

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

NO. R. 2916

30 December 2022

NURSING ACT, 2005 (ACT NO.33 OF 2005)

REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE DISTINGUISHING DEVICES FOR NURSES AND MIDWIVES

The Minister of Health, intends, after consultation with the South African Nursing Council, intends, in terms of section 58(1)(h) of the Nursing Act, 2005 (Act No. 33 of 2005), to make regulations in the Schedule.

Interested persons are invited to submit any substantiated comments or representations on the proposed regulations to the Director-General of Health, Private Bag X828, Pretoria, 0001 (for the attention of the Director: Public Entities and Relations Management, (mihloti.mushwana@health.gov.za and paul.tsebe@health.gov.za), within three (3) months of the date of publication of this Notice.



DR. M.J. PHAAHLA, MP

MINISTER OF HEALTH

DATE: 19/11/2022

SCHEDULE

Definitions

1. In these regulations any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act bears such meaning and, unless the context otherwise indicates –

“**additional qualification**” means a qualification awarded on or upon successful completion of a post graduate nursing programme that is accredited by the Council;

“**badge**” means the official insignia of the South African Nursing Council as prescribed and supplied by the South African Nursing Council;

“**bars**” means a specifically coloured rectangular metal article as designed, prescribed and supplied by the South African Nursing Council;

“**clinical nurse specialist**” means a professional nurse who has undergone and met the theoretical and practical requirements of a specific postgraduate nursing programme;

“**epaulette**” means an official ornamental shoulder piece as designed and distributed by the South African Nursing Council;

“**general nurse**” means a person educated and competent to practise general nursing in the manner and to the level prescribed, who is capable of assuming responsibility and accountability for such practice and is registered as such in terms of the Act;

“**non- clinical nurse specialist**” means a professional nurse who has undergone and met the theoretical and practical requirements of a nursing education and or nursing management postgraduate programme, and is registered as such by the Council; and

“**the Act**” means the Nursing Act, 2005 (Act No.33 of 2005).

Distinguishing devices for Professional Nurses

2. Any Professional Nurse must at all times, when in any area of clinical nursing practice, display on his or her shoulders distinguishing devices consisting of maroon cloth epaulettes to which must be affixed the badge of the Council and described bars.

Distinguishing devices for Midwives

3. Any Midwife must at all times, when in any area of clinical nursing practice display distinguishing devices consisting of maroon cloth epaulettes to which must be affixed the badge of the Council and green bars.

Distinguishing devices for General Nurses

4. Any general nurse must at all times, when in any area of clinical nursing practice, display distinguishing devices consisting of maroon cloth epaulettes to which must be affixed the badge of the Council.

Distinguishing Devices for Nurse Specialists

5. Any Professional Nurse who holds an additional qualification registered with the Council, must in addition to the distinguishing devices as contemplated in regulation 4, display on their epaulets a bar as stipulated below:

- (a) Nurse specialist for clinical specialisation programmes: Gold bar with clinical speciality engraved thereto; and
- (b) Nurse specialist for non-clinical specialisation programmes:
 - (i) Nursing Education: White
 - (ii) Health Services Management: Silver.

Distinguishing devices for Enrolled Nurses

6. Any Enrolled Nurse must at all times, when in any area of clinical nursing practice, display on his or her shoulders distinguishing devices consisting of white epaulettes to which must be affixed the badge of the Council.

Distinguishing devices for Auxiliary Nurses

7. Any Auxiliary Nurse must at all times, when in any area of clinical nursing practice, display on his or her shoulders distinguishing devices consisting of dark turquoise epaulettes, to which must be affixed the prescribed badge of the Council.

Identification

8. Any nurse must at all times, when in any area of clinical nursing practice, wear and display an official, legible identification tag with details determined by the employer.

Other Provisions

9. Notwithstanding the provisions of these regulations, a person registered in terms of the Act, who is a member of the South African Military Health Services, or South African Correctional Services; only has to wear the distinguishing devices as prescribed by the primary legislation relating to such organisations.

Offences

10. (1) Any person who manufactures, sells or supplies any distinguishing device described in these regulations without the written authority of the Council, is guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine or sentence not exceeding two years.

(2) Any person who contravenes any provision of these regulations is liable on conviction to an imprisonment for a period not exceeding five years or a fine or both a fine and an imprisonment.

Wearing of Distinguishing Devices

11. (1) The epaulettes, badge and the bars must be worn as described in this regulation.

(2) The described bars shall be affixed horizontally on the epaulettes, below the badge of the South African Nursing Council as indicated below:



Repeal

12. Regulations published under Government Notice No. R 1201 of 31 July 1970 is hereby repealed.

Short title

13. These Regulations are called Regulations Regarding Distinguishing Devices for Nurses and Midwives, 2022.