

Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Council
Regulation on Approval of Nursing and Midwifery Curriculum,
Professional Level B.E. 2560 (2017)

In reference to the authority of section 22(3) (c) (t) and the section 8(3) of the Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Act, B.E. 2528 (1985), which was revised (Volume 2) in B.E. 2540 (1997), the Nursing and Midwifery Council Board with the approval of the Special President of the Council, based on section 26 of the Nursing and Midwifery Council Act, 1985, has issued the Regulation as follow:

Item 1. This Regulation is called “Nursing and Midwifery Council Regulation on Approval of Nursing and Midwifery Curriculum, Professional Level, B.E. 2560 (2017)”

Item 2. The Regulation shall come into force as from the day following the date of its publication in the Royal Decree (the Government Gazette).

Item 3. Revoke the Regulation on the Approval of Nursing and Midwifery Curriculum, Professional Level, B.E. 2554 (2013).

Item 4. In this regulation:

“Education Institution” means school, college, faculty, academic division, bureau or educational institution in other names which teaches nursing and midwifery curriculum and the graduate is eligible to register and obtain the license to practice nursing and midwifery as indicated by the nursing and midwifery profession law and also refers to the educational institution that applies for the institution to be opened.

“Mentoring Education Institution” means educational institution which gives consultation, advice, assistance and monitoring of the new education institution and has been accredited by Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Council latest not less than 4 years continuously for 2 times up to the date of mutual agreement between the mentoring education institution and the new education institution. The counting of the accreditation period for the second time is counted from the date accredited by the Council.

The duration of the agreement between the mentoring and new education institution must be valid until the first batch of students graduate and the mentoring education institution can sign the agreement with only one new educational institution at a time.

“Curriculum” means the professional nursing and midwifery curriculum at the Bachelor Degree level or the Certificate equivalence to the Bachelor Degree.

“Committee” means the Nursing and Midwifery Council Board.

“Subcommittee” means the Subcommittee which has been appointed by the Committee.

“Secretariat” means the Secretariat of Nursing and Midwifery Council.

“Operator” means the Administrator of the education institution as per the National Education Act, B.E 2542 (1999) or have a permit to establish private education institution as per the Private Higher Education Institution Act, B.E. 2546 (2013).

“Administrator of education institution” means Dean or Director of the nursing and midwifery education institution or equivalence.

Item 5. The curriculum which the Council will approve must follow this Regulation.

Item 6. The curriculum which has been organized in other system which is different from this Regulation, the Nursing and Midwifery Council will allow the use of this Regulation except the Council has indicated otherwise.

Section 1

Curriculum

Item 7. The Bachelor Degree in Nursing and Midwifery curriculum has 2 plans.

7.1 Bachelor degree curriculum for Profession: aims to produce graduates with sound theories and practices focusing on knowledge, competencies and professional skills as stated in the professional standards.

7.2 Bachelor Degree curriculum for Advanced Profession. This curriculum is for those with special skills. It aims to produce graduates with knowledge, competencies

and professional skills by using regular curriculum that is already opened, recognize students' capabilities, assign the students to undertake some courses at the graduate level, promote the students to conduct research and study graduate courses not less than 12 credits.

Item 8. The curriculum must have philosophy and objectives aiming to produce students who correspond to the National Education Development Plan on Higher Education, philosophy of higher education, philosophy of the education institution and academic and professional standards. It is believed that the graduates will become human resources with good mind of good citizen, do good work for society and be self-reliance by using Thai wisdom under the good moral and ethics framework which will lead the country for sustainable development and global standards.

Thus the curriculum objective is to monitor and promote learner development to be a complete human being who can live in the multicultural environment under globalization with borderless in communication, have ability to learn throughout their lives, are able to work under the standards framework and codes of ethics, able to create work that is useful to self and society at the local and global level and have details as per the Announcement of the Ministry of Education on Qualification Standards of Bachelor Degree Level in Nursing Science, B.E. 2552 (2009), Announcement of Ministry of Education on Standards of Bachelor Degree Curriculum, B.E. 2558 (2015), Announcement of Ministry of Education on Guidelines to Administer Standard Criteria of Higher Education Curriculum, B.E. 2558 (2015) and the revised version.

Item 9. The curriculum must have total credit not less than 120 credits and not more than 150 credits with the ratio of the credits of each sections as follow:

9.1 General Education total credits not less than 30 credits,

9.2 Specific course for Bachelor degree total credit not less than 72 credits with Fundamental profession courses and Profession courses, in which,

9.2.1 theory courses not less than 24 credits

9.2.2 Practice course not less than 36 credits.

Both the theory and practice course should be courses in midwifery not less than 12 credits with the practice course not less than 6 credits.

For the Advanced curriculum, the student must take the courses at the graduate level for specific courses not less than 12 credits.

9.3 Elective courses not less than 6 credits.

Identification of courses and credits in addition to the first paragraph shall follow the announcement of the Council.

Item 10. The curriculum must have contents or topics as follow:

10.1 General Education means courses that contribute the learners to become a complete human being; have broad knowledge; understand and value oneself, others, society art and cultures and nature; pay attention to the changes surrounding; continuing self improvement, good conduct, and being good citizen of Thailand and global society. The contents can be integrated from a group of courses in sociology, humanity, language, science and mathematics in appropriate proportion to meet the objectives of general education.

10.2 Specific courses means a group of fundamental profession courses and a group of profession courses aiming for the learners to have knowledge and understanding of profession and to be able to do good quality practice effectively, with good moral and ethics. They can be divided as follow:

10.2.1 Fundamental profession courses are basic core courses which are related to profession and health science courses covering contents such as biochemistry, biology, anatomy, physiology, parasitology, microbiology, pathology, pharmacology, biostatistics, developmental psychology, nutrition, epidemiology.

10.2.2 Profession courses are courses specific for nursing and midwife including theory, laboratory and nursing practice. The contents will build students' competencies of professional and midwife who can provide care to all at all ages during health and illness status until the end of life by using nursing sciences, midwifery and other related sciences.

10.3 Elective course mean courses that aim for the learners to have knowledge understanding as their own capability and interest. Students have opportunities to study any courses at the bachelor curriculum level.

Item 11. Lecturers, curriculum lecturers, curriculum responsible lecturers and teachers lecturers,

curriculum lecturers, curriculum responsible lecturers and teachers must have number and qualification as per the Announcement of Ministry of Education on Standards of Bachelor Degree Curriculum, B.E. 2558 (2015), and the revised version, and Announcement of Ministry of Education on Guidelines to Administer Standard Criteria of Higher Education Curriculum, B.E. 2558 (2015) and the revised version and must have following characteristics.

11.1 Lecturers

Lecturers mean persons with the academic titles of Instructor, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Professor as well as other title in the higher education institution that opens nursing science curriculum. They have responsibilities as per the missions of higher education and work full time.

In case, the lecturers hold Bachelor Degree or equivalence and have been teaching before the Criteria Standard of Bachelor degree Curriculum, B.E. 2558 (2015) implemented, can continue to teach.

For lecturers of higher education institution who have been newly recruited when this regulation becomes effective, must have scores of the English Competency Test as per criteria in the Announcement of Higher Education Committee on Standards of English Competency of Lecturers.

11.2 Curriculum lecturers

- 1) Being lecturers
- 2) Have valid license to practice as Professional Nurse and midwife, level 1 or valid license to practice as Professional Nurse, level 1. A lecturer who teaches maternal and newborn nursing and midwifery courses must have a license to practice as a Professional Nurse and Midwife, level 1, and

- 3) Hold Master's degree in Nursing or related fields, and
- 4) Have experiences in practicing nursing for at least 2 years and have experiences in teaching nursing in nursing education institution for at least 1 year.
- 5) Have academic product which was not a part of the education for degree and the work has been disseminated as per the criteria for appointment of a person for academic rank at least one product in the last 5 years.

If the curriculum lecturers do not have experiences in teaching nursing in education institution, educational institution must assign mentors who have experiences in teaching that course for at least one semester or arrange for the curriculum lecturers to attend a formal training course on teaching and learning.

11.3 curriculum responsible lecturers

Have the same qualification and characteristics as the curriculum lecturers. There must be at least 5 persons in 5 main areas, that is, adult nursing and or gerontological nursing, pediatric nursing, psychiatric nursing and mental health, community nursing and maternal and neonatal nursing. They should have experiences in teaching nursing in nursing and midwifery education institution continuously for at least 2 years.

In case the curriculum responsible lecturers did not hold Master's degree in the five main areas, they must have experiences in teaching the assigned courses in the nursing and midwifery education institutions continuously for at least 5 years.

Curriculum responsible lecturers are responsible to administer and develop curriculum and teaching-learning from planning, quality control, monitoring and evaluation and development. They must work full time throughout the education programme.

11.4 Teachers

- 1) May be curriculum lecturers or special teachers with qualification not less than Master's Degree in Nursing or

2) Have Academic qualification in nursing not less than Assistant Professor or equivalence in that discipline or related disciplines or in the discipline of the course they teach.

In case of special teachers, they may be waived for Master's Degree but must have at least Bachelor Degree or equivalence and have work experiences in the area they teach for at least 6 years. The special teacher must have teaching hours not more than 50 per cents of nursing courses and the curriculum lecturers is responsible for the course.

Special teachers who teach practice course must have qualification as per the Announcement of the Council.

Section 2

Education Process

Item 12. Education Management or teaching learning as per the curriculum must follow the following section.

Part 1

Persons who apply for education

Item 13. Properties of the persons who apply for education and the transfers of learning results.

13.1 Properties of the persons who apply for education.

13.1.1 Complete at least high school education in science-mathematic plan

13.1.2 For those who apply for Advanced Bachelor Degree Curriculum must complete high school education or equivalence with grade point average

of 3.50 from the system of 4 points or equivalence and have the learning outcomes or grade point average in the Advanced Bachelor Degree Curriculum at least 3.50 in every semester.

13.1.3 have good health physically and mentally, no history of serious illness or communicable diseases or any disorders which may affect the study.

13.1.4 Have other properties as identified by the education institution

During studying in the Advanced Bachelor Degree Curriculum, if in any semester, the grade point average are below 3.50 from the system of 4 points or equivalence, a person is considered not qualified to be in the programme.

13.2 Transfer of learning results.

Transfer can be done only with the curriculum that has been disseminated by Higher Education Committee.

In case the education institution is in foreign countries, the institution must be recognized by organization that has been authorized by the country or use the Standard Qualification Framework of Higher Education of that country as per the Announcement of the Council.

Students who transfer the learning results must be assessed for attitudes towards profession and other detail as per the Regulation of each education institution.

Part 2

Registration and duration of study

Item 14. In each semester, the registration should be at least 9 credits and not more than 22 credits

Summer semester not more than 9 credits.

Registration may have different credit systems of the first and second statements but must have been approved from the education institution as per the institution rule and should not affect the quality of education.

Item 15. Duration of study.

Duration should not less than 8 regular semesters or 4 academic years and not more than 16 regular semester or 8 academic years.

Part 3

Education Arrangement and Credit Count

Item 16. Education system is a bi-semester (two semesters in one academic year). If other system is used, compared to the bi-semester.

Item 17. Education arrangement: theory and laboratory classes are not more than 7 hours, practice not more than 8 hours.

For practice course, hours of practice for each course should be as per the credit identified in the curriculum. The schedule of practice of each course should be clearly planned in advance.

Item 18. The curriculum should calculate the credits as follow:

18.1 Theory course 1 credit is equal to lecture or discussion 1 hour per week or at least 15 hours for one regular semester.

18.2 Laboratory course 1 credit is equal to 2 - 3 hours of practice per week or 30-45 hours per one regular semester.

18.3 Practice course 1 credit, in or outside the institution, 3-6 hours per week at least 15 weeks or 45-90 hours in one regular semester.

Item 19. Any course that the credits are already counted in a particular group cannot be used to count again in the other groups of courses.

Part 4
Graduation

Item 20. Those who will graduate must complete all credits set in the curriculum plan and the scores must not be lower than 2.00 in any course in the profession course group and the grade point average throughout the curriculum is not lower than 2.00 from the system of 4 points.

Item 21. Graduation may use different assessment system from item 19 but should be comparable.

Section 3
Request for Curriculum Approval

Item 22. Education institution must submit the curriculum to the Nursing and Midwifery Council for approval of the curriculum before the student admission. After the Council approves the curriculum, the curriculum can be submitted to Institution Council. After the Institution Council approves the curriculum, the institution shall inform the Higher Education Committee and Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Council.

Item 23. Curriculum that should seek the approval.

23.1 Curriculum of the new education institution which the Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Council has not accredited the institution.

23.2 New curriculum other than existing curriculum which has been continuously accredited.

23.3 Curriculum which has been accredited continuously but the curriculum has been revised.

23.4 Curriculum that Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Council has not accredited continuously.

Item 24. The person who submits the request must be the operator or the administrator of the nursing and midwifery education institution or as identified by the Council.

Item 25. For the curriculum of item 23.1, 23.2 and 23.4, the request must do in advance before the student admission at least 12 months.

Item 26. For the revised curriculum of item 23.3, the request must do at least 6 months before the school starts.

Item 27. A person who would like to submit a request to see curriculum approval should submit the request to the Secretary-General as per the form issued by the Council with the fee and following evidence.

27.1 A copy of the national identification card and home registration book of the applicant.

27.2 A document shows that a person is the operator or the administrator.

27.3 Curriculum 6 copies with diskette with detail as per the Announcement of the Ministry of Education on Qualification Standards of Bachelor Degree Level in Nursing Science, B.E. 2552 (2009), Announcement of Ministry of Education on Standards of Bachelor Degree Curriculum, B.E. 2558 (2015), Announcement of Ministry of Education on Guidelines to Administer Standard Criteria of Higher Education Curriculum, B.E. 2558 (2015) and the revised version.

27.4 Curriculum of item 23.1 must have an agreement document with the mentor education institution.

27.5 Curriculum of item 23.1 and 23.4 must have a report on the readiness in opening the curriculum and teaching-learning.

27.6 Other evidences as identified by the Council.

Item 28. Secretary-General collects the request and other evidences and send to the subcommittee to review and propose recommendations to the Committee at the earliest.

Section 4

Approval of the Curriculum

Item 29. The Nursing and Midwifery Council as per the Committee on Announcement of Criteria, Methods and Condition for Curriculum Approval, can approve the curriculum.

Item 30. In the meeting of the committee or the subcommittee, the person who requests for curriculum approval may be allowed to attend.

Item 31. After the Committee has reviewed and made the decision on the curriculum as per section 3, the Secretariat -General to inform the decision of the approval or not approval to the person who requests for curriculum approval soonest.

Item 32. Duration of the curriculum approval should be as per the decision of the Committee but not more than 5 years.

Item 33. When the Council approves the curriculum, for the new education institution , the mentor institution provides consultation advice, assist, care and monitor the new education institution who has requested to open the education programme and administer the institution as per the Regulation of the Nursing and Midwifery Council on Criteria for Accreditation of Nursing and Midwifery Education Institution, B.E. 2560 (2017); the Announcement of the Ministry of Education on Qualification Standards of Bachelor Degree Level in Nursing Science, B.E. 2552 (2009), Announcement of Ministry of Education on Standards of Bachelor Degree Curriculum, B.E. 2552 (2009), Announcement of Ministry of Education on Guidelines to Administer Standard Criteria of Higher Education Curriculum, B.E. 2558 (2015) and the revised version and the Regulation of Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Council or Announcement of Ministry of Education which is revised, if any.

Section 5

Revocation of the Approved Curriculum

Item 34. The Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Council can revoke the approved curriculum in the following cases:

34.1 Education arrangement does not follow the Regulation or the implementation has not been followed the approved curriculum.

34.2 The institution has not informed the changes or revision of the curriculum or has not taken action or took action against the criteria or conditions identified by the Council when approved the curriculum.

34.3 The Council found that the operator or the education institution administrator has not administered the curriculum as per this regulation.

34.4 The education institution has not been accredited by the Nursing and Midwifery Council, the Committee may revoke the approval of the curriculum.

Item 35. In case the Committee revokes the approved curriculum, the Secretariat-General to quickly inform the operator, Education Institution Administrator, Mentor Institution, Higher Education Committee Office and related persons.

Section 6

Fee

Item 36. The fee for approval/not approval of the curriculum.

The fee is 20,000 Baht per curriculum.

Section 7
Transitional Provisions

Item 37. Any curriculum that the committee has approved before or on the date this Regulation comes into force, that particular curriculum has been approved.

Item 38. Any requests for curriculum approval as per the Regulation on the Approval of Bachelor Degree Curriculum in Nursing and Midwifery at the Profession Level, B.E. 2554 (2011), the Committee shall review them until complete or asks for the revision of the documents as per this Regulation.

Issue on 31 March B.E. 2560

Associate Professor Dr. Tassana Boontong

President of Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Council