



VELFERÐARRÁÐUNEYTIÐ

Ministry of Welfare

REGULATION
on the education, rights and obligations of registered nurses
and criteria for granting of licences and specialist licences,
No. 512/2013.

SECTION I

General provisions.

Article 1

Scope.

This Regulation applies to registered nurses holding licences and specialist licences from the Medical Director of Health under Articles 2 and 5.

SECTION II

Licences.

Article 2

Professional title.

The right to use the professional title of registered nurse and to practise as such in Iceland is confined to those who have been granted a licence by the Medical Director of Health.

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¹⁾ *Regulation No. 684/2013, Article 1.*

Article 3

Criteria for granting of a licence.

A licence under Article 2 may be granted to those who have completed a BS degree in nursing from the Faculty of Nursing in the University of Iceland's School of Health Sciences or the University of Akureyri's School of Health Sciences.

A licence from a state within the European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland may also be confirmed, or granted on the basis of education from the aforementioned states. Recognition of professional qualifications and competence of a registered nurse who meets the criteria of Directive 2005/36/EC, on the recognition of professional qualifications, with subsequent amendments, is subject to Regulation on recognition of professional qualifications and competence of healthcare practitioners from other EEA states, No. 461/2011, or to Nordic Convention on a common Nordic labour market for certain health professionals and veterinarians, No. 36/1993 (*cf.* Amendment No. 6/2001).

A licence may also be granted to those who have completed a comparable qualification from an educational institution in a state outside the EEA or Switzerland, which is recognised as such by Icelandic health authorities, and by health authorities in the state where the education took place.

Other criteria for the issue of a licence are subject to Article 12.

Article 4

Opinions.

Before a licence is granted under Article 2 on the basis of education outside Iceland under the third paragraph of Article 3, the Medical Director of Health shall elicit the opinion of the Faculty of Nursing of the University of Iceland's School of Health Sciences and the University of Akureyri's School of

Health Sciences, with regard to whether the applicant fulfils the criteria for qualifications under the first paragraph of Article 3, for granting of a licence.

The Medical Director of Health may elicit opinions from other bodies, as deemed necessary.

SECTION III

Specialist licences in nursing.

Article 5

Specialist licences.

The right to use the title of specialist in a specialist clinical field of nursing and to practise as such in Iceland is confined to those granted a licence by the Medical Director of Health.

Article 6

Criteria for specialist licences.

Specialist licences may be granted in specialist clinical fields of nursing. This is subject to the criterion that the specialist education of the applicant is defined as being within the specialist field for which he/she applies for a specialist licence. The relevant specialist field shall have a solid theoretical basis, and an equivalent shall exist in a recognised international forum.

A specialist clinical field refers to a field which involves working with patients directly, as well as prevention and nursing diagnosis and treatment.

In order to be entitled to receive a specialist licence under Article 5 a registered nurse shall fulfil the following standards:

1. he/she shall be licensed as a registered nurse in Iceland under Article 2;
2. he/she shall have completed a master's or doctoral degree in nursing from a recognised university, or hold an equivalent education; and
3. he/she shall have worked as a registered nurse under the guidance of a specialist in nursing after graduation under indent 2 for the equivalent of at least two years full-time in the field for which the application for a specialist licence is made. If he/she has worked less than full-time, the duration of employment shall be proportionately longer.

Up to twelve months full-time may be subtracted if the person has been employed in the relevant speciality alongside doctoral studies.

A specific field on which the person has focussed within the specialist clinical field may be specified.

Further criteria for the granting of a specialist licence are subject to Article 12.

Article 7

Application and opinions.

An application for a specialist licence in nursing, together with documents confirming education and professional experience, and other necessary documents, shall be submitted to the Medical Director of Health.

Before a specialist licence is granted under Article 5 the Medical Director of Health shall elicit the opinion of the Faculty of Nursing in the University of Iceland's School of Health Sciences and the University of Akureyri's School of Health Sciences, with regard to whether the applicant fulfils the criteria of Article 6.

The Medical Director of Health may appoint a special committee to evaluate and comment upon applications for specialist licences.

The Medical Director of Health may elicit opinions from other bodies, as deemed necessary.

SECTION IV

Rights and obligations.

Article 8

Professional standards and responsibility.

A registered nurse shall show respect for the patient and perform his/her tasks vigilantly and conscientiously and in accordance with the professional standards required of the profession at any time.