

State registration and RCN membership.

What is state registration?

State registration for nurses was one of the first RCN campaigns. Three General Nursing Councils (GNCs) were established in 1921: one for England and Wales, one for Scotland and one for Ireland. The three GNCs each published an annual Register of Nurses from 1922 until 1968. Since 1943 anyone working as a nurse had to be registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Council.

Inquiries about current registration should be directed to the [Nursing and Midwifery Council](#).

What is RCN Membership?

The RCN is a professional body and has also been a registered trade union since 1976. State registered nurses and midwives are eligible to become members, as are other healthcare practitioners and those studying to become nurses or midwives.

For more recent member queries please contact RCN Direct on 0345 772 6100.