L.N. 181 of 2026

MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF QUALIFICATIONS ACT (CAP. 451)

Minimum Training Conditions (Health Care Professions) (Amendment) Regulations, 2026

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred by article 8 of the Mutual Recognition of Qualifications Act, the Minister responsible for education has made the following regulations:-

Citation and scope.

1. (1) The title of these regulations is the Minimum Training Conditions (Health Care Professions) (Amendment) Regulations, 2026 and these regulations shall be read and construed as one with the Minimum Training Conditions (Health Care Professions) Regulations, hereinafter referred to as the "principal regulations".

S.L. 451.04.

(2) The purpose of these regulations is to transpose the provisions of the Commission Delegated Directive (EU) 2024/782 of 4 March 2024 amending Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the minimum training requirements for the professions of nurse responsible for general care, dental practitioner and pharmacist.

Amends regulation 2 of the principal regulations.

2. In regulation 2 of the principal regulations, immediately after the words "on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications", there shall be added the words "certain provisions of Directive 2013/55/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 November 2013 amending Directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualifications and Regulation (EU) No 1024/2012 on administrative cooperation through the Internal Market Information System ("the IMI Regulation"), as well as Commission Delegated Directive (EU) 2024/782 of 4 March 2024 amending Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the minimum training requirements for the professions of nurse responsible for general care, dental practitioner and pharmacist".

Amends regulation 3 of the principal regulations.

3. Sub-regulation (6) of regulation 3 of the principal regulations shall be amended as follows:

(a) paragraph (d) thereof shall be substituted by the following new paragraph:

"(d) the ability to participate in the practical training of health personnel and experience of working with such

personnel and with members of other professions in the health sector;";

(b) paragraph (e) thereof shall be substituted by the following new paragraph:

"(e) the ability to provide individualised nursing care and to empower patients, relatives and other relevant persons in relation to self-care and leading a healthy lifestyle;";

(c) immediately after paragraph (e), as substituted, there shall be added the following new paragraphs:

"(f) the ability to develop an effective leadership approach and decision-making skills;

(g) knowledge of technical innovations related to healthcare and nursing methods.".

Amends regulation 4 of the principal regulations.

4. In paragraph (e) of sub-regulation (3) of regulation 4 of the principal regulations the words "appropriate supervision." shall be substituted by the words "appropriate supervision;" and immediately thereafter there shall be added the following new paragraph:

"(f) adequate knowledge of digital dentistry and a good understanding of its safe use and application in practice.".

Amends regulation 7 of the principal regulations.

5. In paragraph (e) of sub-regulation (4) of regulation 7 of the principal regulations the words "practice of pharmacy." shall be substituted by the words "practice of pharmacy;" and immediately thereafter there shall be added the following new paragraphs:

"(f) adequate knowledge of clinical pharmacy and pharmaceutical care, as well as the skills for their practical application;

(g) adequate knowledge and skills in public health and its repercussions in health promotion and disease management;

(h) adequate knowledge and skills on interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary collaboration, interprofessional practice and communication;

(i) adequate knowledge of information technology and digital technology and skills on practical application.".

6. The Schedule to the principal regulations shall be substituted by the following new Schedule: Substitutes the Schedule to the principal regulations.

"**SCHEDULE**
Part 1

Training programme for nurses responsible for general care

The training leading to the award of a formal qualification of nurses responsible for general care shall consist of the following parts:

A. Theoretical instruction

a. Nursing	b. General Health Sciences	c. Social Sciences	d. Science and technology
- Nature, ethics and general principles of health and nursing including person-centered care theories - Nursing principles in relation to: - general and specialist medicine - general and specialist surgery - child care and paediatrics - maternity care - mental health and psychiatry - care of the elderly and geriatrics - Evidence-based nursing practice and research	- Anatomy and physiology - Pathology - Bacteriology, virology and parasitology - Biophysics, bio-chemistry and radiology - Dietetics - Hygiene: - Preventive medicine - Health education - Pharmacology	- Sociology - Psychology - Principles of administration and management - Principles of teaching - Social and health legislation - Legal aspects of nursing	- e-health

b. Clinical Instruction - Nursing in relation to: - general and specialist medicine - general and specialist surgery - child care and paediatrics - maternity care - mental health and psychiatry - care of the elderly and geriatrics - nursing care in community settings - person-centred approach - science and technology - e-health			

One or more of these subjects may be taught in the context of the other disciplines or in conjunction therewith.

The theoretical instruction shall be weighted and coordinated with the clinical instruction in such a way that the knowledge and skills referred to in this Schedule may be acquired in an adequate fashion.

Part 2

Study programme for dental practitioners

The programme of studies leading to evidence of formal qualifications in dentistry shall include at least the following subjects.

One or more of these subjects may be taught in the context of the

other disciplines or in conjunction therewith.

A. Basic Subjects	B. Medico-biological subjects and general medical subjects	C. Subjects directly related to dentistry
- Chemistry - Physics - Biology, genetics and regenerative medicine	- Anatomy - Embryology - Histology, including cytology - Physiology - Biochemistry (or physiological chemistry) - Pathological anatomy - General pathology - Pharmacology - Microbiology - Hygiene - Preventive medicine and dental public health - Radiology - Physiotherapy - General surgery - General medicine including paediatrics - Oto-rhino laryngology - Dermato-venereology - General psychology - Psychopathology - Neuropathology - Anaesthetics - Immunology	- Prosthodontics - Dental materials and equipment - Conservative dentistry - Preventive dentistry - Anaesthetics and sedation - Special surgery - Special pathology - Clinical practice - Paedodontics - Orthodontics - Periodontics - Dental radiology - Dental occlusion and function of the jaw - Practice management, professionalism, ethics and legislation - Social aspects of dental practice - Gerodontology - Oral implantology - Interprofessional collaborative care - Digital technology in dentistry

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Part 3

Training programme for midwives (Training types I and II)

The training programme for obtaining evidence of formal qualifications in midwifery consists of the following parts:

A. Theoretical and technical instruction	
A. General Subjects	B. Subjects specific to the activities of midwives
- Basic anatomy and physiology - Basic pathology - Basic bacteriology, virology and parasitology - Basic biophysics, biochemistry and radiology - Paediatrics, with particular reference to new-born infant - Hygiene, health education, preventive medicine, early diagnosis of diseases - Nutrition and dietetics, with particular reference to women, new-born and young babies - Basic sociology and socio-medical questions - Basic pharmacology - Psychology - Principles and methods of teaching - Health and social legislation and health organization - Professional ethics and professional legislation - Sex education and family planning - Legal protection of mother and infant	- Anatomy and physiology - Embryology and development of the foetus - Pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium - Gynaecological and obstetrical pathology - Preparation for childbirth and parenthood, including psychological aspects - Preparation for delivery (including knowledge and use of technical equipment in obstetrics) - Analgesia, anaesthesia and resuscitation - Physiology and pathology of the new-born infant - Care and supervision of the new-born infant - Psychological and social factors

B. Practical and clinical training

This training is to be dispensed under appropriate supervision:

- Advising of pregnant women, involving at least 100 pre-natal examinations

- Supervision and care of at least 40 pregnant women.

- Conduct by the student of at least 40 deliveries; where this number cannot be reached owing to the lack of available women in labour, it may be reduced to a minimum of 30, provided that the student assists with 20 further deliveries.

- Active participation with breech deliveries. Where this is not possible because of lack of breech deliveries, practice may be in a simulated situation.

- Performance of episiotomy and initiation into suturing. Initiation shall include theoretical instruction and clinical practice.

- The practice of suturing includes suturing of the wound following an episiotomy and a simple perineal laceration. This may be in a simulated situation if absolutely necessary.

- Supervision and care of 40 women at risk in pregnancy, or labour or post-natal period.

- Supervision and care (including examination) of at least 100 post-natal women and healthy new-born infants.

- Observation and care of new-born requiring special care, including those born pre-term, post-term, underweight or ill.

- Care of women with pathological conditions in the fields of gynaecology and obstetrics.

- Initiation into care in the field of medicine and surgery. Initiation shall include theoretical instruction and clinical practice.

The theoretical and technical training (Part A of the training programme) shall be balanced and coordinated with the clinical training (Part B of the same programme) in such a way that the knowledge and experience listed in this Schedule may be acquired in an adequate manner.

Clinical instruction shall take the form of supervised in-service training in hospital departments or other health services approved by the competent authorities or bodies. As part of this training, student midwives shall participate in the activities of the departments concerned insofar as those activities contribute to their training. They shall be taught the responsibilities involved in the activities of midwives.

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Part 4

Course of training for pharmacists

- Plant and animal biology
- Physics
- General and inorganic chemistry
- Organic chemistry
- Analytical chemistry
- Pharmaceutical chemistry, including analysis of medicinal products
- General and applied biochemistry (medical)
- Anatomy and physiology, pathology and pathophysiology; medical terminology
- Microbiology
- Pharmacology and pharmacotherapy
- Pharmaceutical technology
- Biopharmaceutical technology
- Toxicology
- Pharmacognosy
- Legislation and, where appropriate, professional ethics.
- Genetics and pharmacogenomics
- Immunology
- Clinical Pharmacy
- Pharmaceutical Care
- Social Pharmacy
- Public health, including epidemiology
- Pharmacy practice
- Pharmacoeconomics

The balance between theoretical and practical training shall, in respect of each subject, give sufficient importance to theory to maintain the university character of the training.

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