

OVERSEAS NURSING PROGRAMME **SUPERVISED PRACTICE/ADAPTATION PROGRAMMES**

The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) is the national nurses association for the UK. It is a professional nursing organisation and trade union with over 390,000 members.

The Nursing Midwifery Council (NMC) is the regulatory body and competent authority for the register of nurses, midwives and specialist community public health nurses.

Membership of Royal College of Nursing

Membership of the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) for those on supervised placements is available at a special rate of £10.00 for the duration of their programme, ie; until you obtain an NMC PIN number (registration with the NMC), at which point the concessionary rate of £138.78 (£108.25 after tax relief) will apply for the first year. Nurses working as healthcare assistants but not on supervised practice placements can also join the RCN for £92.52 (£72.17 after tax relief) for the first year. Payments can be made on a monthly basis.

To join the RCN, telephone RCN Direct, our telephone information advice service, open 7 days a week between 08.30-20.30, on 0845 772 6100, if you are ringing from outside the UK + 44 20 7647 3456 or apply on-line www.rcn.org.uk

Application Process

Once you have been assessed by the NMC you can apply for the Overseas Nursing Programme (ONP), however, you need to consider that places are limited and you are not guaranteed a place by the NMC, details below.

Nursing Midwifery Council
23 Portland Place
London W1B 1PZ
Tel: + 44 20 7333 6600
Fax: + 44 20 7636 6935

Overseas Nursing Programme (ONP)

The Overseas Nurses Programme (ONP) came into effect on the 1st September 2005. Nurses trained outside the European Economic Area (EEA) who wish to register in the UK will have to successfully complete the ONP.

The ONP is a compulsory 20 day period of protected learning and where appropriate a period of supervised practice.

The content will include UK law, health and safety issues, record-keeping, drugs administration and the NMC Code of Conduct.

Only approved educational institutions are permitted to provide the new programme. For a list of ONP's, log onto the NMC website www.nmc-uk.org

International English Language Test (IELTS)

All overseas nurses who trained outside the European Economic Area (EEA) will have to sit the International English Language Test (IELTS) **before** they start the NMC application process.

From the 1st February 2007 the following scores have to be achieved by all nurses and midwives.

At least 7.0 in the listening and reading sections
At least 7.0 in the writing and speaking sections
An overall average score of 7 (out of a possible 9)

Full details can be found on the NMC website www.nmc-uk.org

If you are resident in the UK information about sitting the IELTS examination can be found on the IELTS website www.ielts.org/

If you are living abroad, full details can be found on the British Council's website .
www.britishcouncil.org

Immigration

For information log onto [the RCN immigration advice service](#)

Or contact the RCN Immigration Advice Service on 0845 456 6766 or email:
immigration.advice@rcn.org.uk

Useful contacts

The RCN offers career advice and confidential support to RCN members whether on the NMC register or not. Tel: 0845 408 4391 or email careerandwelfare@rcn.org.uk

An NHS website to support refugee and overseas qualified health professional who are settled in the UK find employment in the UK. www.rose.nhs.uk

The NHS Learning and Development Service can give you advice on further training in the UK Tel: - 08000 150 850 (if you are ringing from outside the UK +44 8000 150 850). Email: learning@nhscareers.nhs.uk