

	BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE	Document No.	DNCQF.P01.GD02
		Issue No.	01
		Effective Date	01.08.2022

SECTION A: QUALIFICATION DETAILS														
QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER (S)		University of Botswana												
TITLE	Master of Nursing Science in Community Health Nursing										NCQF LEVEL	9		
STRANDS (where applicable)	1. 2. 3. 4.													
FIELD	Health and Social Services			SUB-FIELD	Health Science				CREDIT VALUE	260				
New Qualification					✓		Legacy Qualification							
SUB-FRAMEWORK		General Education					TVET					Higher Education		✓
QUALIFICATION TYPE	Certificate	I	II	III	IV	V		Diploma		Bachelor				
	Bachelor Honours				Post Graduate Certificate					Post Graduate Diploma				
	Masters					✓		Doctorate/ PhD						
RATIONALE AND PURPOSE OF THE QUALIFICATION														
RATIONALE: Community Health Nurses are amongst the cadres still relevant and in demand, this is according to the Botswana Health Services Plan (BHSP), 2010-2020 & HRDC Labour Market Report Dec. (2016). Professional nurses are a priority according to the Human Resources Development Council (HRDC) human resource strategy, and the National Development Plan (2017 – 2023) calls for improvement to quality health care services through strengthened human capital. World Health Organization Global strategic directions for nursing and midwifery (2016 – 2020) has a thematic area focused on ensuring educated, competent and motivated nursing and midwifery workforce. Achieving the universal health coverage requires addressing determinants of health														

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using multi-sectoral solutions to community health problems. This will also depend on evidence-based approaches to address the identified problems. A community health approach achieving UHC will also need to transform health care systems that are not aligned with the communities they serve and improve the prevention of illness.

Currently the School of Nursing is the only institution in the country that offers specialization in Community Health Nursing. This qualification will render graduates eligible to register with the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Botswana and nursing regulatory bodies both regionally and internationally. Community Health Nursing specialty prepares nurses to assume leadership in assessing communities and populations, identifying high risk groups, and in partnership with communities, consumers, and stakeholders, develop culturally sensitive, acceptable, and realistic community-based nursing interventions.

PURPOSE: (itemise exit level outcomes)

The purpose of the qualification is to produce graduates with advanced knowledge, skills, and competences to;

- Develop community-based interventions that are multi-sectoral, acceptable, and culturally sensitive.
- Improve the quality of health care outcomes for individuals, families, and communities.
- Address determinants of health, using advocacy, policy development and planning.
- Build collaborative partnerships within the health care teams.
- Provide evidence-based community health nursing practice.
- Evaluate, conduct, and disseminate research, using evidence-based practice to analyse situation.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

- i. NCQF Level 8 or equivalent
- ii. RPL and CAT will be considered for admission according to the institution RPL and CAT policies aligned to national RPL and CAT policies
- iii. In addition to one of the above, the candidate must also have a current and active certificate of registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Botswana.

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SECTION B		QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION	
GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)		ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	
1.Utilize theoretical framework to determine the needs of individuals, families, and communities.		1.1 Conduct a community assessment and diagnosis. 1.2 Use community assessment data in the development of appropriate interventions. 1.3 Assist in data collection process. 1.4 Identifies relevant and appropriate data and information sources. 1.5 Applies ethical principles in the provision of care. 1.6 Interpret basic epidemiological measures such as morbidity and mortality rates, incidence, and prevalence rates. 1.7 Identifies community assets and available resources.	
2. Foster collaborative relationships with relevant stakeholders to promote the health of the populations.		2.1 Develop an assessment plan in collaboration with community partners. 2.2 Analyse CHBC activities. 2.3 Implement expanded immunization program. 2.4 Collaborate with other community activists in planning, implementing, and evaluating health interventions.	
3.Inform and educate populations at risk about health hazards, and public health and community resources.		3.1 Implement effective patient education strategies that are based on an understanding of a variety of world views. 3.2 Interprets and implements public health laws, regulations and policies related to specific programs. 3.3 Provide bereavement care, support and management to individuals and families.	

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4. Develop mechanisms to monitor and evaluate programs for their effectiveness in the provision of service.	<p>4.1 Utilize appropriate tools to review program implementation.</p> <p>4.2 Write periodic reports on progress.</p> <p>4.3 Develop and maintain an inventory of resources.</p>
5. Critically evaluate the findings and discussions in relevant literature.	<p>5.1 Applies current relevant scientific evidence in community health nursing practice.</p> <p>5.2 Identifies the limitations of research and the importance of observations and relationships.</p>
6. Apply relevant ethical principles in research, practice and education.	<p>6.1 Support lifelong learning to improve care decisions and be a role model and mentor for evidence-based decision making.</p> <p>6.2 Advocate for the ethical conduct of research and scholarship with particular attention to protecting clients/patients' rights in service provision and protection of human subjects in research.</p> <p>6.3 Conduct research, disseminate findings and utilize evidence to inform practice, education, and research.</p>
7. Apply new knowledge and skills to complex situations.	<p>7.1 Identifies the role of cultural, social, and behavioural factors in determining the delivery of public health services.</p> <p>7.2 Implement culturally relevant interventions.</p> <p>7.3 Promotes the expression of diverse opinions and perspectives.</p> <p>7.4 Advocates for community and public health programs and resources.</p> <p>7.5 Develops and adapts approaches to problems that take into account cultural differences.</p>

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8. Engage in rigorous intellectual analysis and problem solving.	8.1 Involve communities in the identification of their Health needs. 8.2 Interprets and presents health information to community leaders, policymakers, and relevant stakeholders. 8.3 Provide leadership in collaborative teams to improve community health nursing outcomes. 8.4 Communicate effectively both in writing and orally or in other ways.
9. Utilize appropriate technology to enhance proficiency and quality in professional practice.	9.1 Identify emerging healthcare technologies. 9.2 Demonstrate appropriate use of emerging healthcare technologies. 9.3 Utilize different types of emerging technologies to support decision-making processes.
10. Utilize entrepreneurship frameworks for reflective decision-making and goal setting in service provision.	10.1 Discuss contemporary innovation concepts and methods. and practices to improve health outcomes. 10.2 Foster the development of financial plans and controls to improve the health of communities. 10.3 Mobilize resources for innovative interventions. 10.4 Utilize leadership and management principles in the decision-making and evaluation of programs.

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SECTION C		QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE			
COMPONENT	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total Credits
		Level []	Level []	Level [9]	
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT <i>Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units</i>	Theoretical Foundations			12	12
	Research Methods			12	12
	Medical Statistics			16	16
	Research Thesis			80	80
CORE COMPONENT <i>Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units</i>	Theory & Principles of Community Health Nursing			12	12
	Advanced Community Health Nursing Practice			16	16
	Epidemiology			12	12
	Health Assessment and Risk Reduction in Schools			12	12
	School Health Nursing Practice			16	16
	Issues & Principles of Occupational Health Nursing			12	12
	Occupational Health Nursing Practice			16	16
	Internship in Community Health Nursing			32	32

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STRANDS/ SPECIALIZATION	<i>Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units</i>	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total Credits
		Level []	Level []	Level [9]	
1.					
2.					

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Electives	Policy and Health Service Management				12
	Principles of Teaching and Learning				12
	Palliative Care & Symptom Management in Oncology				12
	Strategic Management				12
	Counselling of Persons with Special Needs				12
	Counselling Strategies				12

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SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL	
TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL	
NCQF Level	Credit Value
Fundamental Component	120
Core Component	128
Elective/Optional Component	12
TOTAL CREDITS	260
Rules of Combination: (Please Indicate combinations for the different constituent components of the qualification)	
<p>A candidate is required to achieve a minimum of 260 credits. This includes:</p> <p>Fundamental Component = 120 credits = 46%</p> <p>Core Component = 128 credits = 49 % (Theory= 480hrs; clinical = 800hrs)</p> <p>Electives/Optional = 12 credits = 5%</p> <p>N.B</p> <p>% Supervised Research = $80/260 = 30\%$ (Required=25% minimum)</p> <p>Total credit load for Full time and Part time = 260 (NORMAL RANGE= 240+) +10%</p>	

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ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

All assessments which are leading to the award of the qualification should be based on learning outcomes and assessment criteria. Theory (continuous assessment) and practice shall be weighed on a ratio of 60:40. The rationale is that at a Master's level, students' practice should be theory and evidence- based. Assessment will be carried out by BQA accredited assessors.

MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

Internal and external moderation shall apply in accordance with applicable policies and regulations and moderation will be carried out by BQA accredited moderators.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

There is provision to award this qualification through RPL in accordance with the institutional RPL policy and regulation which are in alignment with the National RPL policy.

CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

There is provision to award this qualification through CAT in accordance with the institutional CAT policy and regulation which are in alignment with the National CAT policy.

PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

Horizontal Articulation (related qualifications of similar level that graduates may consider)

- Master of Nursing Science (Midwifery)
- Master of Nursing Science (Adult Health Nursing)
- Master of Nursing Science (Family Nurse Practitioner)
- Master of Nursing Science (Child and Adolescent Nursing)
- Master of Nursing Administration
- Master of Public Health
- Master of Nursing Education
- Master of Counselling

Vertical Articulation (qualifications to which the holder may progress to)

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- Doctor of Philosophy in nursing
- Doctor of Nursing Science

Employment Pathways

Community Health Nurses typically work in the following Career Sectors:

- Professional nurse
- Educator
- Researcher
- Case manager

QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

Candidates meeting prescribed requirements including 260 credits will be awarded the Master of Nursing Science in Community Health Nursing qualification and be issued with certificates

SUMMARY OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY


The proposed Qualification was compared to the following.

1. Victoria Wellington, Master of Nursing Science; NQF level 9. (240 credits). New Zealand
2. University of Johannesburg, MNS NQF level 9. (284 credits). South Africa
3. University of Brighton in U.K., MSc – level 9; Specialist Community Public Health Nursing MSc. (220 credits) United Kingdom

The qualification compares well with three universities (one in the region; University of Johannesburg and two international; Victoria Wellington University in New Zealand and Brighton University in United Kingdom. The minimum admission requirement for a master's programme is a qualification at NQF level 8. The modes of assessment of the program are summative and formative. Students must have completed course work, clinical attachments, research essays, and passed both the theoretical and practical examinations. Duration of the study: minimum 2 and maximum 4 years.

The common features of these qualifications are Course work, Clinical practice, and Research. Domains covered are health promotion across, epidemiology, Schools Health, Occupational Health, Community health nursing, Programme development and management, research methodology and mini dissertation.

Although the qualification compares well with other universities in the region, there are some differences noted, in terms of total number of credits, University of Johannesburg (284 credits), Victoria Wellington University (240

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credits) and Brighton University (220 credits). However, the credits fall within the acceptable range of a masters' qualification.

REVIEW PERIOD

Every five years.

