



ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

CHAPTER 9.17

NURSES AND MIDWIVES (REGISTRATION) ACT and Subsidiary Legislation

Revised Edition

showing the law as at 31 December 2017

This is a revised edition of the law, prepared by the Law Commission under the authority of the Law Commission Act, Cap. 1.03.

This edition contains a consolidation of the following laws—

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S.R.O. 28/2016	

Published in
2019
Consolidated, Revised and Prepared under the Authority of the Law Commission Act,
on behalf of the Government of Saint Christopher and Nevis
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CHAPTER 9.17
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CHAPTER 9.17

NURSES AND MIDWIVES (REGISTRATION) ACT

AN ACT TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE REGISTRATION OF NURSES AND MIDWIVES, AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED OR INCIDENTAL PURPOSES.

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Nurses and Midwives (Registration) Act.

Interpretation.

2. (1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—
“birthing centre” means a facility at which a woman is scheduled to give birth following a normal, uncomplicated pregnancy, but does not include a hospital or the residence of the woman giving birth;
“Council” means the Nursing Council established under section 3;
“enrolled nursing assistant” means a person registered under Part IV of this Act;
“midwife” means a person registered under Part III of this Act;
“Minister” means the Minister responsible for Health;
“nurse” means a person who has completed a programme of basic generalized nursing education from a recognised School of Nursing and is authorised by the Nursing Council to practice nursing in Saint Kitts and Nevis and includes a professional nurse, a nurse with expanded roles such as a nurse anaesthetist, nurse practitioner, public health nurse or any nurse specially designated by the Council as having an expanded role;
“Register” means the record of nurses and midwives maintained by the Council under section 4.
(2) The use of the female gender shall include the male gender.

PART II

NURSES

Establishment and constitution of Nursing Council.

3. (1) For the purposes of this Act there is established a Nursing and Midwives Council for Saint Christopher and Nevis which shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal.
(2) The Council shall be constituted in accordance with the provisions contained in the First Schedule and shall have responsibility for—

(a) regulating the education, qualification, training, practice and conduct of nurses, midwives, nursing assistants and any other category of persons involved in nursing care; and

(b) to keep an index of student nurses.

(3) The seal of the Council shall be authenticated in the prescribed manner and any document purporting to be so sealed and authenticated shall be receivable as evidence of the particulars stated in that document.

Register of nurses.

4. (1) It shall be the duty of the Council to maintain a Register of nurses in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

(2) The Register shall consist of the following parts—

(a) a general part containing the names of all nurses who satisfy the conditions of admission to that part of the Register maintained for professional nurses;

(b) a general part containing the names of all midwives who satisfy the conditions for admission to that part of the Register maintained for midwives;

(c) any other prescribed part.

(3) A certificate under the seal of the Council duly authenticated in the prescribed manner stating that any person is, or was at any date, duly registered under this Act shall be evidence in all courts of law of the facts stated in the certificate.

(4) Any reference in this Act to “the Register” shall, unless the context otherwise requires, be deemed to include a reference to any part of the Register, and the expression “registered” shall be construed accordingly.

Particulars of registration

5. (1) The Registrar of the Council shall ensure that, in respect of every person registered as a nurse under this Act, an entry is made in the Nurses Register comprising at least the following particulars of that person—

(a) full names and address;

(b) date of birth;

(c) qualifications and the date of attainment thereof;

(d) date of registration; and

(e) such other particulars as the Council may from time to time direct.

(2) The Registrar shall enter in the Nurses Register such necessary and proper alterations to the particulars therein as the Council shall direct, and every death, or other event affecting the registration of a nurse, shall be duly recorded in the Register by the Registrar.

(3) Any person may inspect the Register and may obtain from the Registrar a copy of an extract from the Register on payment of the prescribed fee.

(4) Subject to the provisions of this Act, a person whose name has been removed from the Nurses Register shall cease from the date of that removal to be registered as a nurse for the purposes of this Act.

Registration of nurses.

6. (1) There shall be recorded in the Register—
- (a) all persons duly qualified and registered in accordance with the Nurses Registration Act, Chapter 223 and under the Midwives Registration Act, Chapter 222 of the 1961 Revised Laws of Saint Christopher and Nevis;
 - (b) all persons who having made application to the Council in writing in such form, and paid the required fee, have satisfied the Council that they are duly qualified to be registered under this Act.
- (2) A person may satisfy the Council that she is duly qualified to be registered as a nurse under this Act if the person—
- (a) passes such examinations, and completes such course of training, and has the necessary experience in the nursing of the sick as may be prescribed; or
 - (b) is the holder of a degree, diploma, certificate or other documentary evidence of a qualification approved by the Council and has undergone a course of training which the Council accepts as adequate;
 - (c) produces evidence to the satisfaction of the Council that the applicant—
 - (i) is of good character;
 - (ii) is of the prescribed age; and
 - (iii) who was, at least three years prior to the date of the application, legitimately engaged in practice as a qualified nurse in attendance upon the sick under conditions that would be acceptable to the Council.
- (3) Before granting registration as a nurse under this Act the Council may require any person—
- (a) to pass any specified examination, or any specified part of, or subject in, a specified examination;
 - (b) to undergo a specified course of training or period of training at a place approved by the Council.

Certificate of registration.

7. (1) Every person shall, upon being registered under this Act as a nurse, be issued by the Registrar with a Certificate of Registration under the seal of the Council, in the prescribed form.
- (2) Every certificate issued under this section shall remain the property of the Council and shall be returned to the Registrar under those circumstances as may be prescribed by the Council.

Staff and expenses.

8. (1) The Council may appoint and employ at such remuneration and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit a Registrar and such officers, agents and servants as it thinks necessary for the proper carrying out of the provisions of this Act.

(2) The funds of the Council shall consist of such moneys as may from time to time be placed at its disposal for the purposes of this Act by the Legislature and such other moneys as may be lawfully paid to or donated to the Council.

(3) The Council shall keep proper accounts of its receipts, payments, credits and liabilities and such accounts shall be audited annually by an auditor appointed in each year by the Council with the approval of the Minister of Finance.

(4) The Council shall in each year prepare and submit to the Minister on or before the thirty-first day of May a report of its proceedings during the year ending on the thirty-first day of December in the preceding year, including a statement of its accounts audited in accordance with subsection (3) of this section.

Fees to be paid to the Council.

9. (1) There shall be paid to the Council in respect of every application to be examined or to be registered under this Act, and in respect of the retention in any year of the name of any person on the Register, such fees, respectively as the Council may, with the approval of the Minister from time to time determine.

(2) The Council may charge for any certificate or other document issued, or in respect of any services performed by it, such fees as may be prescribed.

(3) The Minister may, by Order, make changes to any of the fees prescribed in rules or regulations made pursuant to this Act.

Protection of members of Council.

10. (1) No member of the Council shall be personally liable for any act or default of the Council done or omitted to be done in good faith in the course of the business of the Council.

(2) Where any member of the Council is exempt from liability by reason only of the provisions of this section the Council shall be liable to the extent that it would be if the member were its servant or agent.

PART III

MIDWIVES

Application of Part II to Part III.

11. Part II applies equally to the Midwives Register as it applies to the Nurses Register and references in Part II to nurses shall be read and construed as references to midwives.

Birthing Centres.

12. For the purposes of this Part, persons employed at a birthing centre as midwives shall be subject to the provisions of this Act.

Appointment of Midwifery Committee.

13. The Minister may, in consultation with the Council, appoint a Committee to manage the midwifery aspects of the Register and the qualifications for admission to the profession of midwifery.

Person entitled to register as a midwife.

14. A person shall be entitled to be registered as a midwife who holds—
- (a) a licence entitling her to practice in any country in the Commonwealth;
 - (b) a certificate permitting her to practice from the Central Midwives Board of England;
 - (c) the prescribed certificate of midwifery of the Health Sciences Division of the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College, dated within six months of the application; or
 - (d) such other licence or certificate as the Council may approve.

No unregistered person to act as midwife.

15. (1) No person shall act as a midwife, whether for fee or reward or otherwise, who is not registered as a midwife under this Act, and any person so acting, who is not registered, shall be guilty of an offence under this Act.

(2) There shall be no conviction under this section in any case where it is proved to the satisfaction of the Magistrate that it was impossible to obtain the services of a registered midwife.

Services of medical practitioner or midwife.

16. (1) In the absence of confinement at a recognized medical hospital or other approved institution it shall be the responsibility of—

- (a) the husband, where the woman is married;
- (b) the man in a common law union;
- (c) the woman, where she is a single woman not in a common law union; or
- (d) the parents or guardian of a minor,

to secure the attendance of a duly qualified medical practitioner or a registered midwife upon the woman during her confinement, and the failure on the part of the person responsible to secure the attendance shall be an offence under this Act.

(2) It shall be a defence to any charge under this section to show that the person responsible, as referred to in subsection (1), made every reasonable effort to secure the attendance of a duly qualified medical practitioner or a registered midwife at the confinement.

Duties of midwife in emergency.

17. (1) In any case where it appears to a midwife that a woman requires emergency treatment in connection with childbirth, the midwife shall without avoidable delay take all reasonable steps—

- (a) to obtain the services of a medical practitioner;
- (b) to procure the admission of the woman to hospital; and
- (c) to report the case to the Chief Medical Officer and provide him with such information as he may reasonably require.

(2) In this section “emergency treatment” means any form of treatment required to be performed on or administered to a woman in connection with childbirth, the performance or administration of which, ought reasonably to be regarded as being beyond the competence of a midwife.

PART IV

ENROLLED NURSING ASSISTANTS

Roll of Nursing Assistants.

18. (1) The Council shall maintain a Roll, to be known as the Roll of Nursing Assistants, in a form that the Council approves, for the enrolment of nursing assistants.

(2) The provisions of Part II shall, to the extent that there are no inconsistencies, apply equally to the Roll, with references to nurses being read and construed as references to enrolled nursing assistants.

(3) The Roll shall be open to inspection by any member of the public at all reasonable times.

(4) Every person who satisfies the Council that she has successfully completed the prescribed course of practical training recognized by the Council as qualifying that person to be an enrolled nursing assistant, that is to say, to undertake the basic care of patients under the supervision of a registered medical practitioner or a nurse, shall be qualified under this Act to be enrolled as a nursing assistant.

PART V

OFFENCES, PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS BY THE COUNCIL ETC.

Penalties for unlawful assumption of title of registered nurse and for falsification of Register.

19. (1) Any person who—

- (a) not being a person duly registered under this Act practices as a nurse or midwife or takes or uses the name or title of professional or registered nurse or midwife either alone or in combination with any name or title, addition, description, any other words or letters, or any uniform or badge, implying that the person is registered under this Act, or is recognized by law as a registered nurse or midwife; or
- (b) being a person whose name is included in any part of the Register, takes or uses any name, title, addition, description, uniform or badge, or otherwise does any act of any kind implying that the name of that person is included in some other part of the Register; or
- (c) at any time with intent to deceive makes use of any certificate of registration as a nurse or midwife issued under this Act to him or her or to any other person,

shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars in the case of a first offence and, in the case of a second or any subsequent offence to

five thousand dollars or in either case to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding six months.

(2) If any person wilfully makes, or causes to be made any falsification in any matter relating to the Register, that person shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable upon conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding three months.

Power to suspend etc.

20. (1) Subject to section 21, if a nurse, midwife or enrolled nursing assistant, is convicted of an offence under this Act, or is, after due inquiry held by the Council, found to be guilty of an act or omission amounting to improper or disgraceful conduct in a professional respect, the Council may—

- (a) caution or censure her;
- (b) direct that, during such period as shall be specified; her registration or enrolment shall be suspended; or
- (c) direct that her name be removed from the Register or the Roll.

(2) The Council shall provide in the General Nursing Rules for the circumstances in which a name that is suspended or removed from the Register or the Roll may be restored to the Register or the Roll.

(3) For the purposes of proceedings at any inquiry held by it, the Council shall have the power—

- (a) to administer oaths;
- (b) to summon persons to attend and give evidence; and
- (c) to order the production of documents.

(4) All summonses and orders under this section shall be issued by the Council.

(5) The Council shall cause to be recorded a summary of all oral evidence given at an inquiry under this section.

Council to recommend disciplinary action to Public Service Commission.

21. In the case of a nurse, midwife or enrolled nursing assistant who is a public servant, the Council may recommend to the Public Service Commission that the name of the person be suspended or removed from the Register or the Roll or other disciplinary action taken if the person is found by the Council to have been guilty of misconduct.

Appeals.

22. (1) Any person aggrieved by a decision of the Council to do the following—

- (a) refuse to register or enroll that person;
- (b) remove the name of a nurse, midwife or nursing assistant from the Register or the Roll;
- (c) suspend the effect of registration or enrolment of her name; or
- (d) refuse to restore her name to the Register or Roll,

may (subject to the provisions of section 87(1)(a) and (3) of the Constitution) appeal to the High Court, and in any such appeal the judge may give such directions in the matter as he thinks proper, and any order of the High Court under this section shall be final.

(2) The Council may appear as respondent and be heard on any appeal under this section and, for the purposes of enabling directions to be given as to the costs of any such appeal, the Council shall be deemed to be a party thereto whether or not it appears at the hearing of the appeal.

PART VI

MISCELLANEOUS

Reciprocal agreements.

23. Where there is a reciprocity agreement concerning nurses between Saint Christopher and Nevis and any foreign country, a person who proves to the satisfaction of the Council that she is registered in the foreign country generally as a nurse, shall be entitled, on making an application in the prescribed manner and paying the relevant fee, to be duly registered in a corresponding manner under this Act.

Confidentiality.

24. Every person who is registered as a nurse, midwife, or enrolled nursing assistant pursuant to this Act shall keep in the strictest confidence all matters that come to her knowledge concerning the medical condition and other related matters pertaining to the patient or client and the nurse, midwife, or enrolled nursing assistant shall be required to take an oath of secrecy in that regard.

Penalty

25. Every offence under this Act for which a penalty is not prescribed shall be punishable on summary conviction by a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars or by imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months.

Council to make Rules.

- 26.** (1) The Council may make rules for the following purposes—
- (a) regulating the formation, maintenance and publication of the Register;
 - (b) regulating the conditions of admission to the Register;
 - (c) regulating the conduct of any examinations which may be prescribed as a condition of admission to the Register, and any matters ancillary to or connected with any such examination;
 - (d) prescribing the causes for which, the conditions under which, and the manner in which nurses may be fined, suspended or removed from the Register, the procedure for the restoration to the Register of nurses whose names have been removed from the Register, and the fee to be payable on such restoration;

- (e) enabling the Council to constitute committees and for authorizing the delegation of any of the powers of the Council to those committees, and for regulating the proceedings of committees;
- (f) prescribing fees to be paid by nurses duly registered under this Act and for the payment and recovery of those fees;
- (g) governing the establishment and functioning of birthing centres;
- (h) generally for making provision for any matters that the Council considers necessary for the effective administration of this Act and in particular those matters concerning the issuing of certificates to nurses registered under this Act and with respect to the uniform or badge which may be worn by nurses so registered;
- (i) for prescribing anything which under this Act is to be prescribed; and
- (j) generally to make provision for any matter which the Council is satisfied that provision should be made for the purpose of carrying this Act into effect.

(2) Rules made by the Council shall not take effect until they have been approved by the Minister and published in the *Gazette*.

FIRST SCHEDULE*(Section 3)*

CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNCIL

1. The Council shall consist of—
 - (a) the persons who are for the time being the—
 - (i) Principal Nursing Officer;
 - (ii) Director of Institutional Nursing Services (the Matron) of the Joseph N France General Hospital;
 - (iii) Director of Institutional Nursing Services (the Matron) of the Alexandra Hospital; and
 - (iv) the head of the Health Sciences Division of the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College; and
 - (v) Coordinator of Community Nursing Services; and
 - (vi) Supervisor of Community Nursing Services in the Island of Nevis.
 - (b) such other persons, not less than six, as the Minister may appoint (hereinafter referred to as the appointed members).
 2. An appointed member of the Council, shall subject to the provisions of this Schedule, hold office for a period not exceeding three years and every such member shall be eligible for re-appointment but shall serve no more than two consecutive terms.
 3. If a member of the Council is absent or unable to act as such the Minister may appoint some other person to act in the place of that member.
 4. An appointed member of the Council may at any time resign his office as a member by instrument in writing addressed to the Minister and the resignation shall take effect as from the date of receipt by the Minister of that instrument.
 5. The Minister may at any time revoke any appointment made by him under this Schedule if he thinks it expedient so to do.
 6. If a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Council the vacancy shall be filled by the appointment of another member who shall, subject to the provisions of this Schedule, hold office for the remainder of the period for which the previous member was appointed.
 7. The names of all members of the Council as first constituted and every change in the membership thereafter shall be published in the *Gazette*.
 8. The Council shall have a principal office in Basseterre but may maintain branch offices and correspondents as the Council thinks fit.
 9. The powers of the Council may be exercised notwithstanding a vacancy in its number.
 10. Subject to the provisions of this Schedule the Council may regulate its own procedure.
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SECOND SCHEDULE

(Section 26)

NURSES RULES

PART I

GENERAL

Short title.

1. These Rules may be cited as the Nurses Rules.

Interpretation.

2. In these Rules unless the context otherwise requires—

“Act” means the Nurses and Midwives (Registration) Act, Cap. 9:17;

“affiliated school of nursing” means an institution which is associated with a complete school of nursing and, in the opinion of the Council, is capable of providing a complete nursing education for persons to qualify them for admission to the General or Midwifery Register of Nurses or a complete nursing training to qualify persons for admission to the Register of enrolled nursing assistants;

“approved school of nursing” means the Health Sciences Division of the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College or any institution approved by the Council as a training school or an affiliated training school for the purposes of these Rules;

“community nurse” means a registered nurse midwife who holds a Certificate, Diploma or Degree in Public Health or Community Health Nursing from a recognised institution approved by the Council;

“complete school of nursing” means a school of nursing which in the opinion of the Council, is capable of providing a complete nursing education for persons to qualify them for admission to the General Register of Nurses;

“Council” means the Nursing Council established under section 3 of the Act;

“enrolled nursing assistant” means a person who has undergone the prescribed training and has been enrolled in the Register for nursing assistants in the Federation;

“Health Sciences Division” means the division of the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College that has responsibility for the Nursing Education Programme;

“index” means the index of nursing students kept by the Council in accordance with these Rules;

“nurse” has the meaning given to it by section 2 of the Nurses and Midwives Registration Act,

“Nurse Educator” means a registered nurse midwife who holds a certificate, diploma or degree in nursing education from a recognised institution, approved by the Council;

“nurse practitioner” means a Registered nurse midwife who has successfully completed an approved formal nurse practitioner education programme in a recognised institution approved by the Council;

“nursing student” means a person who is undergoing training with a view to registration as a nurse for the general part of the Register;

“psychiatric nurse” means a nurse who has successfully completed formal psychiatric education at a recognised institution approved by the Council;

“pupil midwife” means a person who is undergoing training with a view to being registered as a midwife under the appropriate part of the Register;

“Registrar” means the person for the time being appointed to act as Registrar of the Council under section 8(1) of the Act;

“RGNCE” means the Regional General Nursing Council Examination;

“RENr” means the Regional Examination for Nurse Registration as agreed upon by the Nursing Councils of the CARICOM region.

PART II

NURSES EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION

Approved schools of nursing.

3. (1) The Council shall prepare and keep a list of approved schools of nursing and affiliated schools of nursing—

- (a) schools of nursing for registered nurses;
- (b) complete schools of nursing for enrolled nursing assistants; and
- (c) affiliated schools of nursing for registered nurses.

(2) In approving a school of nursing which is an affiliated school of nursing the Council shall direct what proportion of the training shall be spent in each of the affiliated institutions.

(3) The Council may on such terms as it thinks fit, revoke, cancel or annul the approval granted to any school of nursing under these Rules.

Discontinued training.

4. If a nursing student has discontinued her training, the approved school of nursing in which such training was discontinued shall report the fact to the Council; and if the student has at the time of the discontinuance completed six months or more of nursing education, the school shall send to the Council a statement showing the nursing education that the student received up until the point when the training was discontinued.

Curriculum of study for Nursing Students.

5. In the training of student nurses, pupil midwives and nursing assistants, the curriculum of study set out in Schedule 3 shall be followed.

Selection and admittance of candidates for training.

6. (1) A person who is desirous of entering the—

- (a) General Nursing Education Programme;
- (b) Midwifery Education Programme;
- (c) Enrolled Nursing Assistant Programme,

may subject to sub-rule (2), apply to the Department of Nursing Education of the Health Sciences Division for admittance and suitable applicants shall be selected to enter the relevant part of the Nursing Education Programme.

(2) Applicants for entrance to a nursing education programme shall be qualified for admittance to the programme if they satisfy the requirements set out in Schedule 3.

(3) Selection of candidates for the programme shall be made by a Selection Committee, the composition of which shall be determined by the Council.

(4) Persons who are admitted to the General Nursing Education programme shall—

- (a) be assessed by formative and summative evaluation throughout the duration of the programme;
- (b) be required to successfully complete all programme requirements; and
- (c) be required to be assessed on the competencies and domains of the programme requirements referred to in Schedule 3, by sitting a Final General Nursing Examination.

(5) The Training Institution, through which the General Nursing Education Programme was delivered shall be responsible for developing, administering and marking the Final General Nursing Examination for and on behalf of the Nursing Council.

(6) Subject to rule 8, a candidate who—

- (a) is desirous of entering for the RENR shall first be required, as a prerequisite to writing that exam, to have sat and passed the Final General Nursing Examination;
- (b) is desirous of having his or her name entered on the Register of the Nursing Council as a registered nurse shall be required to have sat and passed the RENR as a prerequisite for being so registered.

Regional Examination for Nurse Registration (RENR).

7. (1) A nursing student shall be entitled to enter for the RENR once the student has met the following criteria—

- (a) completed the specified percentage of theoretical hours;
- (b) completed the specified percentage of clinical hours;
- (c) completed the training institution's Final General Nursing Examination; and
- (d) deposited the following with the Registrar of the Council—
 - (i) duly authenticated certification that the student has successfully completed the nursing education programme as being necessary to qualify him or her for admission to write the RENR;
 - (ii) duly authenticated certification that the student has completed the prescribed period of nursing education and has had systematic

instruction in each of the subjects prescribed in the curriculum for the examination contained in Schedule 3;

- (iii) a record of good conduct;
- (iv) a birth certificate;
- (v) a marriage certificate, where applicable; and
- (vi) the prescribed registration fees.

(2) A candidate shall be permitted to write the RENR on three occasions only and must do so within a five year period.

(3) A candidate who fails the RENR twice shall not be permitted to re-write the examination for a final time until his or her case is reviewed, and where necessary, if the candidate agrees to take remedial tutorials as recommended by the Council.

(4) A candidate may seek permission in writing from the Council to withdraw from writing the examination on the grounds that—

- (a) he or she is suffering from ill-health;
- (b) he or she is ill-prepared to write the examination; or
- (c) any other extenuating circumstances, which would be determined by the Council.

Conviction may result in non-admittance to sitting of examinations.

8. Should it come to the notice of the Council that a candidate for entrance to any Council examinations has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor or has been guilty of conduct which, had she been a Registered nurse, would in the opinion of the Council have rendered her liable to disciplinary action under these Rules, the Council may, after making such other reasonable investigations as may be necessary and giving the candidate the opportunity of stating her case, refuse to admit her to the examination in question.

Appointment of examiners.

9. For the purposes of the examinations to be held pursuant to section 6 of the Act, the Minister, in consultation with the Health Sciences Division and the Council—

- (a) shall appoint examiners as prescribed in the Schedule, who shall hold prescribed examinations for persons who may offer themselves for examination under the provisions of this Act and the examiners shall report the results of the examination to the Council; and
- (b) may also appoint such other persons as may be deemed necessary to assist the examiners.

Contents of register.

10. (1) The Register shall contain the particulars set out in Schedule 1 to these Rules and shall contain a General Part and such other parts which shall include the names of psychiatric and other specially qualified nurses, as the Council shall determine.

(2) Each person admitted to the Register shall be assigned a registration number.

(3) A nurse whose name is included in the Register shall notify the Registrar of every change of her permanent postal address, and for the purposes of these Rules the last notified address shall be considered to be the registered address of such nurse.

Annual registration.

11. (1) A nurse who desires her name to be retained in the Register for any year subsequent to the first year in which it was initially included on the Register, shall, on or before the 31st day of December of that year, forward to the Registrar notification in Form 5 in Schedule 2 of his or her intention to remain on the Register.

(2) Where the Registrar receives the notice of intention to remain on the Register, then an acknowledgement of receipt shall be forwarded to the nurse within thirty days of receiving the notice.

(3) Where the Registrar does not receive the notification of an intention to remain on the Register within the allotted time, then the Registrar shall send to the nurse not later than the fifteenth day of January of that year, a notice of expiration of Registration as set out in Form 6 in Schedule 2.

Removal from register for failure of notification.

12. If notification of registration is not received on or before the fifteenth day of February in any year the name of the nurse may be removed on the direction of the Council.

Reinstatement of name on register.

13. Where pursuant to rule 12, the name of a nurse is removed from the Register, the nurse may apply to the Registrar to have his or her name reinstated on the Register on payment of a fee.

Publication of register in the *Gazette*.

14. Subject to rule 15, as soon as possible after the first day of March of each year, the names of all nurses in the Register together with the particulars of registration contained in the Register shall be published in the *Gazette* by the Registrar.

Duties of registrar in relation to register of Nurses.

15. Subject to the provisions of Part II of the Act, it shall be the duty of the Registrar—

- (a) to remove from the Register a name which the Council under rule 24 of these Rules directs him or her to remove and to reinstate any such name which the Council under that rule directs him or her to reinstate;
- (b) to correct in accordance with the Council's directions, an entry in the Register which the Council directs her in writing to correct, being in the opinion of the Council an entry which was incorrectly made;
- (c) to make from time to time any necessary alterations in any of the particulars set out in Schedule 4 which are contained in the Register of Nurses;
- (d) to make the appropriate note in the Register of Nurses when the Council suspends the registration of a nurse under rule 24 of these Rules.

PART III
REGISTRATION

Registration of Nurses.

16. (1) A person who has passed the final examination applicable to the part of the Register to which he or she seeks admission, shall be entitled to have his or her name entered in the Register of Nurses.

(2) Pursuant to subsection (1), any person desirous of having his or her name entered in the Register of Nurses shall apply in Form 1 set out in Schedule 2 to these Rules.

(3) Every person who applies for registration as a nurse in accordance with subrule (1) and—

(a) furnishes such satisfactory references as to character as the Council may require; and

(b) pays the registration fee prescribed by the Council,

shall be registered as a nurse; and the name of every nurse who has passed the final examination for the general part or any other part of the Register shall be entered in that part of the Register.

(4) No person who is under the age of eighteen years shall be registered in any part of the Register.

Saving for existing practitioners.

17. (1) Any person who desires to be entered in the Register as an existing practitioner shall, within a period of two years after the date of the coming into operation of these Rules—

(a) apply to the Registrar in Form 2 set out in Schedule 2 to these Rules to be admitted to the Register as an existing practitioner;

(b) shall provide the Registrar with the names and addresses of at least three persons as character referees.

(2) (a) At least one of the referees mentioned in subrule (1) paragraph (b) shall be a reliable member of the community, not being a relative of the applicant, who has known her personally for not less than three years; and

(b) the additional referees shall be reputable health care professionals including matrons of hospitals, coordinators of community health nursing services, registered medical practitioners, or other competent and responsible persons under whom the applicant worked as a nurse.

(3) The Council shall invite the persons so named by the applicant to submit testimonials as to her character and professional efficiency in Form 3 set out in Schedule 2 to these Rules, and any testimonial so submitted shall be sent directly to the Registrar.

(4) The applicant shall, if required by the Registrar—

(a) submit a certificate of birth, baptism or an affidavit satisfactory to the Council as to the date of her birth;

(b) provide a certificate of her marriage, if the applicant is married and required by the Registrar to do so.

(5) Every person who applies for admission to the Register as an existing practitioner shall, at the time of such application, pay to the Registrar the registration fee prescribed by the Council.

(6) No person shall be admitted to the Register as an existing practitioner unless he or she produces to the Council satisfactory documentary evidence that he or she has attained the age of eighteen years.

Qualification for Registration of Existing Practitioners.

18. The following evidence of adequate knowledge and experience shall be required from every person who makes application as an existing practitioner, namely, a certificate showing that—

- (a) the applicant has passed the Final General Nursing Council Examination;
- (b) the applicant was, for at least three years prior to the date of the application, legitimately engaged in practice as a nurse in attendance on the sick in a general hospital or community setting approved by the Council.

Application for Registration of Persons Trained Outside The State.

19. (1) Any person having been trained outside of Saint Christopher and Nevis who desires to be registered under the provisions of section 7 of the Act shall make application for registration to the Registrar on Form 4 set out in Schedule 2; and the applicant shall pay at the time of such application the prescribed registration fee.

(2) Subject to the requirements of the Nurses and Midwives (Registration) Act, rule 7 of these Rules and subrule (3) herein, the Council may register an applicant under this rule.

(3) The Council may, after assessment of the nursing education, training qualifications and general health status of any applicant under this rule, require the applicant to complete satisfactorily such further period of nursing education or pass such examination, or do both, as it may direct as a condition for registration.

Certificate of Admission to Register.

20. (1) Every nurse admitted to the Register shall pay an initial fee prescribed by the Council and be granted a certificate in the form set out in Schedule 4 to these Rules.

(2) The certificate shall be sealed with the seal of the Council, and no document purporting to be a certificate of admission to the Register shall be valid unless it is sealed with the seal of the Council.

Duplicate Certificate of Registration.

21. (1) If the certificate of registration is lost or accidentally destroyed, the person to whom it was granted may apply to the Council for a replacement.

- (2) The application referred to in subsection (1) shall be submitted with—
 - (a) the prescribed application fee; and

(b) a supporting affidavit setting out the circumstances in which the original certificate was lost or destroyed.

(3) The Council may, once the requirements of subrule (2) have been met, grant to the applicant a replacement certificate which shall be marked "Duplicate".

Certificate of verification of registration.

22. A person shall be entitled upon payment to the Registrar of a fee prescribed by the Council, to be provided with a certificate under the seal of the Council certifying that on a specified date, or during a specified period, a nurse was or was not duly registered.

PART IV

SUSPENSION AND REMOVAL OF NAMES FROM REGISTER

Powers of Council subject to section 21 of Act.

23. In this Part, the powers exercisable by the Council shall be subject to section 21 of the Act.

Suspension and striking off.

24. (1) If the Council discovers that any person who is registered as a nurse—
- (a) is suffering from an illness rendering such person unfit to practice nursing or to perform satisfactorily the duties of a nurse;
 - (b) has obtained such registration through misleading, false or fraudulent representation;
 - (c) is guilty of dishonesty, negligence or incompetence, in the performance of her duties as a nurse; or
 - (d) conduct that is unbecoming to a nurse,

the Council may, if it thinks fit, recommend to the Public Services Commission either the suspension of the registration of such person for a period not exceeding one year, or that the name of the person be struck off the Register.

(2) Where the name of a person is struck off the Register, the Council may, if it thinks just, and after consultation with the Public Services Commission, direct that the name of a person which has been struck off the Register be reinstated.

- (3) The Council shall, within 30 days after the—
- (a) registration of a person has been suspended;
 - (b) name of a person has been struck off the Register; or
 - (c) reinstatement of a name which was struck off the Register,

cause notice of the appropriate fact to be published in the *Gazette*.

(4) Whenever the name of a person is struck off the Register, the Council may in writing require such person to return to the Registrar her Certificate of Registration and such person shall comply with that requirement forthwith and in any case, not more than seven days of the date of the receipt of the request to return the certificate.

Removal of name of nurse from register.

25. (1) When in relation to a person registered as a nurse (in this part of these Rules referred to as “the respondent”) an allegation is made to the Council as to any of the matters mentioned in paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of subrule (1) of rule 24 of these Rules, the Registrar, after making such further inquiries relative to the allegation as he or she thinks necessary, shall lay the matter before the Disciplinary Committee of the Council (in this part of these Rules referred to as “the Committee”), who shall report thereon to the Council.

(2) The Committee may at any stage of the case seek the advice of the Director of Public Prosecutions, and may request him or her to provide assistance that would guide in supporting or refuting the allegations against the respondent, and may, in such cases as the Committee considers fit, decline to proceed with the matter unless the evidence in support of the charge, other than evidence of conviction, is verified by affidavit.

(3) Before reporting on a case to the Council the Committee shall give the respondent an opportunity to submit a written statement or explanation in relation to the case or have the person appear before the Committee to present his or her case.

(4) In any case in which it is proved to the Council by the certificate of a competent officer of the Court in which the proceeding took place that—

- (a) the respondent has been convicted of a felony or of any other serious offence;
- (b) has been sentenced to a term of imprisonment; and
- (c) that such conviction has not been subsequently quashed on appeal,

the Council shall recommend to the Public Services Commission that the name of the respondent be removed from the Register and if the recommendation of the Council is accepted, require the respondent to surrender the certificate of registration and badge, if any, to the Registrar.

(5) In any case in which the Council is satisfied upon the report of the Disciplinary Committee, that on the face of the facts, a case is made out for the removal of the respondent from the Register, the Council may request the Attorney General or the Director of Public Prosecutions to take all necessary steps for verifying the evidence to be submitted to the Council, and for obtaining the necessary documents and the attendance of witnesses.

- (6) (a) Where the Committee decides that a case should proceed to a hearing, the Registrar shall send to the respondent a notice in writing in the form set out in Schedule 5 to these Rules specifying the nature and particulars of the charge against her and informing her of the time and place of the meeting at which the case will be heard, and may require her to send or deliver to the Registrar her certificate and badge, if any, not later than the date on which the hearing takes place.
- (b) Such notice shall be sent to the registered address of the respondent contained in the Register or to any later address known to the Registrar and posted so as to allow at least twenty-one days to elapse between the day on which the notice is posted and the date fixed for the hearing.
- (7) (a) Subject to paragraph (b), the case shall be heard at a meeting of the Council of which at least seven days’ notice shall be sent by the

Registrar to each member of the Council at which meeting the respondent shall be entitled to be represented by legal counsel.

- (b) The respondent may be represented by legal counsel referred to in paragraph (a) if the respondent communicates to the Council that she intends to be so represented not less than seven days' notice of such intention shall be given to the Registrar.

(8) At the hearing of the case, any law officer of the Crown, the Registrar or other person appointed by the Council for the purpose, shall first state to the Council the facts of the case and the charge alleged against the respondent, and shall then adduce to the Council the evidence received in support of the charge, and the respondent or her representative shall be entitled to cross-examine any witness appearing against her on matters relevant to the charge.

(9) When the statement of the charge and the evidence in support thereof are concluded, the respondent, or her representative, shall be invited by the Chairperson to address the Council and to tender evidence in answer to the charge and the legal officer of the Crown, the Registrar or other person appointed by the Council for the purpose, shall be entitled to cross-examine any witness tendered in answer to the charge, and to reply upon the whole case, after the respondent or her representative has replied.

(10) If the respondent does not attend, either personally, or by representative, the Council may in the absence of any evidence of incapacity or other sufficiently good cause, proceed to hear and determine the case in her absence.

(11) Upon the conclusion of the case the Council shall after consideration of the relevant evidence, whether oral or documentary, pronounce its decision either forthwith or at a later date in writing or at a subsequent meeting.

(12) If the Council finds the charge against the respondent to be proved either in whole or in part, it may recommend to the Public Services Commission the removal of the respondent's name from the Register altogether, or for such period as it considers suitable.

(13) The Registrar shall forthwith inform the respondent by registered letter of the decision of the Council.

(14) In the case of the temporary removal of the respondent from the Register, the Registrar shall retain the badge during the period of removal, and shall delete her name from the Register during the period of removal, and in the case of complete removal shall delete the respondent's name from the Register and retain the badge.

Restoration of name of nurse to register.

26. (1) If the name of a nurse is struck off the Register under these Rules, application for restoration of the name to the Register may be made in writing addressed to the Registrar and signed by the applicant, stating the grounds on which the application is made.

(2) The application shall contain the names and addresses of two or more persons, of whom two shall be either Justices of the Peace, ministers of religion, registered medical practitioners or registered nurses who are in a position to identify the applicant and give evidence as to his or her professional reputation and conduct and the nature of her employment both before and since the date of his or her removal, and such other evidence as the Council may require.

(3) The Council may require the applicant to verify by an affidavit any statement made in her application, or any further statement which it may consider to

be necessary, and, may if it considers it necessary, require the applicant to attend in person at a meeting of the Council, or of any Committee of the Council at which the matter is to be considered.

- (4) (a) If upon consideration of the application and of the evidence furnished in support of it, the Council is satisfied that the name of the applicant should be restored to the Register, the Council may recommend this course of action to the Public Services Commission;
- (b) If the recommendation of the Council in paragraph (a) is approved then the Council shall direct the Registrar accordingly and upon payment by the applicant of the prescribed fee, his or her name shall be restored to the Register and a new certificate of registration and badge, if necessary, shall be issued to him or her.

Nurse's badge.

27. (1) The Council shall approve a badge which shall be the official badge for nurses and nursing assistants enrolled in Saint Christopher and Nevis.

(2) The badge shall be issued to a registered nurse or enrolled nursing assistant by the Registrar, upon request at the time of registration or enrolment or at any time thereafter on payment of a sum not exceeding the current cost to the Council of a new badge.

(3) The badge of a registered nurse or enrolled nursing assistant shall remain the property of the Council.

(4) If the badge of a registered nurse or enrolled nursing assistant is lost, stolen or destroyed, the person to whom it was granted may apply to the Council for a replacement badge and the Council may provide the badge upon the payment of the prescribed fee.

(5) The badge may be worn on the uniform and shall be suitably affixed on the right pectoral region of the nurse.

Registration to apply to midwives and nursing assistants.

28. In these Rules all provisions relating to registration shall, with the appropriate adaptations, apply to pupil midwives and enrolled nursing assistants, except that a separate part of the Register shall be kept for their enrolment.

PART V

PROCEDURE OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

Appointment of Council Chairperson.

29. At the first meeting of the Council held after the expiration of the term of office of the outgoing members, and thereafter at the ordinary meeting in the month of January in each year, the Council shall appoint from amongst its members a Chairperson who shall hold office until a Chairperson has been appointed by the Council at the ordinary meeting in the month of January in the following year.

Deputy Chairperson.

30. The Council shall appoint from amongst its members a Deputy Chairperson who shall chair the meetings of the Council during the absence of the Chairperson and shall act as Chairperson until such time as the post of Chairperson can be filled.

Vacancy in office of Chairperson.

31. If the office of Chairperson becomes vacant prior to the actual expiration of the term of appointment, the Council shall, at its next most convenient meeting, recommend the name of another member to the Minister to fill the vacancy and the member so appointed as the Chairperson, shall hold office for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Ballotting for Chairperson.

32. (1) In the event of two or more persons being nominated for the office of Chairperson, the voting shall be by ballot, and there shall be as many ballots as are necessary to reduce the final ballot to two candidates for the office in question.

(2) Pursuant to subsection (1), after each ballot the name of the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes shall be struck out and the next ballot shall be amongst the remaining candidates, and the process shall continue until the final ballot is between two candidates.

Temporary Chairperson of meeting.

33. Where the Chairperson is absent from any meeting of the Council, the members present shall elect a Chairperson from among their number to preside at that meeting.

Meeting to be held at least once per quarter.

34. Unless the Council otherwise decides, a meeting of the Council shall be held once every quarter, as well as at such other times and places as may be necessary or expedient for the transaction of its business.

Special meetings.

35. (1) The Chairperson may at any time convene a meeting of the Council.

(2) Subject to the provisions of subrule (1), the Registrar shall convene a meeting within fourteen days of a written request by at least three Council members.

Notice of meetings.

36. Not less than seven days' notice of any meeting shall be given to each member of the Council, directed to such address as each member shall from time to time furnish to the Registrar.

Quorum.

37. The quorum of the Council shall be seven.

Minutes.

38. Minutes of the proceedings of the Council shall be taken by the Secretary and shall be duly recorded in a retrievable form.

Order of business.

39. The order of business shall be arranged as required.

Voting at meetings.

40. Unless otherwise specified, voting shall be decided on a show of hands by the majority of members present and voting but any member may call for a division, in which case the names for and against and those who abstained from voting shall be taken down in writing and entered in the minutes. In the case of an equality of votes the presiding Chairperson shall have a second or casting vote.

Motions to be moved and seconded.

41. Every motion or amendment shall be moved and seconded and shall be reduced to writing and handed to the presiding Chairperson, and shall be read before it is further discussed or put to the meeting.

Notice of motion to be inserted in agenda paper.

42. The Registrar shall ensure that every notice of motion that was received not less than one clear day prior to the day on which the agenda paper is to be sent to the members, is entered on the agenda paper for the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

Alteration and rescission of resolutions.

43. No resolution of the Council shall be altered or rescinded at a subsequent meeting except upon a notice of motion of which a copy has been sent out to members by the Registrar seven clear days before such meeting.

Standing committees.

44. (1) The Council may appoint such committees as it may think fit and may delegate to any such committee the power and authority to carry out on its behalf such duties as the Council may determine, but no committee shall have the power to make regulations.

(2) The composition of each committee shall be determined by the Council.

(3) Notwithstanding the generality of subrule (1), at the first convenient opportunity and thereafter at the ordinary meeting of the Council in the month of January in each year, the Council shall appoint the members of the Registration Committee, Education Committee, Disciplinary Committee, Finance and Administration Committee and the Nursing Practice Committee, and all the members so appointed shall hold office until their successors have been appointed at the ordinary meeting of the Council in the month of January in the following year.

(4) Any casual vacancy which occurs on any of the committees referred to in subrule (3) shall be filled by the Council at the next meeting of the Council as may be convenient and the person appointed to fill the casual vacancy shall hold office for the remainder of the term of office of the person who has vacated the office.

(5) The Registration Committee and the Disciplinary Committee shall each consist of three members of the Council in addition to *ex officio* members, and the quorum of each Committee shall be three.

(6) The Education and Examination Committee shall consist of two members of the Council in addition to *ex officio* members and the quorum shall be two.

(7) The Chairperson of the Council shall be an *ex officio* member of every committee.

Delegation to and report by committees.

45. (1) The Council may delegate to any committee, with such restrictions and qualifications, if any, as it thinks fit, all or any of its powers except the power of removing the name of a nurse from the register.

(2) Each committee shall elect its own Chairperson and shall report its proceedings to the Council, and any recommendations which a committee may take shall, as far as practicable, be in the form of resolutions to be considered by the Council.

(3) Except by special permission of the Council no report of a committee shall be discussed by the Council unless it has been sent to the members of the Council at least three days before the meeting of the Council at which it is to be presented.

Chairperson's decision on point of order.

46. The presiding Chairperson of the Council shall decide upon any point of order or procedure and his or her decision shall be final.

Minutes and other records open for inspection.

47. All minutes, registers and records shall be open to the inspection of members of the Council during the Registrar's business hours.

PART VI

MISCELLANEOUS

The seal of the council.

48. (1) The Seal of the Council shall be kept in the custody of the Registrar and shall be affixed to instruments pursuant to a resolution of the Council in the presence of the Chairperson or any other member of the Council and the Registrar.

(2) The seal of the Council shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Chairperson and the Registrar.

(3) The Registrar shall keep possession of one set of keys for the seal, and the Chairperson or member of the Council nominated by her shall have possession of the other set.

(4) A record shall be kept by the Registrar, and signed by the Chairperson, noting any occasion on which, and the purpose for which the seal of the Council has been affixed to an instrument.

Documents not required by law to be under seal.

49. All documents other than those required by law to be under seal, and all decisions of the Council, may be signified under the hands of the Chairperson, or any other member of the Council authorised to act in that behalf.

Forms.

50. The forms set out in the Schedule to these Rules, and all instructions contained therein, are part of these Rules, and any form or forms substantially to the like effect shall be used in all cases to which they refer with such variations as circumstances may require.

SCHEDULE 1

(Rule 10(1))

The Nurses and Midwives (Registration) Act

Form of Register of Nurses - Particulars to be entered

The Register shall show in respect of each nurse admitted the following particulars—

- (a) registration number;
- (b) full names, and if married, maiden name;
- (c) permanent address and mailing address if different from permanent address;
- (d) telephone number;
- (e) date and place of registration;
- (f) Qualifications. Under this heading shall appear the qualifications in each case for admission to the Register (including a certificate, diploma or degree of nursing education), the dates of obtaining the qualification, and the institution in which such qualifying education has been received.

SCHEDULE 2

FORM 1

(Rule 16(2))

The Nurses and Midwives (Registration) Act

Application by a person Qualified by Examination for Admission to the Register
To the Nursing Council.

- 1. Full Names I,
- 2. State here
whether single,
married or
widowed. If
married since
examination,

give maiden
name and furnish
certificate of marriage.

- 3. Full permanent
postal address

having been successful in the Regional Examination for Nurse
Registration held in on the date of

hereby request the Council to enter
my name in the Register of Nurses maintained by the Council.

I forward herewith the fee ofdollars and I hereby
consent in the event of my being so registered, and in consideration
thereof, to be bound by, and to conform in all respects to the Rules
for the time being in force.

.....
Signature of Applicant

Form to be returned directly to the Registrar of the Nursing
Council, c/o Ministry of Health, Bladen Development Complex,
Basseterre, St. Kitts.

FORM 2
(Rule 17(1))

The Nursing Council of St. Kitts and Nevis

The Nurses and Midwives (Registration) Act
Existing Practitioner’s Application for Re-Registration

To the Nursing Council of St. Kitts and Nevis

- 1. Full Names I,
- 2. Place and
Date of Birth.
- 3. State here
whether single,
married or
widowed. If
married or
widowed,
give maiden
name and
provide
valid certificate
of marriage

4. Full postal
address.

hereby request the Council to enter my name in the Register maintained by the Council in which names are to be entered. I forward herewith the fee ofdollars and I consent, in the event of my being registered, to be bound by the Rules that govern the Council.

Names and addresses of referees

(1)..... Matrons of hospitals, registered medical
..... practitioners, or other responsible persons under
..... the three years prior to the date of application.

FORM 3

(Rule 17(3))

The Nursing Council of St. Kitts and Nevis
The Nurses and Midwives (Registration) Act

Form of testimonial as to character and professional efficiency

(To be given by a matron of a hospital, registered medical practitioner or other competent and responsible person under whom the applicant has worked as a nurse within three years prior to the date of application).

CONFIDENTIAL

To the Nursing Council of St. Kitts and Nevis

I hereby certify that I have knownpersonally for
.....years, and that she has discharged her duties as a
.....at all times in such a manner as to enable me to recommend her for
registration by the Council, and Ibelieve that
she is of good moral character.

Signature
Address
Profession
Date

FORM 4

(Rule 19(1))

The Nurses and Midwives (Registration) Act

The Nursing Council of St. Kitts and Nevis

Application by Person Trained Outside

St. Kitts and Nevis for Admission to the Register.

To the Nursing Council of St. Kitts and Nevis

- 1. Full Names I,
- 2. State here
whether single,
married or
widowed. If
married or
widowed,
give maiden
name and
provide
certificate of
marriage.
- 3. Permanent
postal address
- 4. Date of Birth
- 5. Place of Birth
- 6. Nationality

hereby request the Council to enter my name upon the Register for Nurses. I forward herewith the prescribed fee ofand I consent in the event of my being registered and in consideration thereof, to be bound by and to conform in all respect to, the Rules

I forward herewith my Certificate of Registration in the Register of theor a certified copy thereof, to the effect that my name has been entered in the Register and also a complete copy of the entry in the Register.

Signature of Applicant
Signature of Witness
Address of Witness
Date

(N.B.) *A copy of a certificate of registration must be certified to be a true copy by a responsible officer of the appropriate statutory nursing authority.*

FORM 5

(Rule 11(1))

The Nursing Council of St. Kitts and Nevis
The Nurses and Midwives (Registration) Act

Notification of intention to remain on Register

Registration No

To the Registrar of the Nursing Council

I hereby notify you that it is my desire to remain on the Register of Nurses maintained by the Nursing Council of St. Kitts and Nevis, for the year commencing on 1st January, 20

Dated thisday of20.....

.....
Signature of Applicant

FORM 6

(Rule 11(3))

The Nursing Council of St. Kitts and Nevis
The Nurses and Midwives (Registration) Act

Notice of Expiration of Registration

To.....
of.....

Registration No.....

Take notice that the registration of your name in the Register maintained by the Nursing Council of St. Kitts and Nevis expires on the 31st December,and unless the Council receives a notification from you in the prescribed form on or before the 15th day of February, your name shall be removed from the Register.

Dated the.....day of.....20.....

.....
Registrar of Council

SCHEDULE 3*(Rules 5, 6 and 7)*Theory and Practice of Nursing

The Nurses and Midwives (Registration) Act

I. GENERAL NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMME:

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants to the General Nursing Education Programme must—

- (a) be at least 17 years old at the start of the academic year of entry
- (b) hold at least two-2-unit Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (CAPE) subjects or two (2) General Certificate of Education (GCE) Advanced level subjects or approved equivalent—one from Pure or Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry or Biology and one from any other area.
- (c) hold a minimum of five (5) passes in the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC) CSEC or General Certificate of Education (GCE) Ordinary Level subjects or approved equivalent to include English Language, Mathematics, Two Science Subjects to include Biology or Human and Social Biology, and two (2) other academic subjects.

Note Well—

- (a) Applicants having more than two CXC CSEC subjects at grade three (III) pass or more than two subjects with a C pass in the General Certificate of Education (GCE) Ordinary Level subjects would not be considered for entry into the programme.
- (b) Applicants who do not satisfy the general entry requirements but who are at least 21 years old will be considered for mature admission based on their overall professional experience and academic attainments.

Courses shall include—

1. Anatomy and Physiology
2. Biochemistry
3. Microbiology
4. Epidemiology
5. Psychology
6. Nutrition
7. Diet Therapy
8. Statistics
9. Sociology
10. Health Informatics
11. First Aid and Basic Life Support
12. Foundation courses to include: English for Medical Sciences, Caribbean Civilization

13. Clinical Care of the Individual throughout the Life Cycle
14. Health Assessment and the Nursing Process
15. Human Pathophysiology
16. Health Promotion
17. Research Methodology
18. Pharmacology
19. Obstetrics
20. Professional Foundations of Nursing
21. Patient Care Concepts Applied to Nursing
22. Patient and Health Care Worker Safety
23. Community Health Nursing
24. Mental Health Nursing
25. Leadership and Management
26. Specialty Areas of Nursing eg Critical Care, Accident and Emergency, Operating Theater

II. MIDWIFERY EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Entry Requirements

Applicants to the Midwifery Programme must—

1. Be nurses who have successfully completed an initial (General) Nursing Education Programme from a recognized educational institution and have completed at least two years experience as a practicing registered nurse.
2. Be registered with the Saint Christopher and Nevis Nurses and Midwives Council.
3. Satisfy an interview selection committee

Courses include—

1. Introduction to Midwifery
2. Pre-Conceptual Counseling and Education in the Promotion of Reproductive Health
3. Reproductive Anatomy and Physiology
4. Foetal Development
5. Changes and Adaptation in Pregnancy
6. Problems Associated with Pregnancy
7. Normal Labour And Delivery
8. Challenges of Pregnancy, Labour and Delivery
9. The Puerperium
10. The Newborn Baby
11. Problems Associated with the Newborn

III. ENROLLED NURSING ASSISTANT EDUCATION PROGRAMME

To be eligible for admission to the Nursing Assistant Programme, applicants must—

- (a) Be at least sixteen (16) years at the time of admission to the programme.
- (b) Have obtained passes in the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC) CSEC Examination, General Proficiency Level or General Certificate Examination (GCE) ordinary level or approved equivalent in at least three subjects to include English Language, Mathematics and a Science subject.
- (c) In the case of mature applicants, present academic and professional qualifications, prior experience will be considered.
- (d) Satisfy an interview selection committee.

Courses Include—

1. Fundamentals of Nursing
 2. Anatomy and Physiology
 3. Introduction to Microbiology
 4. Foundation courses: English, Mathematics
 5. Introduction to Sociology
 6. Introduction to Psychology
 7. Introduction to Pharmacology
 8. Nutrition
 9. Health Promotion
 10. Health Assessment
 11. Maternal and Child Health with Clinical Practicum
 12. Care of the Child and Adolescent with Clinical Practicum
 13. Care of the Adult with Clinical Practicum
 14. Care of the Elderly with Clinical Practicum
 15. Clinical Internship
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SCHEDULE 4

(Rule 20)

The Nursing Council of St. Kitts and Nevis
The Nurses and Midwives (Registration) Act
Certificate of Registration

Registration No

The Nursing Council of St. Kitts and Nevis
The Nurses Registration Act

We hereby certify that

of.....was admitted in.....

by the Nursing Council of St. Kitts and Nevis and that she is entitled in pursuance of the Nurses and Midwives (Registration) Act, Cap. 9.17, to take and use the title of “Registered Nurse” up to and including the 31st day of December,

Chairperson of the Council.....

Registrar.....

SCHEDULE 5

(Rule 25(6))

The Nursing Council of St. Kitts and Nevis
The Nurses and Midwives (Registration) Act

Form of Notice

To.....
of.....

TAKE NOTICE that the charge (or charges) against you (particulars of which are set forth below) has/have been brought to the notice of the Council and that the Council proposes to investigate such charge(s) at a meeting to be held at the office of the Council at at a.m./p.m. on.....the.....20.....and to determine whether your name should be removed from the Register.

Particulars of Charge(s)

You are hereby required to attend before the Council at the time and place mentioned above to answer such charge(s) and to bring with you all papers and documents in your possession relevant to the matter and any persons whose evidence you wish to lay before the Council.

The following points should be carefully noted—

- (a) You are entitled to be represented at the hearing before the Council by a friend, or by Legal Counsel, but if you propose to employ Legal Counsel, you shall give written notice to the Registrar at the address mentioned below at least seven days before the hearing.
(b) It is imperative that you should either send to the Registrar before the date fixed for the hearing, or bring with you to the hearing your certificate of registration (and badge).

A copy of the Nurses Rules is enclosed, and your attention is directed to Rule of those Rules.

SCHEDULE 6

FEEES

(i) Initial registration	\$100.00
(ii) Renewal (bi-annual)	\$100.00
(iii) Restoration of name to Register	\$200.00
(iv) NON- CARICOM (overseas) registrants	\$270.00
(v) Application for verification Forms	\$50.00
(vi) Examination (RENr)	\$540.00

Registrar of the Council

Address

Date

(Inserted by S.R.O. 28/2016)
