



SELECTION POLICY FOR NURSING POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES

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1. ACRONYMS

FoHS	Faculty of Health Sciences
NQF	National Qualifications Framework
PG Dip	Postgraduate Diploma
RPL	Recognition of Prior Learning
SANC	South African Nursing Council
SoN	School of Nursing
UFS	University of the Free State

2. DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

Student

A person enrolled in a formal nursing programme in a higher education institution and registered with the South African Nursing Council as a student.

Postgraduate Diploma

A National Qualification Framework level 8 academic qualification for a professional nurse focusing on an additional or specialised discipline.

Selection

A process whereby prospective students are selected for admission to the Postgraduate Diploma programme using a set of criteria.

3. BACKGROUND

This document outlines the selection policy for nursing students at the School of Nursing at the University of the Free State (UFS) for the Postgraduate Diploma (PG Dip). The set criteria for the selection will be followed, and applications not adhering to the minimum requirements will not be considered. Any candidate can apply for admission to the PG Dip programme if they comply with the minimum requirements stipulated in this document. Other UFS rules and policies are also considered for selection.

4. PURPOSE

This policy aims to prescribe the requirements for selection to register for an additional qualification in Postgraduate Diploma for a nursing or midwifery specialisation at the UFS, leading to the awarding of a further qualification. A process of equitable and fair selection of prospective students will be followed.

5. TARGET GROUP

Selection Committee involved in selecting prospective PG Dip in Nursing students.

6. PREMISES

The maximum number of qualifying students per programme will be selected subject to the total number approved by the SANC.

7. SELECTION OF STUDENTS

Students will be considered for selection if:

- A full set of completed application and selection forms, additional documentation as stipulated, and the official academic results are submitted.
- No incomplete applications will be processed, and only certified documents will be accepted.
- Prospective students will be informed via email of the outcome of the selection.

8. COMPOSITION OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE

The committee for the PG Dip programme will consist of the following members:

- Head of School
- Programme director.
- One academic staff member for each of the offered PG Dip programmes.
- Administrative officer SoN
- Administrative staff FoHS

9. SELECTION CRITERIA

A candidate must have one of the following qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Nursing (R174)
- Diploma in Nursing: General Nurse (R171) with an Advanced Diploma in Midwifery (R1497) must be achieved
- 2-year Diploma (Bridging course) leading to registration as General or Psychiatric Nurse offered under Regulation 683 of 14 April 1989 as amended, followed by 1-year Diploma in Midwifery offered under Regulation 254 of 14 February 1975 as amended.
- 4-year Bachelor's Degree offered under Regulation 425 of 22 February 1985 as amended
- 4-year Diploma offered under Regulation 425 of 22 February 1985 as amended
- At least two (2) years' experience after registration as a Professional Nurse or General Nurse and Midwife. The two years include a year of community service.
- Current registration with the SANC.
- Prospective students with clinical experience in the area of specialisation applied for will receive preference.
- Academic marks will be used during the selection process. Prospective students with a higher average in the preceding qualification will receive preference.

10. CONCLUSION

Before taking up the selected places, all candidates who are immune suppressed should remember that they will be exposed to patients with infectious diseases, which might affect their illness. In these cases, the student will be responsible for taking the necessary precautions to prevent exposure-related illness. All students will be expected to fulfil all the Work-Integrated Learning requirements for the programme.

At its discretion, the faculty reserves the right to require immunisation against diseases from time to time before admitting students to any further academic year or semester during their studies.

Current proof of indemnity at a recognised organisation.

Transport, accommodation, indemnity, uniform and immunisation are for the student's tuition account.

Applicants who were selected can forfeit their selection if information becomes available that was not available or disclosed during the selection process.

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