
	<b>BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE</b>	Document No.	DNCQF.P01.GD02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	01.08.2022

SECTION A: QUALIFICATION DETAILS														
<b>QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER (S)</b>		University of Botswana												
<b>TITLE</b>	Master of Nursing Science in Family Nurse Practitioner										<b>NCQF LEVEL</b>	9		
<b>FIELD</b>	Health & Social Services			<b>SUB-FIELD</b>		Health Science				<b>CREDIT VALUE</b>	270			
New Qualification						√		Legacy Qualification						
<b>SUB-FRAMEWORK</b>		General Education					TVET					Higher Education		√
<b>QUALIFICATION TYPE</b>	Certificate	I		II		III		IV		V		Diploma		Bachelor
	Bachelor Honours					Post Graduate Certificate						Post Graduate Diploma		
	Masters						√		Doctorate/ PhD					
<b>RATIONALE AND PURPOSE OF THE QUALIFICATION</b>														
<p><b>RATIONALE:</b></p> <p>There is a shortage of primary healthcare providers with the skills to provide crucial healthcare services in Botswana. Masters prepared Family Nurse Practitioners (FNPs), educated with advanced knowledge and skills to provide expert assessment, diagnosis, and management of disease and provide and lead health promotion services, are uniquely situated to fulfil the need in primary health care settings. Currently, there are insufficient numbers of Family Nurse Practitioners prepared at the master's level. The School of Nursing is the only institution offering a master's degree (FNP) in the country.</p> <p>According to the Integrated Service Plan 2010-2020, there is a total shortfall of 164 FNPs that are needed in primary hospitals (64), districts (60) and referral hospitals (20). The National Development Plan 11 (2017 – 2023) calls for improving quality healthcare services through strengthened human capital. Human Resource Development Council (HRDC) Strategy indicates that advancing the education and number of professional nurses is one of the most important human resource priorities in Botswana.</p>														

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		Effective Date	01.08.2022

The World Health Organization Global Strategic Directions for Strengthening Nursing and Midwifery (2016 – 2020) has set goals to ensure an educated, competent, and motivated nursing and midwifery workforce. FNPs, as primary health care providers, are integral professionals to the attainment of this goal. According to the Essential Health Service Package for Botswana (2010), Botswana can't staff all levels of healthcare facilities with relevant competent staff as per standards and norms of staffing because of a shortage of human resources. The Ministry of Health and Wellness (MoH&W) aims to assist in training facilities for optimum human resource production. Therefore, increased numbers of masters prepared FNPs are a priority in ensuring the success of the health care system. This qualification will render graduates eligible to register as advanced clinicians with the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Botswana and other nursing regulatory bodies both regionally and internationally.

### **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this qualification is to produce graduates with advanced knowledge, skills and competence to:

- Diagnose and manage individuals, families, groups, and communities.
- Research to add to the body of nursing knowledge and assess, diagnose, and manage common primary healthcare problems, including non-communicable diseases.
- Provide health care and comprehensive wellness across the lifespan at the primary level.
- Practice and lead initiatives in hospital outpatient departments, clinics, long-term care facilities, community health centres and private practice.
- Provide advanced, focused, and comprehensive assessment and manage clients' which includes prescription of medication and ordering and interpreting diagnostic investigations at the primary care level.
- Promote, maintain and restore the health of individuals, groups, families, and communities across the lifespan primary level.
- Apply entrepreneurial skills in the delivery of services.


### **MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)**


**The minimum entry requirement for this qualification is:**

Bachelor's Degree, NCQF level 7 or equivalent.

### **Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL):**

There will be access through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) following the RPL and CAT National Policies.


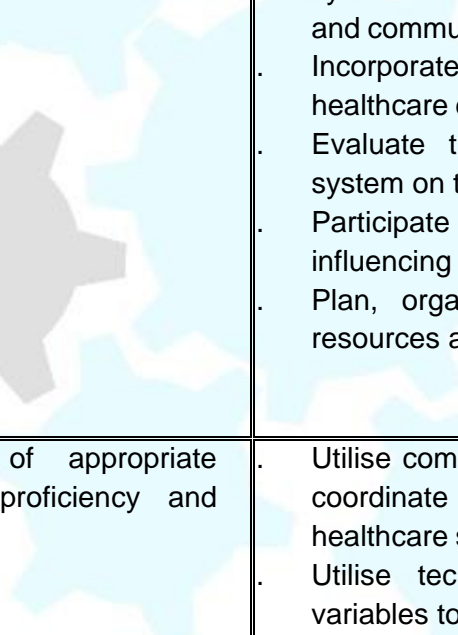
	<b>BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE</b>	Document No.	DNCQF.P01.GD02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	01.08.2022

<b>SECTION B</b>		<b>QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION</b>	
<b>GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)</b>		<b>ASSESSMENT CRITERIA</b>	
<p>1. Demonstrate mastery of theoretical subject matter in one or more disciplines or areas of professional practice.</p> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrate scientific findings from nursing, biopsychosocial fields, genetics, primary health, quality improvement, and organizational sciences to improve primary health care assessment.</li> <li>Use nursing and non-nursing theories and frameworks in the analysis of socio-cultural and clinical problems and in the implementation of disease prevention, health promotion strategies and disease management in the care of clients across the lifespan in the primary care settings.</li> <li>Use statistical and epidemiological principles to evaluate client outcomes in FNP practice.</li> <li>Design intervention strategies to address developmental, physiological, pathological, and functional decline and health needs across the lifespan.</li> </ul>	
<p>2. Demonstrate knowledge and skills in providing health care across the lifespan.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess the health status, illness conditions, response to illness, and health risks of individuals, families and groups.</li> <li>Develop a management plan with the client or significant others, which reflects interventions based on established diagnoses aimed at developing or enhancing the problem-solving and self-care abilities of the client.</li> <li>Evaluate the impact of health care delivery on clients.</li> <li>Collaborate in planning for transition across the continuum of care across the lifespan.</li> <li>Apply principles of primary health care, family nursing and the self-care perspective to ensure holistic health care for individuals and their families.</li> </ul>	

 <b>BOTSWANA</b> Qualifications Authority	<b>BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE</b>	Document No.	DNCQF.P01.GD 02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	01.08.2022

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide multi-culturally sensitive health care to individuals, families, groups, and communities in a rapidly changing society.</li> </ul>
3. Utilize critical thinking and clinical decision-making skills to establish the client's problems, concerns or needs in service provision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Critically analyse and synthesise client- relevant data.</li> <li>Formulate comprehensive differential diagnoses considering epidemiology, environmental and community characteristics, and life-stage development.</li> <li>Critically analyse literature and utilize the findings.</li> <li>Utilise relevant and current literature to develop and review practice procedures and guidelines.</li> <li>Evaluate the usefulness of the procedures and guidelines.</li> </ul>
4. Apply relevant professional, ethical, and legal principles in service provision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assume responsibility for professional growth and contribute to the development of nursing and the Family Nurse Practitioner role.</li> <li>Act as a role model and mentor for evidence- based clinical decision-making in the Family nurse practitioner practice.</li> <li>Advocate for the ethical conduct of research with particular attention to protecting the client as a research participant.</li> </ul>
5. Conduct research and utilise research results and new developments in the care of clients across the lifespan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify problems and issues in primary health care settings that need an enquiry.</li> <li>Conduct research based on recognition of the client environment and the health care system.</li> <li>Integrate professional values in conducting and utilizing research.</li> <li>Translate research and new knowledge to improve FNP practice processes and outcomes.</li> <li>Provide evidenced based practice.</li> </ul>


	<b>BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE</b>	Document No.	DNCQF.P01.GD 02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	01.08.2022

<p>6. Direct and collaborate with other professionals and stakeholders in providing quality care to clients.</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for policy development and employ advocacy strategies to influence primary health care and family nurse practitioner role.</li> <li>Communicate, collaborate, and consult with other health professionals to manage and coordinate health care.</li> <li>Collaborate with alternative healthcare delivery systems to provide primary healthcare to families and communities.</li> <li>Incorporate access, cost, efficacy, and quality during healthcare decision-making.</li> <li>Evaluate the impact of the healthcare delivery system on the care of clients.</li> <li>Participate in policy and legislative changes influencing healthcare and the healthcare system.</li> <li>Plan, organise, coordinate, control and monitor resources and activities in FNP practice.</li> </ul>
<p>7. Demonstrate the use of appropriate technology to enhance proficiency and quality in service provision.</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilise communication technologies to integrate and coordinate assessment and management in primary healthcare settings.</li> <li>Utilise technology system to capture data on variables to evaluate client care.</li> <li>Design and implement education programs for cohorts of patients, students or other healthcare providers using information and communication technologies.</li> <li>Use knowledge from information sciences, health communication, and health to provide health care across the lifespan</li> </ul>
<p>8. Demonstrate self-directedness and autonomy in the provision of service.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute significantly to designing standards, interventions, quality assurance tools and performance measures related to nursing practitioner practice.</li> <li>Demonstrate core competencies of FNP in patient care.</li> <li>Plan and manage projects to promote health care across the lifespan.</li> </ul>

	<b>BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE</b>	Document No.	DNCQF.P01.GD 02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	01.08.2022


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop appropriate networking and credibility-building strategy.</li> </ul>
9. Apply entrepreneurial skills in the delivery of services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify areas of possible entrepreneurial activities in the provision of care.</li> <li>Demonstrate entrepreneurial skills in the provision of primary health care.</li> <li>Practice independently in managing the health/illness status of clients and families across the lifespan.</li> </ul>



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		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	01.08.2022


<b>SECTION C</b>		<b>QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE</b>			
<b>COMPONENT</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level</b>			<b>Total Credits</b>
		<b>Level [8]</b>	<b>Level [9]</b>	<b>Level [10]</b>	
<b>FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT</b>  <i>Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units</i>	Sexual & Reproductive Health and Rights		12		12
	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing		12		12
	Research Methods in Nursing		12		12
	Medical Statistics		12		12
<b>CORE COMPONENT</b>  <i>Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units</i>	Pathophysiology		12		12
	Health Assessment in Advanced Practice		15		15
	Pharmaceuticals for Advanced Practice Nursing		12		12
	Adult and Older Adult Primary Care		12		12
	Adult and Older Adult Primary Care Practice		16		16
	Children and Adolescents Primary Care		12		12




	<b>BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE</b>	Document No.	DNCQF.P01.GD02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	01.08.2022

	Children and Adolescents Primary Care Practice		<b>16</b>		<b>16</b>
	Internship in Family Nurse Practitioner		<b>32</b>		<b>32</b>
	Research Thesis		<b>80</b>		<b>80</b>
<b>ELECTIVE COMPONENT</b>	Curriculum Development		<b>12</b>		<b>12</b>
	Health Informatics		<b>12</b>		
	Gender and Health Education		<b>12</b>		
	Counselling of Persons with Special Needs		<b>12</b>		



	<b>BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE</b>	Document No.	DNCQF.P01.GD02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	01.08.2022

<b>SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL</b>	
<b>TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL</b>	
<b>NCQF Level</b>	<b>Credit Value</b>
<b>Fundamental Courses</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Core Courses</b>	<b>207</b>
<b>Elective Courses</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>267</b>
<b>Rules of Combination:</b> <b>(Please Indicate combinations for the different constituent components of the qualification)</b>	
<p>The Master of Nursing Science (MNSc) in Family Nurse Practitioner structure comprises a fundamental, core, research and optional components worth 267 credits.</p> <p>Fundamental – 48 credits</p> <p>Core – 207 credits</p> <p>Electives – 12 credits</p> <p><i>Total – 267 credits</i></p> <p>The students are expected to pass all the components as structured to be awarded a qualification. Successful program completion will qualify the graduate to be registered as a Family Nurse Practitioner specialist with the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Botswana.</p>	

	<b>BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE</b>	Document No.	DNCQF.P01.GD02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	01.08.2022

## **ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

### **Formative assessment**

Formative assessment or continuous assessment contributing towards the award of credits should be based on course outcomes. This can include tests, assignments and projects, as well as simulated and real work settings. The contribution of formative assessment to the final grade shall be **60%**.

### **Summative assessment**

The summative assessment shall contribute **40%** of the assessment.

## **MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS**

Both internal and external moderation shall be done in accordance with applicable policies and regulations and shall be carried out by registered and accredited moderators.

## **RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING**

There will be a provision for awarding this qualification through Recognition of Prior Learning in line with BQA RPL and CAT policy and the well-established ETP RPL Policy.

## **CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER**


There will be a provision for awarding this qualification through Credit Accumulation and Transfer in line with BQA RPL and CAT policy.

## **PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)**

### **Learning Pathways**

#### **Horizontal Pathways**

Master of Nursing Science (Midwifery)  
 Master of Nursing Science (Adult Health Nursing)  
 Master of Nursing Science (Geriatric Nurse Practitioner)  
 Master of Nursing Science (Child and Adolescent Nursing)  
 Master of Nursing Science (Community Health Nursing)  
 Master of Nursing Administration  
 Master of Counselling  
 Master of Education  
 Master of Philosophy

	<b>BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE</b>	Document No.	DNCQF.P01.GD02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	01.08.2022

## Master of Public Health

### Vertical Pathways

PhD in Nursing  
Doctor of Nursing Practice


### Employment Pathways

- FNP in Government health posts, clinics, and hospitals
- Assessor of medical claims in Medical Insurance Companies, e.g., BOMAID
- FNP in Private Practice
- Providing health care in Hospice Centres
- Providing health care in the Nursing Homes
- FNP in Mining Hospitals
- Researcher and coordinators of primary health care programs in UN agencies (WHO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR)
- Providing health care in School Health Clinics
- Coordinators for HIV & AIDS and health welfare officers in various government ministries and other organisations.
- Specialist representative in Local & International Professional bodies, e.g. Nursing and Midwifery Council of Botswana, International Confederation of Midwives, or International Council of Nurses
- Educators in Training and or academic Institutions
- FNP in Aviation nurses (for civil aviation)
- Researchers in ACHAP
- FNP in Disciplined Forces (BDF, Police, Prisons)
- FNP in Schools
- FNP in Banks
- FNP in Industries
- FNP in Emergency Medical Services

## QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

### Minimum standards of achievement for the award of the qualification

To be awarded a Master of Nursing Science in Family Nurse Practitioner, a candidate must achieve a maximum of **267** credits inclusive of 48 credits for Fundamental courses, 207 credits for Core courses and 12 credits for Optional/ Elective courses to be awarded the qualification.

	<b>BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE</b>	Document No.	DNCQF.P01.GD02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	01.08.2022

### ***Certification***

Candidates meeting prescribed requirements will be awarded the qualification following the standards prescribed for the award of the qualification and applicable policies.

### ***SUMMARY OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY***

This qualification compares with the following:

The [Victoria University of Wellington](#), New Zealand, NOF level 9, worth 240 credits, graduates will be leaders in their clinical environments and will have advanced clinical and research skills. They will be prepared to improve health outcomes through their knowledge and critique of current practice issues. Entry requirements- A bachelor's degree in Nursing and New Zealand Registered Nurse status.

The Master of Nursing Science comprises either a coursework option of eight courses or a research option of five courses and a thesis. Coursework covers the areas of assessment and clinical reasoning, pathophysiology, and research principles.

### ***REVIEW PERIOD***

The qualification will be reviewed every 5 years.