Standard

We assess your nursing qualification(s) to ensure that they are the same level as those of New Zealand graduates.

Bachelor’s degree or higher

Your nursing qualification(s) must be comparable to a Bachelor’s degree or higher. A Bachelor’s degree is at level 7 on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework. Please click here for more information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Level on NZQA (New Zealand Qualifications Framework)</th>
<th>Level on EQF (European Qualification Framework)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>Level 5 - 6</td>
<td>Level 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree, graduate certificate / diploma</td>
<td>Level 7</td>
<td>Level 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor Honours Degree; Postgraduate certificate / diploma</td>
<td>Level 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s degree</td>
<td>Level 9</td>
<td>Level 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The New Zealand Qualifications Authority describes Level 7 on the NZQF as having:

- **Knowledge**: specialised technical or theoretical knowledge with depth in one or more fields of work or study;
- **Skills**: analyse, generate solutions to unfamiliar and sometimes complex problems; select, adapt and apply a range of processes relevant to the field of work or study;
- **Application**: advanced generic skills and or specialized knowledge and skills in a professional context or field of study.

Education programme standards

Your nursing qualification(s) will be assessed for comparability with the New Zealand programme standards:

- The programme must identify the expected learning outcomes for each course and how these learning outcomes are met and assessed.
- The programme must also show how nursing knowledge and skills are expanded and extended across the duration of the programme.
- 50% of the theory hours must have a clear nursing focus.

If your programme does not contain enough theory and clinical experience, or the theory content is not comparable to New Zealand content in specific areas of nursing, then a condition may be added to your scope of practice.

An example of this is if your programme’s theory content for mental health is not comparable to New Zealand’s programmes. In this case a condition will be added to your scope – “may only practice in general and obstetrics”. This means you are not able to practise in a mental health setting.
Nursing qualifications gained after registration

We will consider nursing qualifications or papers completed at graduate level when assessing your qualification(s). We are looking to see that you have further developed your knowledge from your initial qualification to be comparable with level 7 or above on the NZQF.

We will also consider evidence of professional development post registration relevant to nursing practice.

Evidence Requirements

A transcript request form will be emailed to you once you have applied online for registration. The top part of the form must be filled in by you, and the bottom part must be filled in by your nursing school.

1. Transcript including qualification granted

The transcript must be original and include the courses you took, marks awarded, total hours and credits for each course. We also accept E-quals if we can access them directly through the education provider.

Sometimes we require your nursing education curriculum (syllabus) and/or course descriptors. We will ask you for these if needed and they can be emailed directly to us.

Note:
- If you are an applicant from India, please also request your statement of marks and Indian Nursing Council accreditation for each year of study
- If you are an applicant from the United States, please also request evidence of your clinical experience hours
- If you are an applicant from the Philippines, please also request your related learning experience.

2. Evidence of accreditation and quality assurance

We require evidence that your education was completed in an institution that has been accredited by a nursing regulator and an education authority. We will ask you for this evidence if needed.

Checklist

- [ ] Fill in the education form and send it to your nursing school

Note: You will receive the education form after you apply for registration
FAQs

1. **Is my qualification eligible?**
   
   Your degree must meet the standard outlined above. We assess each nursing qualification individually to see whether the educational training is comparable to the New Zealand Bachelor of Nursing.
   
   Unfortunately, we do not offer pre-assessments.

2. **I already have my transcripts; can I post them to you myself?**
   
   No, we do not accept any education related documents sent by the applicant. The documents must be posted directly to the Nursing Council of New Zealand from your school of nursing.

3. **Can I do a bridging course?**
   
   We need to complete a full assessment of your application before a recommendation is made. In some cases, a bridging course is required prior to your registration.

4. **Can I have an education waiver?**
   
   No, we do not consider education waivers. Your education must meet our requirements.

5. **Do I need to send NCNZ my full syllabus?**
   
   No, we will advise you if a full syllabus is needed when we are assessing your application. If we do require your syllabus, your school of nursing needs to send it directly to us.

6. **I completed my education in another language. My documentation is in another language. What do I do?**
   
   You need to have your documents translated into English before you post them to us. The translation must be performed by a certified translator/translation services.
   
   If your school of nursing offers translation services, you can ask them to translate your documents into English and post them directly to us.

7. **Do you require an NZQA education assessment?**
   
   No, we conduct our own assessment and do not require an NZQA education assessment. The New Zealand Nursing Council is separate from NZQA.

Definitions

- **Curriculum/course descriptors** means the subjects comprising a course of study.

- **Learning outcomes** are statements that describe the knowledge or skills students should acquire at the end of a course.

- **NZQA** is the New Zealand Qualifications Authority.

- **NZQF** is the New Zealand Qualifications Framework.
Review

Last reviewed: September 2018.

This standard will be reviewed by March 2019.