

L.N. 55 of 1986

MEDICAL AND KINDRED PROFESSIONS ORDINANCE
(CAP. 51)

Training School for Registered (General) Nurses Regulations, 1986

IN exercise of the powers conferred by section 72 of the Medical and Kindred Professions Ordinance, the Minister of Health, on the advice of the Nursing and Midwifery Board, has made the following regulations:—

Citation
and scope.

1. (1) These regulations may be cited as the Training School for Registered (General) Nurses Regulations, 1986.

(2) These regulations shall apply to training courses started on or after the date of their publication in the Gazette.

Interpretation.

2. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires —

“hospital” means a hospital or any part thereof, approved by the Nursing and Midwifery Board as forming part of a training school;

“training school” and “school” mean a complete training school, inclusive of one or more hospitals or any part thereof, approved by the Nursing and Midwifery Board, for nurses to be admitted to the general part of the Register of Nurses kept by the said Board.

Age for
admission.

3. The training school shall be open to female candidates who, on the closing date for applications for admission, are not under seventeen years or over thirty-five years of age.

Conditions for
admission.

4. No candidate shall be admitted to the training school unless she shall have been approved at one and the same session at an entrance examination held as provided in regulation 6 of these regulations:

Provided that any candidate who holds a General Certificate of Education at Ordinary Level, or a Malta Matriculation Certificate, in English Language, Maltese, Mathematics and any two of the subjects listed in the First Schedule to these regulations shall be exempt from the written test of the entrance examination.

Eligibility
to sit for
entrance
examination.

5. No candidate shall be admitted to the entrance examination unless she has completed such studies as are equivalent to those of Form V of the Government Secondary School to be certified, in each case, by the Director of Education.

Entrance
examination.

6. The entrance examination shall be held at least twice yearly, and shall consist in a written test in English (two papers), Maltese, Mathematics and General Knowledge and in a selective interview.

Candidates to
be certified
medically fit.

7. No candidate shall be allowed to join the training school unless she is certified medically fit to the satisfaction of the Chief Government Medical Officer.

8. Candidates admitted to the training school shall be known as student nurses and shall be under the direction of a Principal Nursing Tutor. Such Tutor shall be in charge of the teaching and training in theoretical and practical nursing.

Student nurses
to be under the
direction of a
Principal
Nursing Tutor.

9. The studies shall be made up of three Parts:

Course of
studies.

(1) The Introductory Part, which shall last for eight weeks, during which basic instruction shall be imparted at a training school;

(2) (a) the Preliminary Part, which shall last for a period of fifty weeks, and

(b) the Final Part, which shall last for one hundred and five weeks,

during which Preliminary and Final Parts theoretical and practical instruction shall be imparted at a training school in accordance with the scheme of training laid down in the Second Schedule to these regulations.

Provided that the Minister responsible for Health may, on the advice of the Nursing and Midwifery Board, make such alterations to the said schedule as may be considered necessary.

When advising the said Minister on such changes the Nursing and Midwifery Board shall be guided by the relative rules of the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting.

10. (1) During the Preliminary and Final Parts, student nurses shall be required to work in hospital wards and in the Community Care Services of the Department of Health and to gain practical nursing experience in accordance with the scheme of training laid down in the Second Schedule to these regulations.

Work in
hospital etc.

(2) Student nurses shall also have to perform night duties at regular intervals.

11. (1) There shall be an assessment at the end of the Introductory Part, known as Introductory Assessment, an examination at the end of the Preliminary Part, known as Preliminary Examination and another after the end of the Final Part, known as Final Examination.

Introductory
Assessment,
Preliminary
and Final
Examination.

(2) The Introductory Assessment shall be conducted by the Principal Nursing Tutor of the training school and shall consist of two written papers, one paper on Anatomy, Physiology and Personal and Community Health and the other paper on Nursing, Psychology and First Aid. The marks obtained by a student nurse for each written paper shall be out of a maximum of twenty marks and the Principal Nursing Tutor shall submit a report on the Assessment to the Nursing and Midwifery Board.

(3) The Preliminary and the Final Examinations shall each consist of a written and of a Practical and Oral test.

12. (1) The written test of the Preliminary Examination shall consist of:

Preliminary
Examination.

(a) a paper mainly dealing with medicine and medical specialities, and

(b) a paper mainly dealing with surgery and surgical specialities.

(2) The results of the Introductory Assessment shall supplement the marks for the written test of the Preliminary Examination as follows:—

(a) the marks obtained in the Assessment written paper on Anatomy, Physiology, Personal and Community Health shall be added to the marks for the written paper on medicine and medical specialities, and,

(b) the marks obtained in the Assessment written paper on Nursing, Psychology and First Aid shall be added to the marks for the written paper on surgery and surgical specialities,

in either case another eighty marks being allocated for each of the written papers of the Preliminary Examination:

Provided that the results of the Introductory Assessment shall not be taken into further consideration in any supplementary examination.

(3) The practical and oral test of the said examination shall deal with the practice of Nursing and with questions on the subjects specified in paragraph (1) of this regulation.

Supplementary
Examinations.

13. (1) Any student nurse who fails in any paper and/or in the practical and oral test of the Preliminary Examination shall be allowed to sit again in such paper and/or test provided she gives evidence to the satisfaction of the Nursing and Midwifery Board, of having undergone further satisfactory training and, if successful, to continue her course of studies:

Provided that any such student nurse who fails at her second attempt at the Preliminary Examination shall, saving always the production of evidence that she has undergone further satisfactory training, be allowed to sit for the examination in such paper and/or test for the third time but, if successful, she will have to join the Preliminary or the Final Part, as the case may be, of the following course of studies:

Provided further that no student nurse who will have failed for the third time will be allowed to continue the course of studies.

(2) For the purposes of this regulation, absence from an examination or from any part thereof shall be deemed to be a failure at that examination or part thereof.

Eligibility
to sit at
Preliminary
and Final
Examinations.

14. (1) No student nurse may sit for the Final Examination unless she shall have passed the Preliminary Examination.

(2) No student nurse shall sit for the Final Examination if she has absented herself on sick leave or other cause (excluding vacation leave) in excess of an aggregate period of thirty days throughout the duration of the prescribed course of studies at the training school, unless she has made up for the excess absenteeism by attending for practical duties at a Government Hospital to the satisfaction of the Principal Nursing Tutor before sitting for the Final Examination:

Provided that where the curriculum of studies includes study blocks in accordance with curricula as may from time to time be

approved by the Nursing and Midwifery Board, any period of absence for whatever cause, exceeding 20 per cent of the duration of the theoretical instruction in any of such blocks shall render the candidate ineligible to sit for the final examination unless she has made up for this absenteeism by attending for the specific instruction for which she had been absent before sitting for the final examination.

(3) After making up for the absenteeism as provided for in paragraph (2) of this regulation such student nurse shall not be entitled to a special session of the Final Examination but may sit at a session not earlier than that which is due in the normal course of events.

(4) Any student nurse may, subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) of this regulation, make up for the excess absenteeism referred to in the said paragraph or for any part thereof, by forfeiting an equivalent number of days of vacation leave to which she may be entitled.

15. (1) The written test of the Final Examination shall cover all aspects of nursing care and treatment of patients, and shall consist of — Final Examination.

(a) a paper mainly dealing with medicine and medical specialities;

(b) a paper mainly dealing with surgery and surgical specialities; and

(c) a paper mainly dealing with Nursing Ethics (including Civics and Human Relations).

(2) The practical and Oral test shall similarly deal with all aspects of nursing care and treatment of patients and shall last for one hour, at which test student nurses will be required to present to the examiners their record of practical instruction and experience (general).

(3) For the purpose of this regulation, the terms —

“medical speciality” shall include paediatrics and care of newborn, geriatrics (including community geriatrics), care of psychiatric and mentally handicapped, treatment of medical emergencies, community care and intensive care in a medical speciality; and

“surgical speciality” shall include gynaecology, urology, maternity care, treatment of accidents and surgical emergencies, orthopaedics, operating theatre techniques, oncology and community care and intensive care in a surgical speciality.

16. (1) A student nurse shall not be deemed to have passed the Final Examination unless she shall have obtained a pass mark in each paper of the written test and in the practical and oral test to the satisfaction of the Board of Examiners. Student nurses must pass Final Examination.

(2) A student nurse who fails in any paper or in the practical and oral test of the Final Examination shall be allowed to sit again for that examination in any such paper or test provided she produces evidence, to the satisfaction of the Nursing and Midwifery Board, that she has undergone further training at a school for a period of approximately six months immediately prior to her resitting for the said examination:

Provided, however, that no student nurse may avail herself of this concession at any time later than three years from the date on which she first sat for the said examination.

(3) A student nurse who fails in the final examination may opt to sit for the final examination for pupil nurses conducted in accordance with the regulations governing training schools for enrolled nurses, at a session not earlier than which is due in the normal course of events, and if successful shall be awarded a certificate signed by the Chairman of the Nursing and Midwifery Board, which certificate shall be deemed to be the certificate referred to in paragraph (1) of section 67A of the Medical and Kindred Professions Ordinance.

(4) Where the option referred to in paragraph (3) of this regulation is taken:

(a) any such student nurse who shall have failed in any of the papers of the written test referred to in regulation 15 of these regulations shall only be required to sit for the written test in the final examination for pupil nurses;

(b) any such student nurse who shall have failed in the practical and oral test referred to in regulation 15 shall only be required to sit for the corresponding test in the final examination for pupil nurses; and

(c) any such student nurse who shall have failed in any of the written papers and in the practical and oral test of the examination for student nurses shall be required to sit for the whole final examination for pupil nurses.

Pass mark in tests.

17. A student nurse shall not be deemed to have passed any of the tests unless she shall have obtained at least 50 per cent of the marks awardable at any of such tests or parts thereof.

Conduct of examinations.

18. (1) The Preliminary and the Final Examinations shall be conducted by a Board of Examiners, to be appointed by the Nursing and Midwifery Board.

(2) The Board of Examiners for the Preliminary and Final Examinations shall consist of —

(a) a Principal Medical Officer or a Senior Medical Officer, as Chairman;

(b) two medical practitioners, one being a physician and the other a surgeon; and

(c) two nurses whose names are entered in the general part of the said Register of Nurses.

(3) The Board of Examiners shall submit the examination results to the Nursing and Midwifery Board for approval and ratification prior to publication.

Holding of examinations and relative applications.

19. (1) Not less than one month's notice shall be given of the date on which the Preliminary and Final Examinations shall be held, which notice shall be exhibited on the Notice Board of the school.

(2) A student nurse who intends sitting at either the Preliminary or the Final Examination shall, together with the relative fee for the examination, submit to the Nursing and Midwifery Board an application on the form prescribed in the Third Schedule to these regulations

accompanied by a certificate signed by the Principal Nursing Tutor also as per said Schedule certifying —

(a) the fact that the student nurse has completed the approved course of studies and the period of training in respect of the Preliminary Part or of the Final Part, as the case may be, and

(b) the conduct and the regular attendance of the said nurse during the relative period of training.

20. (1) Student nurses who, on the completion of the full period of training, pass the Final Examination shall be awarded a certificate signed by the Chairman of the Nursing and Midwifery Board, stating that the student nurse has undergone the prescribed course of studies at the training school and has been approved at the prescribed examinations. Successful student nurses to be awarded a certificate.

(2) Such certificate shall be deemed to be the certificate referred to in sub-paragraph (i) of paragraph (d) of section 67 of the Medical and Kindred Professions Ordinance.

(3) Notwithstanding any of the provisions of these regulations, any person —

(a) whose name is entered in the roll of nurses in accordance with the provisions of the Medical and Kindred Professions Ordinance, and

(b) who satisfies the conditions for admission to the training school as regards academic qualifications in accordance with the provisions of these regulations, and

(c) who has undergone a course of training at a training school lasting for not less than two years in accordance with the scheme of training laid down in the Second Schedule to these regulations starting from the sixty first week of training of such scheme of training, —

shall be entitled to sit for the final examination referred to in regulation 15 of these regulations either at a special session or at the session which is next due in the normal course of events, and the provisions of paragraphs (2), (3) and (4) of regulation 14 and of regulations 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 and the preceding paragraphs of this regulation shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to such person.

21. The Chief Government Medical Officer may admit male candidates to the training school, and in such case these regulations shall, *mutatis mutandis*, apply to male candidates: Admittance of male candidates.

Provided that male student nurses shall not be required to gain clinical nursing experience in —

general medical nursing of females;

general surgical nursing of females;

maternity care and gynaecological nursing care;

geriatric or long-stay chronic sick nursing of females and nursing of female psychiatric or mentally handicapped patients.

Revocation
and saving.
L.N. 86
of 1971

22. The Training School for Registered (General) Nurses Regulations, 1971, are hereby revoked:

Provided that training courses which have commenced prior to the coming into force of these Regulations shall continue to be regulated by the provisions of the regulations hereby revoked.

**FIRST SCHEDULE
SCHEDULES**

Regulation 4

List of Subjects

English Literature
History
Geography
General Science
Physics
Chemistry
Biology
Botany
Domestic Science or Handicraft
A modern language

SECOND SCHEDULE

Regulations 9 and 10

**SCHEME OF TRAINING
(STUDENT NURSES)**

Weeks (both inclusive)	INTRODUCTORY PART
1-6	Lectures in: ANATOMY PHYSIOLOGY PERSONAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSING PSYCHOLOGY FIRST AID
7-8	Study Block in Introductory Part (Theoretical Instruction)
INTRODUCTORY ASSESSMENT	

Weeks (both inclusive)	PRELIMINARY PART
9-18	Practical Nursing Experience 1. MEDICINE/SURGERY
19-20	Study Block 1 (Theoretical Instruction)

Weeks (both inclusive)	PRELIMINARY PART
21–30	Practical Nursing Experience 2. SURGERY/MEDICINE
31–32	Holidays
33–34	Study Block 2 (Theoretical Instruction)
35–44	Practical Nursing Experience 3. PAEDIATRICS/GERIATRICS (including Community Geriatrics)
45–46	Study Block 3 (Theoretical Instruction)
47–56	Practical Nursing Experience 4. GERIATRICS/PAEDIATRICS (including Community Geriatrics)
57–58	Study Block 4 (Theoretical Instruction)
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.	

Weeks (both inclusive)	FINAL PART
59–60	Holidays
61–62	Study Block 5 (Theoretical Instruction)
63–72	Practical Nursing Experience 5. GYNAECOLOGY/UROLOGY/MATERNITY CARE/CARE OF THE NEWBORN
73–74	Study Block 6 (Theoretical Instruction)
75–84	Practical Nursing Experience 6. ACCIDENT & EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT/ORTHOPAE- DICS/OPERATING THEATRE
85–86	Holidays
87–88	Study Block 7 (Theoretical Instruction)
89–98	Practical Nursing Experience 7. MEDICAL OR SURGICAL SPECIALITY which includes ex- perience in — Oncology and Fever Unit at Boffa Hospital Intensive Nursing Care i.e. Intensive Therapy Unit Coronary Care Unit, and Special Care Baby Unit; and Outpatient Department

Weeks (both inclusive)	FINAL PART
99–100	Study Block 8 (Theoretical Instruction)
101–110	Practical Nursing Experience 8. MEDICAL OR SURGICAL SPECIALITY (as in weeks 89–98)
111–112	Holidays
113–114	Study Block 9 (Theoretical Instruction)
115–124	Practical Nursing Experience 9. COMMUNITY CARE (including Home Nursing)/PSYCHIA- TRY AND MENTAL HANDICAP
125–126	Study Block 10 (Theoretical Instruction)
127–136	Practical Nursing Experience 10. PSYCHIATRY AND MENTAL HANDICAP/COMMUNITY CARE (including Home Nursing)
137–138	Holidays
139–140	Study Block 11 (Theoretical Instruction)
141–149	Practical Nursing Experience 11. MEDICINE/SURGERY
150–151	Study Block 12 (Theoretical Instruction)
152–160	Practical Nursing Experience 12. SURGERY/MEDICINE
161–163	Holidays
164–165	Study Block 13 (Theoretical Instruction)
FINAL EXAMINATION	

Allocated Periods:

Introductory Part: 6 weeks (lectures plus two weeks Study Block)

Study Blocks: 28 weeks (includes two weeks of the Introductory Part)

Practical Nursing
Experience: 118 weeks

Holidays: 13 weeks

THIRD SCHEDULE

PART I

Training School for Registered (General) Nurses Regulations, 1986*Application for admission to the Preliminary/Final* Examination for Student Nurses*

(ADDRESS)

.....

(DATE)

The Registrar
Nursing and Midwifery Board,

I beg to apply for permission to sit for the Preliminary/Final* Examination for Student Nurses which will be held during

In support of my application, I am forwarding herewith a certificate signed by the Principal Nursing Tutor of the Training School certifying that I have completed the approved course of studies and the period of training in respect of the Preliminary/Final* Part at the Training School For Nurses, and my conduct and regular attendance during the relative period of training.

I am also forwarding herewith the relative fee for the examination.

Signature

Name in Block Letters
(Student Nurse)

* Delete whichever is inapplicable

PART IIA

Training School For Registered (General) Nurses Regulations, 1986*Certificate by Principal Nursing Tutor for the Purposes of the Preliminary Examination for Student Nurses**

The Registrar
Nursing & Midwifery Board

(Date)

I hereby certify, as Principal Nursing Tutor, that Miss/Mr
a Student Nurse, Daughter/Son of born at
..... aged and
residing at

- a. has completed the approved course of studies and the period of training in respect of the Preliminary Part, and
- b. has regularly attended the relative period of training, in accordance with the provisions of the Training School for Registered (General) Nurses Regulations, 1986.

The conduct of Miss/Mr
has been satisfactory/not satisfactory throughout the relative period of training.

This is her/his first/second/third attempt

In case of the first attempt only: Her/His marks in the Introductory Assessment were as follows:

Anatomy, Physiology, Personal Community Health

Nursing and First Aid	 marks	} Maximum each paper — 20 Marks
	 marks	

In case of second or third attempt only: Satisfactory training has further been undergone in accordance with paragraph (1) of regulation 13 of the regulations referred to above. Yes/No.

Signature:
(Principal Nursing Tutor)

Name (BLOCK LETTERS):

Name of Training School:

* This Certificate is to accompany the relative application for admission to the Preliminary Examination for Student Nurses.

PART IIB

Training School for Registered (General) Nurses Regulations, 1986

*Certificate by Principal Nursing Tutor for the Purpose of the
Final Examination for Student Nurses**

The Registrar
Nursing & Midwifery Board

(Date)

I hereby certify, as Principal Nursing Tutor, that Miss/Mr
..... a Student Nurse, Daughter/Son of
..... born at aged and
residing at

- a. has completed the approved course of studies and the period of training in respect of the Final Part, and
- b. has regularly attended the relative period of training, in accordance with the provisions of the Training School for Registered (General) Nurses Regulations 1986.

The conduct of Miss/Mr
has been satisfactory/not satisfactory throughout the relative period of training.

This is her/his first/second/third attempt

Miss/Mr has passed the Preliminary
Examination held in

In case of second or third attempt only: Satisfactory training has further been undergone in accordance with paragraph (2) of regulation 16 of the regulations referred to above. Yes/No.

Signature
(Principal Nursing Tutor)

Name (BLOCK LETTERS):

Name of Training School:

* This Certificate is to accompany the relative application for admission to the Final Examination for Student Nurses.