the community as a member of a multi-sectoral primary health care team with emphasis on community involvement;
- (b) provide effective and comprehensive nursing care, including the referral of patients and clients at all levels;
- (c) apply all the steps of the nursing process when providing nursing care;

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- (d) practise nursing within the ethical and moral codes of the profession and in accordance with the laws of Namibia;
 - (e) initiate and participate in health information systems and research, and utilise the results to improve health care;
 - (f) manage health resources efficiently for optimal health service delivery;
 - (g) plan and facilitate education for the community, colleagues and himself or herself;
 - (h) Initiate and participate in mobilisation for innovative community development projects;
 - (i) assess the health needs of a pregnant woman;
 - (j) provide effective ante-natal and post-natal care;
 - (k) deliver the baby of a full-term pregnant women without creating danger to the baby or mother;
 - (l) identify abnormalities during ante-natal care, delivery and post-natal care, and refer the patient to a medical practitioner or registered midwife without delay;
 - (m) provide effective care to the new-born baby and the mother in the puerperium;
 - (n) identify and establish a working relationship with traditional birth attendants and community leaders to improve health services in the community.
 - (o) give health education to mothers on the promotion of their health and that of their babies and on the prevention of diseases; and
 - (p) plan health care and health promotion activities of mothers and their children in health facilities as well as in the community.
- (2) In this regulation -

“comprehensive health services” means health services which are promotive, preventative, curative and rehabilitative; and

“health resources” means health facilities, personnel, material, finances, information and time.

Curriculum

6. The course referred to in regulation 3 shall consist of the following subjects:
- (a) introduction to primary health care;
 - (b) health education;
 - (c) sociology;
 - (d) first aid;

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- (e) management of health facilities;
- (f) food and nutrition;
- (g) research methods;
- (h) nursing ethics;
- (i) community health;
- (j) anatomy and physiology;
- (k) general nursing science (adult health care);
- (l) normal midwifery, which shall extend over not less than 3 00 hours;
- (m) microbiology; and
- (n) pharmacotherapy.

Clinical training

7. (1) Subject to the provisions of regulation 13 -
 - (a) a pupil nurse shall during the course referred to in regulation 3 undergo a minimum of 2 000 hours of clinical training, of which -
 - (i) at least 1 300 shall be undergone in hospital wards, clinics, health centres and communities; and
 - (ii) at least 700 hours shall be undergone in midwifery units;
 - (b) the clinical hours shall be spread over the two academic years of the course.
- (2) Notwithstanding subregulation (1), a pupil nurse or pupil midwife shall not be allocated to clinical training at night during the first six months of the first year of study.
- (3) A pupil nurse or pupil midwife undergoing clinical training shall not be allocated to night shift for a period exceeding 3 months.

Clinical training relating to ante-natal and post-natal care

8. The clinical training in ante-natal and post-natal care shall extend over at least 700 hours, and shall -
 - (a) for the first year of the course referred to in regulation 3 consist of -
 - (i) the taking of the medical history of patients and clients in the midwifery unit;
 - (ii) 30 physical examinations relating to palpation and auscultation;
 - (iii) the interviewing of clients on family planning;

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- (iv) routine investigations relating to blood and urine;
- (v) post-natal examinations;
- (vi) baby care physical examinations relating to weight and immunisation;
- (vii) after completion of the first three months of training, the witnessing of and assisting in -
 - (aa) five normal deliveries;
 - (bb) five abnormal deliveries; and
 - (cc) five episiotomies,
- (viii) five home visits; and
- (ix) performing five normal deliveries
- (b) for the second year of the course referred to in regulation 3 consist of-
 - (i) performing -
 - (aa) ten normal deliveries;
 - (bb) two normal and two abnormal partograms; and
 - (cc) five episiotomies;
 - (ii) carrying out -
 - (aa) ten vaginal examinations;
 - (bb) five first physical examinations; and
 - (cc) ten placenta examinations;
 - (iii) fifteen first stage observations;
 - (iv) Apgar counting;
 - (v) five first baby baths;
 - (vi) five educational sessions relating to the care of breasts; and
 - (vii) ten educational sessions relating to nutrition, hygiene, immunisation, family planning and growth monitoring.

Examinations

- 9.** (1) Each subject referred to in these regulations shall be examined by the nursing school.

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(2) The examinations for the first and second year of the course referred to in regulation 3 shall be conducted by the nursing school and shall comprise -

- (a) a written portion consisting of two papers of three hours' duration each; and
- (b) a practical portion consisting of a practical examination, which may include an oral examination and the marks obtained in a system of continuous assessment referred to in regulation 2(1)(d).

Requirements for admission to first-year examinations

- 10.** A candidate shall be admitted to the first-year examinations, if he or she -
- (a) has completed at least 40 weeks of the first academic year by the end of the month in which the examinations are conducted; and
 - (b) has obtained a year mark of at least 50 percent in a system of continuous assessment referred to in regulation 2(1)(d).

[The word "continuous" is misspelt in the *Government Gazette*, as reproduced above.]

Requirements for admission to second academic year and second-year examinations

11. (1) A pupil nurse or pupil midwife shall be admitted to the second academic year of the course referred to in regulation 3, if he or she has passed the first- year examinations referred to in subregulation 9 or has been exempted therefore in terms of regulation 13.

(2) A candidate shall be admitted to the second year examinations relating to the course referred to in regulation 3, if he or she -

- (a) has completed at least 40 weeks of the second academic year by the end of the month in which the examinations are conducted;
- (b) has obtained a year-mark of at least 50 percent in a system of continuous assessment referred to in regulation 2(1)(d); and
- (c) has achieved the objective referred to in regulation 5 by the date of the examinations.

Completion and termination of course

- 12.** (1) If a student -
- (a) successfully completes the course;
 - (b) for any reason withdraws from the course before completing it; or
 - (c) is transferred to another nursing school,

the person in charge of the nursing school concerned shall notify the Board of that fact.

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(2) The notice referred to in subregulation (1) shall contain a record of the theoretical and clinical training which the student concerned has undergone.

Enrolment and exemptions

13. (1) A candidate who has terminated training at an approved nursing school in a course leading to a registration as general nurse, general nurse and midwife, general nurse and psychiatric nurse, nurse (general, psychiatric and community) and midwife, or in a course in comprehensive nursing and midwifery science, may be enrolled as a nurse or midwife on application and against payment of the prescribed fee, if -

- (a) he or she has completed at least two years of the course which he or she has terminated;
- (b) he or she has passed the examination in Community Health I and General Nursing Science II;
- (c) he or she has completed at least 2 000 hours of clinical training; and
- (d) a record of training, which is satisfactory to the Board, is submitted by the nursing school at which the training took place, together with a certificate from the person in charge of the nursing school indicating that the candidate has not been involved in any misconduct or improper conduct leading to the termination of the course.

(2) An enrolled nursing auxiliary who is an enrolled midwife shall be granted exemption for the midwifery part of the curriculum.