



Policy for the duration of a summative assessed practice learning placement

Registration as a nurse or midwife requires successful completion of both the theoretical and the practice components of the respective programme. Alongside the necessary theoretical knowledge, students are provided with practice learning opportunities to achieve the programmes outcomes, proficiencies and demonstrating professional behaviours as required by the NMC Code (NMC 2018a). The assessment and confirmation of proficiency of students on the above programmes need to be evidence based, objective and undertaken in a timely manner (NMC 2018b).

To ensure that there is sufficient time for formative feedback and objective assessment for students, the required summative assessed practice learning placement would normally be a minimum of 150 hours. However if a student has missed some practice (for example due to ill health) the practice assessor may complete the summative assessment if a minimum of 120 hours has been completed and this is deemed appropriate.

If the practice learning placement is less than 150 hours, (for example due to health reasons), and not summatively assessed the hours will contribute to the required hours for the programme. There must be at least one summative assessment in each part/year of the programme.

The above applies to all pre-registration nursing and midwifery programmes.

The final placement of the Nursing programmes is 12 weeks. In exceptional circumstances, for example ill health, this could be reduced to ten weeks if the required components of the practice assessment documentation and the required number of practice learning hours for the programme have been completed.

NMC (2018a) Part 1: Standards Framework for Nursing and Midwifery Education, London, NMC

NMC (2018b) Part 2: Standards for Student Supervision and Assessment, London, NMC

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