



LSA National Forum (UK)
Guidelines for the statutory supervision of midwives

J

CONFIRMING MIDWIVES ELIGIBILITY TO PRACTISE

Guideline produced by:	Kath Mannion LSAMO
Guideline production date:	Version 1 - February 2007
Consultation process:	LSA National Forum (UK)
Draft produced by:	Version 1- Kath Mannion February 2007
Draft reviewed by:	LSA National Forum (UK)
Guideline approved by:	LSA National Forum (UK)
Guideline approval date:	May 2007
Guideline implementation date:	July 2007
Guideline review Date:	July 2010
LSAMO identified for archiving guideline:	Joy Kirby

Guideline updated August 2009 to reflect current NMC publications.

Paper copies of this guideline may not be the most recent version. The definitive version is held at www.midwife.org.uk



LSA National Forum (UK) Guidelines for the statutory supervision of midwives

Introduction

The local supervising authority standard contained within Rule 12 of the Midwives rules and standards (NMC 2004) determines that local supervising authority will publish the local mechanism for confirming any midwife's eligibility to practise.

This guideline sets out the principles of confirming any midwife's eligibility to practise. Each individual midwife will have her eligibility to practise confirmed at annual review by her named supervisor of midwives. The review provides an opportune moment to review the individual's eligibility to practise. It will assist the supervisor of midwives to sign and confirm on the Intention to Practise (ITP) form that the midwife has met the NMC requirements to maintain registration as a midwife.

Process

In order to be eligible to practise a midwife must:

- Hold current registration on part 2 of the Nursing and Midwifery Council Register
- Notify her intention to practise to each local supervising authority where she intends to practise on a yearly basis
- Meet and maintain the post-registration education and practice (PREP) standards as set by the Nursing and Midwifery Council
- Practise within the Midwives rules and standards (NMC 2004)
- Practise within The Code: Standards of conduct, performance and ethics for nurses and midwives (NMC 2008)

The PREP handbook (NMC 2008) gives clear instruction as to the requirements for renewing registration. It also gives clear guidance on both the PREP practice and education standards.

Prior to taking up employment employers will check that the midwife is registered with the NMC as a midwife. The midwife is required to submit her Intention to Practise to her named supervisor of midwives prior to or on the day of commencing employment. On receipt of the ITP the supervisor of midwives must ensure that the midwife's registration is live with the NMC.



LSA National Forum (UK) Guidelines for the statutory supervision of midwives

Confirmation of registration with the NMC

The NMC offers three ways to confirm registration status: -

1. Online: the NMC's on-line confirmation service provides 24-hour access. Simply log on to www.nmc-uk.org and follow the step by step instructions. This system also allows an official confirmation report to be printed for each confirmation checked.
2. Telephone: The NMC operates an automated registration confirmations hotline 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The registration confirmations hotline is 020 7631 3200. A written status report will be generated by the NMC and sent to you in the post.
3. Written: For bar coded blank written confirmation forms email the NMC with the subject heading Blank Confirmations Forms Request along with your caller code, contact name, company name and address. A pack will then be sent out to you. Please do not fax in written requests as these are bar coded documents which cannot be scanned in to their systems.

If a valid ITP for the practice year is not on record, the caller will be advised to contact the Local Supervising Authority Midwifery Officer to see if they (the LSA) have received one recently.

The supervisor of midwives will as part of the annual review, discuss with the midwife her eligibility to practise. Records of the supervisory review must be made in accordance with NMC and LSA guidance.

In addition the supervisor or nominated officer must check with the NMC confirmation service that the midwife has re-registered/paid their fees by the renewal date.



LSA National Forum (UK) Guidelines for the statutory supervision of midwives

References

NMC (2004) *Midwives rules and standard*: Nursing and Midwifery Council London <http://www.nmc-uk.org/aFrameDisplay.aspx?DocumentID=169>

NMC (2008) *The Code: Standards of conduct, performance and ethics for nurses and midwives* Nursing and Midwifery Council London
<http://www.nmc-uk.org/aArticle.aspx?ArticleID=3056>

NMC (2008) *The PREP Handbook*: Nursing and Midwifery Council London
<http://www.nmc-uk.org/aDisplayDocument.aspx?documentID=4340>