

QUALIFICATION TITLE

Diploma in Public Health Nursing

QUALIFICATION TYPE, LEVEL AND DURATION

1. Qualification type – Diploma
2. Level of qualification – Zambia qualification framework (ZQF) Level 6
- 3. Duration of training**
 - 3.1 Pre-Service – 3 years
 - 3.2 In-Service – 1 year 6 months

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

PRE- SERVICE

1. School Certificate (Grade 12/High School Certificate or equivalent) with 5 'O' levels at credit or better
2. 5 'O' Levels should include English Language, Mathematics, and a Science
3. The minimum age shall be 16 years.

IN-SERVICE

1. School Certificate (Grade 12/High School Certificate or equivalent) with 5 'O' levels at credit or better
2. 5 'O' Levels should include English Language, Mathematics, and a Science.
3. Diploma in Nursing, and diploma in all other nursing specialties and/ or Midwifery
4. Current practising certificate.

QUALIFICATION OF TRAINERS/ASSESSORS

The theoretical and practical instruction shall be given by practitioners with LEVEL 7 of ZQF in possession of the following:

1. Bachelor of Science in Public Health Nursing.
2. Current practicing certificate.
3. Evidence to have learnt teaching methodologies.
4. 1 year 6 months and above of work experience in the clinical area.

AIM AND LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAMME

AIM

To train a Public Health Nurse who will be self-directed, analytical, knowledgeable, skillful and responsive to changing health needs, emerging diseases and able to deliver public health services across the continuum of care ranging from promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative care services to individuals, families and communities.

PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the programme, graduates will be able to:

1. Utilise principles of sociology, psychology, and fundamentals of nursing in the provision of public healthcare services.
2. Apply professional standards during public health nursing practice.
3. Utilise nutrition and pharmacological principles in public health nursing practice.
4. Apply knowledge of microbiology, anatomy, and physiology in public health nursing practice.
5. Apply knowledge and skills of health communication in public health nursing practice.
6. Utilise the principles of Paediatric and Child Health Nursing in care of children and their families.
7. Apply knowledge and skills of psychiatry and mental health in provision of public healthcare to clients with mental disorders in the community.
8. Apply knowledge, skills, and right attitude of medical surgical nursing in public health practice.
9. Apply principles of Public Health Nursing in the care of patients/clients.
10. Apply knowledge, skills, and right attitude of integrated reproductive health in public health nursing practice.
11. Apply knowledge of leadership, management, and governance in public health nursing practice.
12. Apply knowledge, skill, and right attitude in influencing behaviour of the individuals, families and communities in promotion and maintenance of health.
13. Apply knowledge, skills and right attitude of occupational health and safety in various work places.
14. Utilise research results in the provision of evidence based public health nursing services.
15. Apply epidemiological knowledge in the provision of public health nursing services.

MODE OF DELIVERY

Delivery of this curriculum shall be face to face or eLearning using various teaching and learning methods through a blended approach. The theoretical, practical, and reflective competencies shall guide the delivery of this curriculum. To acquire knowledge; lecturing,

discussions and problem-based learning shall be used. Clinical skills shall be acquired through demonstrations, role plays, use of technology such as internet, videos, and simulations. Case studies and presentations shall be used to strengthen reflective learning.

STATEMENT OF STRATEGIC PURPOSE

Zambia envisages to have equal access to quality health services for all. The focus is on delivering public health services across the continuum of care ranging from promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative services, which should be provided to individuals, families and communities.

The implementation of this curriculum will enhance the quality of public health nursing training in the country and assist Zambia in addressing the emerging diseases and meeting the needs for public healthcare services. The curriculum aims to equip the learners with competencies that will contribute to meeting the societal/client health care needs.

The progression pathways of the graduates from this program shall be Bachelor of Science in Public Health Nursing, Master of Science in Public Health Nursing, Epidemiology and Global Health as well as Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). The graduates of the program will work in partnership with other members of the multi-disciplinary teams in the healthcare system.

The review of this curriculum involved a number of key stakeholders and partners such as Ministry of Health, Zambia Union of Nurses Organization (ZUNO) and SolidarMed.

SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE OF LEARNERS

The learners are at risk of contracting infections during their training. Therefore, the safety and healthcare needs of the learners have been incorporated in Fundamentals of Nursing and Microbiology courses. Life skills training will also help to enhance safety of the learner. In addition, the cultural and emotional needs of learners have been incorporated in Sociology, Psychology and Health Communication courses.

CORE COMPETENCIES

1. Utilises principles of sociology, psychology and fundamentals of nursing in the provision of public healthcare services.
2. Applies professional standards during public health nursing practice.
3. Utilises nutrition and pharmacological principles in public health nursing practice.
4. Applies knowledge of microbiology, anatomy and physiology in public health nursing practice.
5. Applies knowledge and skills of health communication in public health nursing practice.
6. Utilises the principles of Paediatric and Child Health Nursing in care of children and their families.
7. Applies knowledge and skills of psychiatry and mental health in provision of public healthcare to clients with mental disorders in the community.
8. Applies knowledge, skills and right attitude of medical surgical nursing in public health practice.
9. Applies principles of Public Health Nursing in the care of patients/clients.
10. Applies knowledge, skills and right attitude of integrated reproductive health in public nursing practice.
11. Applies knowledge of leadership, management and governance in public health nursing practice.
12. Applies knowledge, skill and right attitude in influencing behaviour of the individuals, families and communities in promotion and maintenance of health.
13. Applies knowledge, skills and right attitude of occupational health and safety in various work places.
14. Utilises research results in the provision of evidence based public health services.
15. Applies epidemiological knowledge in the provision of public health nursing services.

PROGRESSION CRITERIA

The progression criteria will follow the guidelines provided below: -

1. A student who passes all courses by the end of each semester, shall progress to the next semester.
2. A student who fails in not more than two courses at the end of each semester, shall sit for supplementary examination.
3. A student who fails 3 courses or more by the end of each semester shall repeat the semester.
4. A student who fails a supplementary examination by the end of each semester shall be required to repeat the semester.
5. A student who fails after repeating the semester shall be excluded from the training programme.

EXAMINATIONS

1. Pass Mark

Pass mark for both theory and practical shall be 50%.

2. Eligibility for Examinations

An indexed student who meets all the requirements by attending 95% of classes and practical sessions, tutorials, and passing continuous assessments, shall be eligible for semester examinations.

3. Supplementary Examinations

Students who fail in one or two courses shall write supplementary examinations two weeks following the publication of results.

4. Continuous Assessment

Theory	40%
Practical	40%

5. End of Semester Examinations

5.1 Theory	–	60%
5.2 Practical	–	60%

6. Competence Examination

An indexed student who passes End of Semester 2 (Mock) Examination in 3rd year shall be eligible for Competence Examination.

6.1 Total mark for Competence Examinations

6.1.1 Theory	-	100%
6.1.2 Practical	-	100%

7.0. Courses for Theory Competence Examination

The students will be examined in the following five major disciplines:

7.1 Public Health Nursing

7.2 Health Promotion

7.3 Occupational Health Nursing

7.4 Leadership, Management and Governance

7.5 Epidemiology

8. Structure of Semester and Competence Examinations

8.1 Theory

8.1.1 Part A - Objective questions

8.1.2 Part B – Essay questions with one compulsory

8.2 Practical Examinations

Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCE)

GRADING SYSTEM

Marks	Description	Points for half courses	Points for full course
75 – 100	Distinction	3	6
65 - 74	Meritorious	2.5	5
55 - 64	Credit	2	4
50 – 54	Pass	1.5	3
Below 50	Fail	0	0

Points for each course is determined on the percentage scores obtained, as shown in the table above.

1. Maximum points a student can score in year 1 first semester is 36. Pass will be 18
2. Maximum points a student can score in year 1 second semester is 30. Pass will be 15
3. Maximum points a student can score in year 2 first semester is 39. Pass will be 19.5
4. Maximum points a student can score in year 2 second semester is 48. Pass will be 24
5. Maximum points a student can score in year 3 first semester is 30. Pass will be 15

6. Maximum points a student can score in year 3 second semester is 30. Pass will be 15

TOTAL POINTS AT THE END OF TRAINING

1. Maximum 213 points
2. Pass 106.5 points