

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS  
FOR  
THE RECOGNITION  
OF  
THE MASTER DEGREE  
PROGRAMME IN NURSING**



**Nepal Nursing Council**

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**2075 (2019)**



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# Preface

Nepal Nursing Council (NNC) is a regulating body for maintaining the standards and quality of nursing education. The parliamentary enactment of Nursing Council Act is an important milestone towards development of nursing profession. NNC Act paves the path to regulate nursing profession. For regulation of the standards in nursing education, the minimum requirements guideline is essential. The minimum requirement of Master Degree Nursing Programme was updated first time in 2066 (2009) by NNC and enacted in accordance to the power conferred by the clause (b), (c) and (d) of sub-section (1) of section 9 of the Nepal Nursing Council Act, 2052 (1996) with second amendment 2058 BS.

The Minimum Requirement of Master Degree Nursing Programme was reviewed as per the felt need as a result of challenges faced by the nursing institutions in the implementation of the master of nursing curriculum. The revised minimum requirements address the requirement of physical infrastructure human and clinical resources along with the requirement for the student enrollment.

The revised minimum requirements have undergone changes through workshop and meetings. Hence, we hope this guideline that this document will guide the institutions who are having master of nursing programme for effective teaching learning activities in order to ensure the fulfillment of programme requirements.

We congratulate the team working for the revision of minimum requirements who have painstakingly reviewed the requirements. We appreciate their sense of dedication in the finalization of this document. Their use of professional expertise in reviewing this document is highly commendable.



**Associate Prof. Binda Ghimire**  
Registrar, NNC



**Prof. Goma Devi Niraula**  
President, NNC



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# **Minimum Requirements for the Recognition of Masters Degree Programme in Nursing**

**Effective from the year 2075(2019)**

The Nepal Nursing Council has approved these requirements exercising the power conferred by Clause (b), (c) and (d) of Sub-section (1) of Section 9 of the Nepal Nursing Council Act, 2052 (1996) with second amendment.

These requirements may be called “Minimum Requirements for the Masters Degree Programme in Nursing”. These requirements shall come into effective from the year 2075.

The institution must have had well established and Nepal Nursing Council (NNC) full accredited Bachelor of Nursing Programme before starting Master Degree Nursing Programme. The institution must also provide the evidence for its organization, governance and administration, plan for faculty development, teaching learning facilities and related curriculum in order to qualify for accreditation from the NNC.

## **1. Organization and Administration**

The institution should have the following:

**1.1** Institutional philosophy

**1.2** Aims and objectives of the institution

**1.3** Governing body consisting of Academic Management Committee or Trust or Board. The governing body must have Campus Chief/ Nursing Education Director as a member.

**1.4** Organizational structure: The institution should have its organogram

**1.5** Administrative sector should consist of:

**1.5.1.** Account section

**1.5.2.** Administration/personnel section

**1.5.3.** Examination section

**1.6** The institution should have:

**1.6.1** Curriculum committee

**1.6.2.** Examination committee

**1.6.3.** Library committee

**1.6.4.** Student selection committee

**1.6.5** Clinical co-ordination committee

**1.6.6** Research committee

## **2. Financial System**

**2.1** The educational institution must have a well-established financial system including:

**2.1.1** Total budget for the programme

**2.1.2** Sources of income

**2.1.3** Audit system

### **3. Campus Chief/Principal/ Dean/Director of Nursing Programme**

**3.1** Head of the nursing program should be nursing personnel.

**3.2** Qualification and experience requirements

**3.2.1** Registered in the Nepal Nursing Council with updated license.

**3.2.2** Ph.D. in nursing preferably with 2 years teaching experience after Ph.D. or Master degree in nursing with a minimum of 5 years of teaching experience after master degree.

**3.2.3** At least 2 years clinical experience

**3.3** Authorities and responsibilities

**3.3.1** Developing the aims and policies of the institution.

**3.3.2** Participating in recruitment of faculty and administrative staff.

**3.3.3** Planning, organizing and directing nursing programs.

**3.3.4** Participating in preparation of the annual program plan and budget.

**3.3.5** Developing job descriptions for administrative staff and faculty.

**3.3.6** Planning, organizing and monitoring human resource development.

**3.3.7** Facilitating activities related to academic and personnel policies, curriculum development, and course evaluation.

**3.3.8.** Coordinating with Nepal Nursing Council (NNC), Nursing Association of Nepal, Universities and other relevant organizations.

**4. Head of Department (HOD)** – each institution should have different head of department in the related subject/s.

1.1 Medical surgical nursing (Adult nursing)

1.2 Child Health nursing

4.3 Psychiatric Nursing

4.4 Maternal health Nursing/women’s health and development

1.5 Community Health Nursing

## **5. Faculty**

### **5.1 Nursing faculty**

- Registered in NNC with updated license
- Full time faculty
- Qualification: Ph.D. in Nursing with 2 years teaching experience or Master’s degree in nursing (in the related nursing subject’s specialty) with minimum of 5 years of teaching experience after master degree.
- At least 2 years of clinical experience.

**5.2 Other Faculty:** Ph.D. in related subject preferable with 2 years of teaching experience after Ph.D. or Master degree in related subjects with 5 year of teaching experience after master degree.

### **5.3 Faculty Position Ratio**

#### **5.3.1 Faculty position**

- Professor

- Associate Professor
- Assistant professor/Lecturer

**5.3.2** Faculty cadre ratio should be 1 Professor for 2 Associate Professors and 4 Lecturers.

## **5. Faculty/Student Ratio**

Faculty should be sufficient to teach in the programme. The nursing faculty and student ratio will depend upon the student intake size in total and the specialty areas.

**5.1** The faculty student ratio should be 1:3 to run a Master Degree Nursing Programme.

**5.2** There must be at least 1 professor/associate professor in each nursing specialty

**5.3** The faculty must have published at least two original research articles in order to be thesis guide.

## **6. Administrative Staff**

The same administrative staff of Bachelor of Nursing Programme can be used for the administrative work of the Master Degree Nursing Programme.

## **7. Student Enrollment and Development**

### **7.1 Student Enrollment**

**7.1.1** Criteria and procedures for student selection should be transparent.

**7.1.2** Student selection should be the responsibility of the academic institution/ academic institution

**7.1.3** The students' intake size will be maximum 40 that will be determined by the faculty and

physical infrastructure and clinical facility of the academic institution. There is also the provision for reduction of the students' intake size on failure to meet the minimum requirement of the faculty and resources.

**7.1.4** Institutions is allow to start Master Degree Nursing Programme is not more than two specialties when the program initiate at the beginning.

**7.1.5** Admission policy

- Admission should be on the basis of merit list of the entrance examination.
- Academic qualification of the candidate should be Bachelor of Nursing or equivalent.
- Must have at least one year of work experience following bachelor of nursing qualification is required after registered in NNC.

## **7.2 Student Development**

Students should be encouraged to participate in various extracurricular activities provided or designated by the educational institution such as:

**7.2.1** Participation in extracurricular activities at local, national and international level.

**7.2.2** Participation in professional/social activities.

## **8. Teaching Learning Facilities/ Activities**

**8.1 Classrooms:** Minimum 2 classrooms should be available according to the students' intake size. Additional classrooms should be available for additional specialty classes. The area should be at the ratio of one square meter per student.

The classrooms must be well ventilated and equipped with adequate teaching learning materials e.g. LCD and white boards.

## **8.2 Library**

1.1.1. Cubicle for students at the ratio of 1:2.

1.1.2. Related text books, reference books, national and international journals and reports including nursing journals and research reports.

1.1.3. E-library should be established.

1.1.4. Books must be available in the MN specialty areas.

**1.2. Space for Journal Club:** There should be provision for regular journal club meetings at all academic years of the program.

### **1.3. Skill Lab/simulation lab**

The skill lab room and equipments of Bachelor of Nursing Program can be used for Masters Program also. Based on the specialty nursing education program skill lab such as Fundamental Nursing, Midwifery, Community and Nutrition, Psychiatric, and Pediatric has be established with adequate and required equipments, supplies, space and light.

*Note: can refer to Bachelor Level Nursing Programme Minimum requirement.*

## **9. Facilities for Clinical Practice**

Owned general hospital with a minimum of full-fledged 300 beds that should be run at least 3 years. It should have at least three specialty services for 300 beds hospital outlined in the **Guideline for health institution establishment, operation and upgrade standard** of the Ministry of Health

and Population with a minimum of 60% bed occupancy is required to start a master degree nursing programme. In case of specialty services more than one hospital i.e. own hospital along other hospitals with agreement, can be used for meeting the students' learning needs.

The hospitals should have the sufficient equipments, supplies, adequate number of qualified staff to provide 24 hours service according to government norms including changing room & room for case presentation / pre and post conference and meetings for teachers and students

- 1.1.1. For **Masters Degree Programme in Adult/ Medical Surgical Nursing** along with the general services the hospital must have specialty services with nephrology, urology, oncology, cardiac medicine/surgery (CCU), neurology medicine/surgery in own hospital or in other hospital with agreement.
- 1.1.2. For **Masters Degree Programme in Child Health** along with the general services with at least 50 bedded pediatric unit along with specialty services like medical, surgical, NICU, PICU, SICU, Oncology and burn units in own hospital or in other hospital with agreement.
- 1.1.3. For **Masters Degree Programme in Psychiatric Nursing** along with the general services the hospital must have a 50 bedded psychiatric unit or in other hospital with agreement.
- 1.1.4. For **Masters Degree Programme in Maternal Health Nursing/Women's health nursing/ Maternity nursing** along with the general services in owned hospital, it must have 50 bedded

maternity unit along with MCH/FP clinic, ANC, Natal, Birth Center, PNC, MICU, NICU and OT services in own hospital or in other hospital with agreement.

- 1.1.5. For **Masters Degree Programme in Community Health Nursing** along with the general services in owned hospital, it should have agreement with District Health Office (DHO), District hospital and primary hospital and permission from Department of Health Service (DoHS) District Coordination Committee and District Education Office are needed for field exposure of students in urban and rural health care facilities.

9.1.6 At hospital, Nursing Director /Matron should be MN/M Sc Nursing graduate with a minimum of 2 years of clinical experience. Ward in-charge in all units should be MN/M Sc Nursing graduate or B.Sc. Nursing or B.N. graduates with 10 yrs clinical experience )

### **1.1.6.**

## **10. Other Facilities**

10.1. Photocopy facilities

10.2. Computer with internet facilities at the ratio of 1 for 2 students

10.3. Fax machine and Scanner

10.4. E- learning

## **11. Curriculum Guidelines**

The curriculum must be approved by the approving authority of the concerned academic institution.

- 11.1. Curriculum should have philosophy, aim, objectives and conceptual framework.
- 11.2. The programme may be of 2 years or more duration of full time study.
- 11.3. Hours of theory and practical courses including thesis should be at least 3000. It should have at least 40% theory and 50% clinical hour allocation.
- 11.4. It should include core courses such as Trends and Issues in Nursing, Research, Biostatistics, Educational Science, Health Service Management and Specialty Nursing courses.
- 11.5. There must be provision for the internal and external evaluation of the students and viva voce examination for thesis.

