About our standards

Last Updated: 05/11/2026

Our standards for education and training include the Standards framework for nursing[1] and midwifery education, Standards for student supervision and assessment, and programme standards specific to each approved programme.

Our standards for education and training are set out in three parts:

Part 1: Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education

Part 2: Standards for student supervision and assessment

Part 3: Programme standards:

- Standards for pre-registration nursing programmes
- Standards for pre-registration midwifery programmes
- Standards for pre-registration nursing associate programmes
- Standards for prescribing programmes
- Standards for post-registration programmes: programmes leading to specialist community public health nurse qualifications and programmes leading to community nursing specialist practice qualifications
- Standards for return to practice programmes

Supporting information for our Standards for student supervision and assessment is on our website.

These standards help nursing and midwifery students achieve NMC proficiencies and programme outcomes. All nursing and midwifery professionals must practise in line with the requirements of the Code, the professional standards of practice, values and behaviours that nurses, midwives and nursing associates are expected to uphold.

[1] We have used the phrase 'nursing' in this document to apply to the work of nurses and nursing associates. Nursing associates are a distinct profession in England with their own part of our register, but they are part of the nursing team.