

NSNMR REGISTRATION & LICENSURE POLICY

POLICY FOR NEW MIDWIFERY REGISTRANTS

A midwife who is issued a licence in Nova Scotia, who is a new graduate or who has not previously practised as a registered midwife in a regulated Canadian jurisdiction, will be considered a new registrant for the first 12 months of licensure. New registrants who meet the requirements for licensure will be issued a Conditional licence.

The following policy is intended to benefit new registrants in the process of integration into midwifery practice in Nova Scotia. It ensures that new registrants receive the support and advice of experienced midwives in providing the best possible care for their clients.

1. For the first 12 months of licensure, a new registrant shall practise in a practice team that includes at least one other midwife with a practising licence without conditions.
2. During the first 6 months of practise, a new registrant shall provide care in partnership with an experienced midwife who holds a practising licence without conditions. An experienced midwife within the multidisciplinary team should be available by telephone or in person for advice and support whenever the new registrant is providing care.
3. During the first 6 months of practise, a new registrant shall attend out of hospital births with an experienced registered midwife. When a new registrant is the primary midwife at a home birth, the second attendant should not be a non-midwife nor should the second attendant be another new registrant or a midwife with a conditional licence, unless the latter has significant out-of-hospital birth experience.
4. If the new registrant is issued a conditional licence with a supervision requirement, the 6-month period described above may be concurrent with the period of supervised practice. The terms and conditions set out in the Plan for Supervised Practice must be met at all times.

The NSNMR further recommends that new registrants who are new graduates of Midwifery Education Programs (MEP) should work full-time if possible, during the first year of practise, to consolidate their knowledge and skills and develop a solid foundation of confidence as primary maternity care providers.