



Just About to Graduate

What you need to know



0345 772 6100
rcn.org.uk/students

Now that you've finished your nurse training, done all your practice placements and written all your essays, you probably just want to get on with being a nurse.

There are a few more hoops to jump through, however, not least registering with the NMC. If you're not registered, you're not a nurse – and remember that it is an offence to falsely represent yourself as being on the register.

If you have recently qualified as a nurse in the UK, you can register with the NMC by completing an application form and paying the subscription fee. You'll be sent an application pack once the NMC has received your course completion details from the higher education institute (HEI) where you were a nursing student. The HEI will then forward your application to the NMC.



Order 15 (reg 2) 17.12.25 (rev 59) (NMC) (July 9) 6 (marks) 32.5 (once) 6 (hand) 4 (J10) 3.591 (usu) 18 (o)

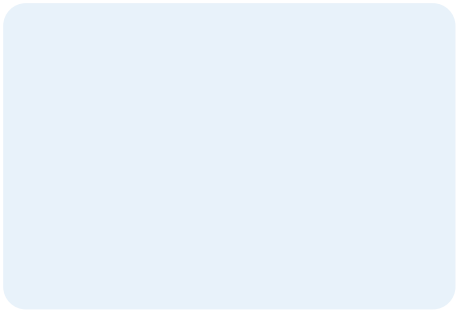


What is preceptorship?

A period of quality preceptorship with a skilled mentor for several months at the start of your career can help you get off to the best possible start, enabling you to develop your confidence, skills and professionalism.

To some degree your learning starts here – your employer and your colleagues should not expect you to emerge from your training as the complete, fully rounded nursing package. What you need to develop now

is the neJ0 -1e (u n)-8.7 (321.2 (i2993-)-8-1.7 3(i)-1y .1 (6r)-1.1(s)11.1)2.1 (g)-0h(d y)6.6 y rnodleg
rece2t212.1 (o)-9.6 (c)9.7 (s)5.9 (b)2 (v)11.0.416.2 (r)6.9.7 (a)1.2 (e)3 (7-9t- y)6.5 (o)-10. m3r
k7-9t21(r)-0.7 (i)-4.3 (o)-9.3 (r a)-1.78it p11.1 (e)11 (t)15.5 (e)-7.6 (n)9.61(r)-0.
hp neteparriuei8.7 (321.24h)-7.7 1giiip we
rece2t212.1 (o)-9.6 (r)-9.7 (s)-5.8 (h)-2 in d(c)-8.3 (o)-9.6 (m)-7.3 (m310.6 (u



Preceptorship

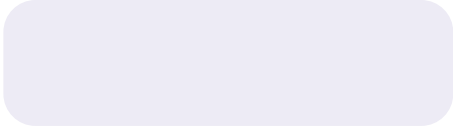
of staff, boosts staff morale, and reduces the risk of complaints. All of the above may be useful arguments if your employer is proving slow to assign you a mentor. So what should you look

All registered nurses must follow the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) Code of conduct at all times, and other members of the team should also use it to guide their practice. The Code (2015) presents the professional standards that nurses and midwives must uphold in order to be registered to practise in the UK.

It reflects the world in which we live and work today, and changing roles and expectations of nurses and midwives. It is structured around four themes – prioritise people, practise effectively, preserve safety and promote professionalism and trust. Developed in collaboration with many who care about good nursing and midwifery, the Code can be used by nurses and midwives as a way of reinforcing their professionalism. Failure to comply with the Code may bring their fitness to practise into question.

A key addition to the Code is: 20.10 use all forms of spoken, written and digital communication (including social media and networking sites) responsibly, respecting the right to privacy of others at all times.

To familiarise yourself with the Code, visit: nmc.org.uk/code

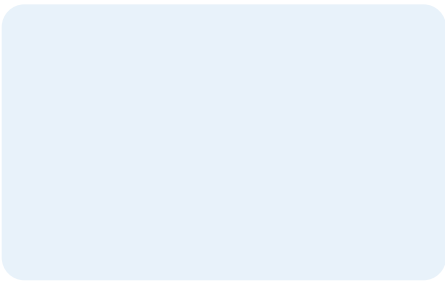


The Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) introduced revalidation in April 2016 for all staff registered with the NMC. As a newly registered nurse this won't affect you just yet but you should be aware that you will have to renew three years after your registration. It is important to note that you will need to pay your annual fee to the NMC to maintain your name on the register. This will be due on the anniversary of your first registration each year.

What is revalidation?

Revalidation is the method by which you will renew your registration every three years. It is the way in which nurses and midwives demonstrate to the NMC that they continue to practice safely and effectively, and can remain on the

Professional indemnity



The RCN runs a range of campaigns that promote nursing, champion high quality care, and fight against harmful cuts to health care.

As a member you can get involved in RCN campaigns and help us to promote nursing, champion great patient care, and shape the future of the profession.

A snapshot of some of our campaigns:

Fair Pay For Nursing
Recognising the complexity of
skil20ay

Finding your feet

If you are planning on working in the NHS in England, it is important that you familiarise yourself with the *Leading Change, Adding Value* (NHS England, 2016) framework for all nursing, midwifery and care staff, wherever they work and whatever role they might have. It builds upon *Compassion in Practice* (DH, 2012) and is directly aligned with the *Five Year Forward View* (DH, 2014) and its vision to integrate health and social care services, improve the adoption of preventative measures and narrow three gaps in:

- **health and wellbeing:**
A greater focus on prevention

If you are planning on working in the NHS in Wales, it is advisable that you familiarise yourself with Welsh Government strategies. The following link will act as a gateway for a better understanding of the context and direction of health and social care in Wales <https://beta.gov.wales/review-health-and-social-care?lang=en> It would also be beneficial for you to be aware of the *Post-Registration Career Framework for Nurses in Wales* <http://gov.wales/topics/health/professionals/nursing/professional/?lang=en>

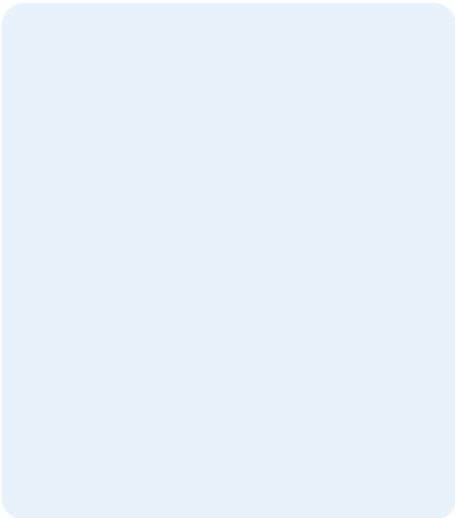
If you are planning on working in the health and social care (HSC) sector or the independent sector in Northern Ireland, it is important that you familiarise yourself with the current Northern Ireland government strategies. The strategic direction for health is contained in the Health Ministers vision *Health and Wellbeing 2026: Delivering Together*.

Delivering Care: Nurse Staffing in Northern Ireland is a policy framework that aims to support the provision of high quality care which is safe and effective in hospital and community settings, through the development of a framework to determine staffing ranges



If you are planning to work in Scotland, there are a few key national health policies it is important for you to be familiar with.

The Scottish Government's *Nursing 2030 Vision* sets out what nursing needs to look like by 2030 – capturing what is currently done well and what needs to



Scotland will legislate for a National Care Service during the current Scottish Parliament – this is to be in place by 2026 and will affect how integration works.

The Health and Care (Staffing) (Scotland) Act was passed in 2019, and the RCN had been working

The RCN represents nurses and nursing, promotes excellence in practice and shapes health policies.

www.rcn.org.uk
RCN Customer Service Centre
0345 772 6100

The Royal College of Nursing
20 Cavendish Square
London W1G 0RN

August 2021
Publication code: 009 800

