SINGAPORE NURSING BOARD

GUIDELINES FOR CURRICULUM ACCREDITATION/RE-ACCREDITATION OF PRE-REGISTRATION NURSING PROGRAMMES

(A) CURRICULUM

The curriculum comprises theoretical and clinical/practicum hours with a minimum clinical practice placement of 32 weeks (1280 hours), inclusive of final consolidated practice placement. The clinical practice experiences shall have well formulated learning outcomes that demonstrate the expected progression towards meeting Singapore Nursing Board’s Core Competencies & Generic Skills for Registered Nurse (RN) (2018) and Scope of Professional Nursing and Midwifery Practice (2018).

(B) ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The minimum entry requirements are as tabled below, and all applicants must pass the medical examination and not be physically challenged.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry Requirements</th>
<th>Pre-Registration Programmes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Undergraduate Degree in Nursing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>A-Level: a pass at H2 level in any 2 of the following subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Computing and Maths NUS High School qualifications: Major CAP of 2.0 in any 2 of the following subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Maths. Acceptable Diploma from a Polytechnic in Singapore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For International students whose language of education is not in English</td>
<td>Discretionary Admissions Scheme (DAS): up to 15% of admissions may include students who do not meet cut-off point but show aptitude for the course and possess minimum academic competence may be considered. Early Admissions Exercise (EAE): allow students to secure a place in a diploma programme before they sit for O level exams. Up to 15% of polytechnic intake will come through EAE that assesses students’ aptitude, talents and interests in the course applied for.</td>
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(C) TEACHING STRATEGIES

The teaching strategies will include:
- a variety of teaching and learning methods, including: lectures, tutorials, video conferencing, classroom and small group discussions, role-play, simulation-based learning, etc.
- use of simulation to facilitate critical thinking, problem-solving and development of clinical skills competence
(D) CORE CONTENTS

The curriculum shall focus on the Singapore healthcare context and the core contents as listed below:

1) Life Sciences
   - Anatomy and Physiology
   - Pathophysiology & Disease process
   - Microbiology
   - Nutrition
   - Pharmacology & management of medications

2) Behavioural, Social and Health Sciences
   - Psychology
   - Sociology
   - Global health trends and national health policies

3) Nursing Science
   - caring science
   - communication & information technology
   - health assessment
   - health education and prevention of illnesses
   - maintaining a safe environment
   - continuous quality improvement
   - evidence-based practice
   - principles of nursing leadership & management
   - clinical reasoning, multiple ways of thinking & decision making

4) Foundations of Nursing Practice
   - Medical-Surgical Nursing
   - Care of the Older Adult
   - Women and Children Health
   - Community Health
   - Palliative care
   - Mental Health & Psychiatric nursing
   - Acute care
   - Intermediate & long term care
   - Transitional care
   - Professional, legal and ethical nursing practice
   - Nursing Skills (refer to SNB’s Core Competencies and Generic skills for RN)

5) Research
   - research process
   - critical appraisal of research findings
   - basic statistics
## Clinical Nursing Practice – disciplines and minimum duration (weeks/hours) of clinical placement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disciplines</th>
<th>Minimum Duration of Placement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Medical (Acute or Community Hospitals with minimum of 4 weeks in acute hospital)</td>
<td>6 weeks 240 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elder Care/Gerontology (Community Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Elder Care Centres)</td>
<td>2 weeks 80 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paediatrics</td>
<td>2 weeks 80 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Health (Primary Care, School Health, Community Health Care/Rehabilitation centres, Home Nursing &amp; Eldercare Centres)</td>
<td>2 weeks 80 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>2 weeks 80 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obstetrics &amp; Gynaecology</td>
<td>2 weeks 80 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency</td>
<td>1 week 40 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Surgical (Operating Theatre, Surgical, Orthopaedics &amp; Day Surgical wards)</td>
<td>7 weeks 280 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consolidated Clinical Practice* (Medical-Surgical)</td>
<td>8 weeks 320 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>32 weeks 1280 hours</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Consolidated Clinical Placement shall take place only when students have completed/passed all core modules (theory & clinical). The placement period shall be at least 8 weeks.

NB: A maximum of 80 hours of simulation learning can be used to replace clinical practice placement hours. Institutions planning to adopt this strategy shall write in to SNB for approval. Institutions to indicate the clinical nursing practice discipline to be replaced.

### (E) Candidature

In line with the Ministry of Education’s standards and practice, students are required to complete pre-registration nursing programmes within 4 years (for full-time programme of 2 years duration) 6 years (for full-time programmes of 3 years’ duration) and 8 years (for full-time programmes of 4 years’ duration). This is to ensure that students’ knowledge & competencies remain current and relevant prior to application for registration with Singapore Nursing Board. While education institutions retain full responsibility for the management of the pre-registration nursing programmes, setting time limits on candidature is to ensure public protection is not compromised.

### (F) Information to be specified for each subject/course:

1) Curriculum vitae (CV) of lecturer teaching the subject. The CV shall include:
   - Academic and teaching qualifications
   - Relevant work and teaching experience in subject area
   - Participation in continuing education within the last 2 years
2) Subject description
3) Learning outcomes
4) Content
5) Teaching methods: specify contact hours for each teaching strategy.
6) Readings and references

*(This section to be included within the general guidelines for submission of courses for accreditation)*