

Core competencies for nursing students

Prospective students of nursing should:

1. Disclose any disability that may affect their achievement of the competencies for nurses or midwives before being accepting a place on the course.
2. Ensure that they are familiar with the medical fitness standards for Nurse and Midwifery Training published by the Higher Education Occupational Physicians/Practitioners (HEOPS) and available at http://www.heops.org.uk/HEOPS_Nursing_Student_fitness_standards_2015_v9.pdf
3. Recognise that any change in their health or disability status after accepting a place on the course should be disclosed to the appropriate person (Admissions Tutor, Academic Advisor, or Programme Director) so that further assessment can take place if necessary.

Prospective applicants for nursing should also be aware of 'The Code Professional standards of practice and behaviour for nurses and midwives' (NMC, 2018).

The Code can be found on this link:

<http://www.nmc.org.uk/globalassets/sitedocuments/nmc-publications/revised-new-nmc-code.pdf>

Prospective applicants should be aware of the following professional standards outlined in The Code (NMC, 2015):

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Standard 7 Communicate clearly

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Standard 8 Work cooperatively

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Standard 9 Share your skills, knowledge and experience for the benefit of people receiving care and your colleagues.

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Standard 13 Recognise and work within the limits of your competence.

The Standards for Competence for registered midwives are defined by the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC).

All nurses should be able to provide care throughout the 24 hour / 7 day week. During nursing and midwifery education, students should experience 24 hour / 7 day care, enabling them to develop understanding of the needs of patients / women and babies during the 24 hour period (NMC 2009).

Registered Nurses

The Standards for Competence for registered nurses can be found in this publication

<https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards>

These documents clearly outline the Standards for Competence required in relation to practising as a registered nurse.