1. Selection, admission and progression

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Approved education institutions, together with practice learning partners, must:

1.1ensure that on entry to the programme the applicant is an:

1.1.1NMC registered nurse (level 1) or NMC registered midwife capable of safe and effective practice at the level of proficiency appropriate to the NMC approved specialist community public health nurse (SCPHN) programme

1.1.2NMC registered nurse (level 1) with relevant professional registration, capable of safe and effective practice at the level of proficiency appropriate to the NMC approved community nursing specialist practice qualification (SPQ) programme

1.2confirm on entry that each applicant selected to undertake SCPHN or community nursing SPQ programme has the academic capability to study at the level required for that programme

1.3provide opportunities that enable eligible[4] NMC registered nurses and/or NMC registered midwives, including NHS, non-NHS, self-employed or self-funded applicants to apply for entry onto an NMC approved SCPHN programme

1.4provide opportunities that enable eligible NMC registered nurses, including NHS, non-NHS, self-employed or self-funded applicants to apply for entry onto an NMC approved community nursing SPQ programme

1.5confirm that the necessary arrangements and governance structures are in place to support practice learning, including employer support and protected learning time, to enable students to undertake and be appropriately supported throughout the programme

1.6consider recognition of prior learning that is capable of being mapped to the:

1.6.1programme learning outcomes and standards of proficiency for the applicant's intended field of SCPHN practice or SCPHN public health nurse practice

1.6.2programme learning outcomes and standards of proficiency for the applicant's intended field of community nursing SPQ practice or in other specified field(s) for the community nursing SPQ in health and social care practice

1.7where programmes intend to offer SCPHN and/or SPQ students admission to an NMC approved independent/supplementary (V300) prescribing programme consider recognition of prior learning that is capable of being mapped to the RPS Competency Framework for all Prescribers[5] for applicants, and

1.8where programmes intend to offer admission to an NMC approved independent/supplementary (V300) prescribing programme to SCPHN and/or SPQ students, ensure that the applicant is a registered nurse (level 1) and/or a registered midwife before being considered as eligible to apply for entry.

4 SCPHN applicants must be RN1, midwife or both. SPQ applicants must be RN1

5 Royal College of Pharmacy Competency Framework for All Prescribers