



INAMA Y'IGIHUGU Y'ABAFOROMOKAZI, ABAFOROMO N'ABABYAZA
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES AND MIDWIVES
CONSEIL NATIONAL DES INFIRMIERES, DES INFIRMIERS ET DES SAGES FEMMES

ADMISSION POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Title: Student Admission Policy № 003/ED/2025

nk

ADMISSION POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Title: Student Admission Policy № 003/ED/2025

Authority: This policy has been approved by the National Council of Nurses and Midwives in accordance with Law N^o 25/2008 of 25/07/2008.

Statement: The purpose of this policy is to ensure fair, transparent, and legally compliant student admissions. Nursing and midwifery teaching institutions must adhere to the admission criteria and requirements for all programs, as stipulated in this policy. Under the law, the NCNM is responsible for disseminating the policy to these institutions and monitoring its implementation.

Admission Requirements to Higher Learning Institutions

1. Advanced Diploma (General Nursing, Midwifery, and Mental Health Nursing)

- Applicants must have an Advanced Level Certificate of Secondary Education with an overall average of at least 60% for candidates who completed secondary studies since 2024.
- Eligible core high school subjects are biology and chemistry, regardless of the combinations, and applicants must have at least an S grade in both biology and chemistry.
- For applicants who completed S6 before 2024, they will be admitted based on the old two principal passes requirement as it appears in the old admission policy № 002/ED/2022.
- Applicants who have completed an Associate Nursing Program in secondary education after 2023 must have an overall average of at least 60%, with at least an S grade in both biology and chemistry or in both fundamentals of nursing and clinical attachment.
- Applicants who completed a Nursing Program in secondary education before 2008 (formerly known as A2 Nursing) must hold a valid license to practice issued by the NCNM, and must have at least a grade of C– in fundamentals of nursing + Introduction to anesthesia, and in the practical examination.
- Applicants who completed their secondary education abroad must first obtain an equivalence from the relevant authority. Once granted, the same admission requirements will be applied to the equivalence documents as to those who studied locally.
- Applicants must also demonstrate sufficient competence in English to study at Higher Education.

- Higher learning institutions retain the right to set internal admission policies, but not below the minimum requirements.
- Special individual cases will be assessed separately, in collaboration with the NCNM.

2. Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Midwifery, and Mental Health Nursing

a. Direct entry

- Applicants must have an Advanced Level Certificate of Secondary Education with an overall average of at least 60% for candidates who completed secondary studies since 2024.
- Eligible core high school subjects are biology and chemistry, regardless of the combinations, and applicants must have at least an E grade in both biology and chemistry.
- For applicants who completed S6 before 2024, they will be admitted based on the old two principal passes requirement as it appears in the old admission policy № 002/ED/2022.
- Applicants who have completed an Associate Nursing Program in secondary education after 2023 must have an overall average of at least 60%, with at least an E grade in both biology and chemistry or in both fundamentals of nursing and clinical attachment.
- Applicants who completed a Nursing Program in secondary education before 2008 (formerly known as A2 Nursing) must hold a valid license to practice issued by the NCNM, and must have at least a grade of C+ in fundamentals of nursing + Introduction to anesthesia, and in the practical examination.
- Applicants who completed their secondary education abroad must first obtain an equivalence from the relevant authority. Once granted, the same admission requirements will be applied to the equivalence documents as to those who studied locally.
- Applicants must also demonstrate sufficient competence in English to study at Higher Education.
- Higher learning institutions retain the right to set internal admission policies, but not below the minimum requirements.
- Special individual cases will be assessed separately, in collaboration with the NCNM.

b. Bridging/upgrading from advanced diploma to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Bachelor of Science in Midwifery, and Bachelor of Science in Mental Health Nursing

- Applicants must have an advanced diploma in Nursing, Midwifery or Mental Health Nursing obtained from a recognized Higher Learning Institution in Rwanda. For applicants who got

their diploma outside Rwanda, they must have an equivalence issued by the relevant authority.

- Applicants must have a valid license to practice as a registered nurse, a registered midwife or a registered mental health nurse issued by the NCNM.
- Applicants must apply to upgrade within the same field in which they completed the Advanced Diploma program.
- Applicants who completed their studies abroad must first obtain an equivalence from the relevant authority. Once granted, the same admission requirements will be applied to the equivalence documents as to those who studied locally.
- If the number of eligible applicants exceeds the available vacancies, the higher learning institution will give priority to those with the highest marks.
- Candidates must also demonstrate sufficient competence in English to study at Higher Education.

3. Master of Science in Nursing/ Midwifery/Mental Health Nursing

- Applicants must have a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing, Midwifery or Mental Health Nursing obtained from a recognized Higher Learning Institution in Rwanda.
- Applicants who completed their studies abroad must first obtain an equivalence from the relevant authority. Once granted, the same admission requirements will be applied to the equivalence documents as to those who studied locally.
- Applicants must also demonstrate sufficient competence in English to study at Higher Education.
- Applicants must have a valid license to practice as registered nurses, registered midwives or registered mental health nurses.
- Higher learning institutions retain the right to set internal admission policies, but not below the minimum requirements.

4. PhD in Nursing, Midwifery, Mental Health Nursing, or Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

- Applicants must have a Master's Degree in Nursing, Midwifery or Mental Health Nursing obtained from a recognized Higher Learning Institution in Rwanda.

- Applicants who completed their studies abroad must first obtain an equivalence from the relevant authority. Once granted, the same admission requirements will be applied to the equivalence documents as to those who studied locally.
- Applicants must also demonstrate sufficient competence in English to study at Higher Education.
- Applicants must have a license to practice as registered nurses, registered midwives or registered mental health nurses.
- Higher learning institutions retain the right to set internal admission policies, but not below the minimum requirements.

The admission policy and procedure was developed by the NCNM Education Committee.

Approved by the NCNM Board of Directors on.....⁰³.....¹⁰...../2025

Signed by:

Name & Designation: KAGABO Innocent NCNM Registrar	Name & Designation: MUNYANEZA Emmanuel NCNM Chairperson of Board of Directors
Signed: 	Signed: 
Date:	Date: 24/10/2025

Date for review:²⁴.....¹⁰...../2028

