



South African Nursing Council
(Under the provisions of the Nursing Act, 2005)

P O Box 1123, Pretoria, 0001
Republic of South Africa

Tel: 012 420-1000
Fax: 012 343-5400

e-mail: registrar@sanc.co.za
web: www.sanc.co.za

602 Pretorius Street, Arcadia,
Pretoria, 0083

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN MIDWIFERY QUALIFICATION FRAMEWORK

SAQA QUAL ID		QUALIFICATION TITLE	
N/A		Advanced Diploma in Midwifery	
ORIGINATOR		REGISTERING PROVIDER	
SANC			
QUALITY ASSURING ETQA			
SANC and CHE			
QUALIFICATION TYPE	FIELD	SUBFIELD	
Advanced Diploma	Field 09 - Health Sciences and Social Services	Promotive, Preventive, Curative Health and Developmental Services	
ABET BAND	MINIMUM CREDITS	NQF LEVEL	QUAL CLASS
Undefined	120	Level 7	Whole qualification

This qualification does not replace any other qualification and is not replaced by any other qualification.

PURPOSE AND RATIONALE OF THE QUALIFICATION

Purpose:

The primary purpose of the qualification is to produce competent, independent and critical thinking midwives who will provide scientific, safe and comprehensive quality midwifery care to individuals, families and communities within the legal and ethical framework.

On successful completion of this qualification, the learner is eligible for registration with the South African Nursing Council as a Midwife.

The qualification aims to:

- Produce competent, independent and critical thinking midwives within a wide range of midwifery health care settings
- Provide midwives with a wide range of skills, knowledge and attitudes that will enable them to make a meaningful and sustained contribution to midwifery services
- Equip midwives with a developed sense of equity, justice and service ethics that will ensure that they work in a responsible and accountable manner irrespective of their chosen work place
- Offer a wide range of transferable skills for application in other professions, disciplines and general life. These include:
 - A methodical solution based approach to problem solving
 - An empowerment- based approach to development of self and others
 - Competence in written and oral communication
 - Capacity to assess and implement midwifery practice and other policies
 - Ability to plan, implement and manage projects of a varied nature
 - Research capacity

ATTRIBUTES

The graduate of this qualification will be able to:

- Apply knowledge of theory, bio-natural sciences, bio-medical, bio-technological and psychosocial sciences to the practice of midwifery
- Develop, implement and evaluate community based midwifery services
- Assess, plan, implement and evaluate midwifery care for individuals and groups throughout the life cycle perspective of reproductive health,
- Promote health, prevent illness, provide midwifery care and rehabilitate individuals, families and groups
- Deliver safe midwifery care
- Utilise research in investigating midwifery problems
- Manage a midwifery unit and facility
- Maintain professionalism in midwifery practice
- Register with the SANC for the duration of learning
- Access to clinical facilities of health service that are accredited by SANC that has a Memorandum of Understanding in place with the relevant health establishment for the practical component
- Clinical and work- based experiences must comply with the regulations of the SANC

Rationale

This qualification will enable the graduate to function as a clinically focused, service orientated, independent midwife, who is able to render comprehensive midwifery care from the pre-natal stage to postnatal stage.

The World Health Organisation (2006) report indicated that the reduction of maternal mortality rate (MMR) is one of the major goals included in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The target for Goal 5 of the Millennium Development is that 90% of births should be attended by skilled attendants by 2015 in the regions where they are not routinely available. There is however slow progress towards achievement of this goal due to shortages of professional midwives in many countries in Africa.

According to health statistics in the Health Systems Trust report, the maternal mortality rate increased by 7% between 1998 and 2004. According to Snyman (2007:8) South Africa had 3 maternal deaths every day of the year for the period 2002-2004.

Corresponding with this is also an alarming number of peri-natal deaths. WHO (2003) states that every year over 4 million babies, less than one month of age die, most of them during the critical first week of life. In South Africa Pick *et al* (2001) found that 80% of midwifery and neonatal services in the country are delivered by midwives and in view of the high peri-natal and maternal mortality and morbidity rates, it is essential to have a properly trained midwifery practitioner who is able to provide quality midwifery and neonatal nursing. Taylor (2008:2) reported that some countries that had similar mortality rates and similar gross national incomes to South Africa in 1990, such as Brazil, Mexico, Egypt, are on track to meet MDG 4 and have halved their under-five mortality rate since then. These countries have managed mortality rates providing professional midwifery care at childbirth (WHO, 2003). Appropriate preparation and skilling of health workers, including midwives, is viewed by WHO (2006) as one of the solutions, hence the need for this midwifery qualification.

MINIMUM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Appropriate diploma or equivalent qualification in nursing/ Staff nurse and/or Professional nurse (General)

LEARNING ASSUMED TO BE IN PLACE

Assumed learning listed below is recommended but not compulsory for admission:

- Communication Skills at NQF Level 4
- Mathematical Literacy at NQF Level 4
- Life Sciences at NQF Level 4
- Computer Literacy at NQF Level 3

Applied knowledge of Bio-Natural Sciences and Social Sciences

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Recognition of prior learning (RPL) for access to this qualification or credit bearing exemptions, an application must be submitted according to the RPL policy of the Nursing Education Institution for individual assessment to R425 candidates that have undergone Midwifery course but were unsuccessful as well as to R254 candidates that have undergone Midwifery course but were unsuccessful

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

In terms of current relevant legislation:

- The Nursing Education Institution (NEI) is required to register learners with the South African Nursing as for the duration of the period of training
- The NEI can only offer programmes and accept students for approved and accredited qualification
- Learners must have access to approved clinical facilities according to training regulations issued by SANC that has a Memorandum of Agreement in place.

QUALIFICATION RULES

Total Credits: 120 of which 52 credits must be acquired in appropriate and accredited clinical facilities and 70% of clinical acquired credits must be supervised and mentored.

QUALIFICATION MATRIX

	THEORY CREDITS	WORK INTEGRATED LEARNING PRACTICAL CREDITS	TOTAL CREDITS
1. FUNDAMENTAL	16		16
2. CORE	52	52	104
TOTAL:	68	52	120

Note to table:

Hours are interpreted as notional hours (1 credit = 10 notional hours)

720 Hours work integrated learning (which can be work-based, clinical skills laboratory or other clinical experiences) of which 70% must be supervised and mentored.

ARTICULATION OPTIONS

The Advance Diploma in Midwifery, articulates with the Post graduate diploma in Midwifery

EXIT LEVEL OUTCOMES

1. Apply specific knowledge of bio-natural, pharmacology and social sciences in Midwifery using an integrated approach.
2. Provide safe and quality midwifery and neonatal care in a scientific, integrated and evidence based approach in all health care settings.
3. Practice independently and professionally within an appropriate ethical-legal framework.
4. Improve quality of midwifery and neonatal care through an analytical, reflective and problem solving approach.
5. Effectively manage a midwifery unit through appropriate clinical governance strategy.

FUNDEMANANTAL	
EXIT LEVEL OUTCOMES	ASSOCIATED ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
1. Apply specific knowledge of bio-natural, pharmacology and social sciences in Midwifery using an integrated approach.	1.1 Knowledge of bio-natural sciences and pharmacology is applied during assessment and care of a mother and neonate 1.2 Knowledge of social sciences is applied in the counselling and advocacy for a mother and baby through the pre-conception, antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal stages
CORE	
EXIT LEVEL OUTCOMES	ASSOCIATED ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
2. Provide safe and quality midwifery and neonatal care in a scientific, integrated and evidence based approach in all health care settings.	2.1 The preparation of a woman and family for pregnancy, childbirth and family changes is appropriate, takes into consideration the woman's context/background and is facilitated by means of antenatal classes and appropriate health education 2.2 Obstetric history-taking and physical examination of the mother is conducted in a comprehensive manner, using a variety of available technology 2.3 Observations of significant changes and laboratory results are accurately interpreted and appropriately referred where potential risk to mother and/or foetus exists 2.4 Monitoring of the well-being of the foetus is ensured by monitoring foetal movement, heart rates and growth

	<p>2.5 Monitoring and management of the mother during labour and delivery is comprehensive, evidences understanding of the physiology of labour, technology used to monitor the mother and wellbeing of the foetus</p> <p>2.6 Management of the newborn demonstrate understanding of changes taking place in a newborn baby</p> <p>2.7 Potential and actual emergencies of the mother and or foetus are timeously identified and accurately managed and referred</p> <p>2.8 Intra-labour care delivered to the mother and baby complies with generally accepted treatment guidelines, manages potential and actual emergencies and promotes the safety of both</p> <p>2.9 Care delivered post-natally is integrated and provides for the long-term wellbeing of mother and child, in line with the accepted Scope of Practice for Midwives</p>
<p>3. Practice independently and professionally within an appropriate ethical-legal framework.</p>	<p>3.1 Knowledge of applicable ethics, professional practice and legal aspects is demonstrated during midwifery practice</p> <p>3.2 Practice and facilitate advocacy for the rights of women, children and their families</p> <p>3.3 Accountability and responsibility for own professional acts and omissions within the relevant legal and ethical parameters is demonstrated</p> <p>3.4 Promote equality within rights regardless of sex, race, religion,</p>
<p>4. Improve quality of midwifery and neonatal care through an analytical, reflective and problem solving approach.</p>	<p>4.1 Illustrate problem solving skills through utilizing scientific information to improve the quality of midwifery practice</p> <p>4.2 Initiate, maintain and utilize methods of enquiry to monitor quality of care</p> <p>4.3 Participate in the develop, review and implementation of midwifery quality improvement plan</p> <p>4.4 Utilise research findings to inform and improve the standards of midwifery practice</p>

<p>5. Effectively manage a midwifery unit through appropriate clinical governance strategy..</p>	<p>5.1 Demonstrate understanding of the value of communities of practice and clinical leadership management principals</p> <p>5.2 Be able to access bench marks and best practices and develop and utilise indicators in Midwifery care</p> <p>5.3 Provide and develop indicators to account for the quality and cost-effectiveness of Midwifery care</p> <p>5.4 Unit philosophy, vision, mission, goals, policies and procedures are developed for midwifery care</p> <p>5.5 Manage diversity and collaborate with all stakeholders within the midwifery context</p>
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CRITICAL CROSSFIELD OUTCOMES

1. Identifying and solving problems in which responses indicate that responsible decisions using critical and creative thinking have been made.
2. Working effectively with others as a member of a team, group, organisation or community.
3. Organising and managing oneself and one`s activities responsibly and effectively.
4. Collecting, analysing, organising and critically evaluating information.
5. Communicating effectively using visual, mathematical and/or language skills in the modes of oral/written persuasion.
6. Using science and technology effectively and critically, showing responsibility towards the environment and health of others.
7. Demonstrating and understanding of the world as a set of related systems by recognising that problem-solving contexts do not exist in isolation

ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING

Integrated Assessment

All assessment should be conducted in line with assessment policy of the NEI

INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

Midwives who obtained this qualification are highly employable globally.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Fundamental means: the learning which forms the grounding or basis to undertake education, training or further learning required in the obtaining of a qualification.

Core means: that compulsory learning required in situations contextually relevant to the particular qualification.