



The Official Gazette A

Ministerial Order on the Bachelor's Degree Programme of Midwifery¹

¹The ministerial order contains provisions that implement parts of the European Parliament and Council Directive 2005/36/EC of 7 September 2005 on the recognition of professional qualifications, Official Journal of the European Union 2005, no. L 255, page 22, as most recently amended by European Parliament and Council Directive 2013/55/EU of 20 November 2013 amending Directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualifications and Regulation (EU) No 1024/2012 on administrative co-operation through the Internal Market Information System ('the IMI Regulation'), Official Journal of the European Union 2013, no. L 354, page 132.

Pursuant to Section 22 of the Act on Academy Profession and Professional Bachelor Programmes, cf. Consolidation Act no. 1147 of 23 October 2014, as amended by Act no. 633 of 12 May 2015 and Act no. 411 of 11 May 2016, and Section 15 and Section 55 of the Act on Authorisation of Healthcare Professionals and of Professional Healthcare Activity, cf. Consolidation Act no. 877 of 4 August 2011, and after negotiations with the Minister for Health and the Elderly, it is hereby established that:

Part 1

Purpose

1. The purpose of the Bachelor's Degree Programme of Midwifery is to qualify graduates to work independently as a midwife including entering into professional and interdisciplinary collaboration, management and administrative work and research and development. Graduates are qualified to provide healthcare services in connection with family planning, family formation and sexual and reproductive health, to provide care via health promotion, disease prevention, risk identification, diagnosis, care and treatment centred on the individual citizen, and to promote and support evidence-based practice and measures to improve public health. The graduate possesses the competencies to participate in research and development and to participate in theoretical and clinical continuing and further education study programmes.

(2) The graduate possesses the knowledge, skills and competencies specified in Appendix 1.

(3) The programme is based on research and development in the field of midwifery, as well as on knowledge of professional practice and the positions for which graduates are qualified.

(4) The graduate must meet the requirements described in EU-Directive 2013/55/EU as well as the circular on midwifery no. 149 of 8 August 2001.

2. On successful completion of the programme, graduates are entitled to use the title *Professionsbachelor i jordemoderkundskab* in Danish or Bachelor of Midwifery in English.

(2) The programme's English title is Bachelor's Degree Programme of Midwifery.

(3) Graduates are authorised pursuant to the Act on Authorisation of Healthcare Professionals and of Professional Healthcare Activity.

Part 2

Duration, structure and organisation

3. The educational institution that provides the study programme is responsible for the programme in its entirety.

(2) The educational institution works together with the organisation that provides the work placement site (clinical training site) at all levels in order to ensure coordination between the theoretical teaching and the work placement (clinical training). The educational institution is responsible for ensuring that the co-operation is established and maintained. The co-operation between the educational institution and the work placement institution must be described in mutually binding agreements, which are written together and published on the institution's website.

(3) The educational institution must approve the work placement site (clinical training site). In managerial terms, an work placement site (clinical training site) constitutes a defined area that is approved by the educational institution, cf. the relevant criteria in the curriculum.

(4) The educational institution holds the work placement site (clinical training site) responsible for ensuring that the work placement (clinical training) is completed as per the guidelines laid down by the educational institution.

(5) It is a condition for approval of the work placement site (clinical training site) that the clinical supervision is provided by midwives with pedagogic qualifications corresponding to 1/6 of a diploma programme.

(6) It is also a condition for approval that the work placement (the clinical training) meets the following requirements:

- 1) Work placement (the clinical training) is defined as the part of the study programme during which the student is in direct contact with healthy or sick individuals and/or groups and learns to plan, provide and assess the overall work of a midwife.
- 2) The work placement (clinical training) takes place under supervision and guidance in an institution run by either the national government, a regional or local authority or in a private or another relevant institution, including in private homes, or in a private or another relevant institution.
- 3) To a limited extent - as preparation for contact with patients, for example - some elements of the work placement (clinical training) may take place in a skills laboratory or simulation laboratory. However, these must not directly replace contact with the patient in the clinical department/institution.

4 The programme is full-time and equivalent to 210 ECTS credits, of which 20 ECTS credits consist of interprofessional elements, 20 ECTS credits consist of elective elements and 20 ECTS credits of a bachelor project. One student FTE is equivalent to a year of full-time study, and corresponds to 60 ECTS credits.

(2) The study programme is divided into semesters. During each semester, students must achieve 30 ECTS credits. Semesters may be subdivided into modules equivalent to 10 ECTS credits.

5. The study programme consists of theoretical elements equivalent to a total of 105 ECTS credits and work placement (clinical training) equivalent to a total of 105 ECTS credits.

(2) The programme covers the following subject areas:

- 1) Health science subjects, equivalent to 156 ECTS credits.
- 2) Natural science subjects, equivalent to 15 ECTS credits.
- 3) Humanities subjects, equivalent to 24 ECTS credits.
- 4) Social science subjects, equivalent to 15 ECTS credits.

6 The programme includes the following compulsory themes during the first two years:

- 1) Basic knowledge related to uncomplicated family formation, pregnancy, childbirth, post-childbirth care and the role of the midwife, equivalent to 30 ECTS credits.
- 2) Midwifery in relation to uncomplicated family formation, pregnancy, childbirth, post-childbirth care – healthy newborns – development of clinical competencies, equivalent to 30 ECTS credits.
- 3) Basic knowledge related to uncomplicated and complicated family formation, pregnancy, childbirth, post-childbirth care as well as healthy and sick newborns, equivalent to 30 ECTS credits.
- 4) Midwifery in relation to family formation, uncomplicated and complicated pregnancy, childbirth, post-childbirth care and healthy and sick newborns – development of clinical competencies, equivalent to 30 ECTS credits.

7. Within the framework of this ministerial order, the educational institution lays down more detailed rules in a curriculum for the whole study programme. The curriculum consists of a common part designed to guarantee consistency across educational institutions and a part specific to the individual institution concerned. The common part is drawn up jointly by the institutions authorised to provide the study programme. The individual institutions authorised to provide the study programme draw up the specific part of the curriculum.

(2) The common part must describe the following:

- 1) The content of each theme during the first two years, cf. 6.
- 2) Objectives for learning outcomes after the first two years.

- 3) The split between theoretical elements and work placement (clinical training), in terms of ECTS credits, during the first two years of the study programme.
- 4) The ECTS allocation between subject areas, cf. 5 (2), during the first two years of the study programme, including courses equivalent to a minimum of 5 ECTS credits.
- 5) Exams held during the first two years of the study programme, including which ones are assessed by an external examiner and which ones are clinical or theoretical, respectively.
- 6) Requirements for the final bachelor project.
- 7) Rules on credit.

(3) The part of the curriculum specific to the institution is drawn up in accordance with the rules in the Ministerial Order on Academy Profession Degree Programmes and Professional Bachelor Programmes (the LEP Order). In the specific part, the individual institution describes the compulsory and elective content of the themes during the final 1½ years of the study programme.

Part 3

Examinations, etc.

8 Exams are held at the end of a semester.

(2) In the specific part of the curriculum, the institution describes the objectives for learning outcomes, for which exams are held as per (1).

(3) Attendance during the work placement (the clinical training) is mandatory. Attendance is a prerequisite for sitting the exam at the end of the work placement (clinical training).

(4) Otherwise, the rules contained in the Ministerial Order on Tests and Exams in Vocational Higher Education Programmes (the Exam Order) apply.

Part 4

Other regulations

9. Students must complete the programme within six years of commencing their studies. This does not include leave of absence due to childbirth, adoption, long-term illness, national service, UN service, etc. In special circumstances, the institution may extend the programme beyond six years.

10. If any significant changes are made to the curriculum, the relevant authorising bodies must be informed.

(2) Changes may only be made to the common part of the curriculum with the agreement of all of the educational institutions responsible for providing the study programme. Any changes must also be discussed with the educational institution's partners on the study programme.

(3) The rules concerning amendments to curricula contained in the Ministerial Order on Academy Profession Degree Programmes and Professional Bachelor Programmes, as well as in the Act on University Colleges, also apply.

11 The rules concerning professional bachelor study programmes contained in the Ministerial Order on Academy Profession Degree Programmes and Professional Bachelor

Programmes, with the exception of the requirements regarding the common part of the curriculum, also apply.

Part 5

Date of commencement, etc.

12. This order enters into force on 1 August 2016.

(2) Ministerial Order no. 43 of 26 January 2009 on the Bachelor's Degree Programme of Midwifery is hereby repealed.

(3) Students who started on the Midwifery study programme before 1 August 2016 may complete the programme under the ministerial order mentioned in (2) until the summer of 2019 4, cf., however, (4).

(4) The educational institution may make transitional arrangements so that students who enrolled on the Midwifery study programme before 1 August 2016 must complete the programme under the rules set out in this ministerial order.

Place

SIGNATORY 1

/Signatory 2

Appendix 1

Objectives for learning outcomes for the Bachelor's Degree Programme of Midwifery

The objectives for learning outcomes include the knowledge, skills and competencies that a bachelor in midwifery must achieve during the programme.

Knowledge

The graduate:

- 1) possesses knowledge of, and is able to understand and reflect on, professional midwifery care in connection with uncomplicated as well as complicated pregnancy, childbirth, post-childbirth period,
- 2) possesses knowledge of, and is able to understand and reflect on, health promotion, disease prevention, care and treatment, risks, resources and identification of vulnerabilities and technological assistive devices, methods and techniques related thereto,
- 3) possesses knowledge of, and is able to understand the human organism's development, biological and anatomical structure, as well as microbiological and physiological processes and functions with special focus on reproduction, sexuality, embryogeny, pregnancy, childbirth and the post-childbirth period,
- 4) possesses knowledge of neonatology, embryology, risk of damage and abnormal development in the foetus, genetic and environmental conditions as well as possibility of prevention and knowledge of preconceptional and pre-natal advice as well as knowledge of and the ability to understand and reflect on screening of parents, foetuses and newborn babies,
- 5) possesses knowledge of, and is able to understand, psychiatric, urogynaecological, medical and surgical conditions of importance to reproduction. possesses general knowledge of pharmaceuticals and medication. possesses specific knowledge of anesthesia, analgesia, pharmaceuticals and medication in midwifery,
- 6) possesses knowledge of, and is able to understand and reflect on, psychological and social conditions in connection with uncomplicated and complicated family formation, pregnancy, childbirth and post-childbirth care,
- 7) possesses knowledge of, and is able to understand and reflect on, cultural concepts and interaction between social and cultural issues, including perceptions of health and illness,
- 8) possesses knowledge of, and is able to understand and reflect on, social and health legislation and the legal basis for midwifery as well as the profession's history, development and occupational health & safety conditions
- 9) possesses knowledge of, and is able to understand and reflect on, pedagogy, didactics, health pedagogy and health information, patient and citizen involvement, communication theories and health communication,
- 10) possesses knowledge of, and is able to understand and reflect on, clinical management in the reproductive field based on knowledge of practice, development and research and across professions, sectors, organisations, institutions as well as the citizen's and the patient's home,
- 11) possesses knowledge of, understands and is able to reflect on, the profession's use of information and communication technology, as well as the impact of technology.
- 12) possesses knowledge of, and is able to understand and reflect on, targets set by citizens and patients, and is able to participate in interprofessional and intersectoral collaboration on care,

- 13) possesses knowledge of, and is able to understand and reflect on, specific ethical issues in the field of reproduction,
- 14) possesses knowledge of, and is able to understand and reflect on, innovation as a method to change practice, and is familiar with implementation methodologies in relation to specific target groups,
- 15) possesses knowledge of, and is able to reflect on the application of, communication theories and methods, and understand the communicative significance in relation to dialogue and forging relationships,
- 16) possesses knowledge of, understands and is able to reflect on, methods and standards for quality assurance, patient safety and quality enhancement, and is able to reflect on their use,
- 17) possesses knowledge of, understands and is able to reflect on, their own practice, as well as their profession's duties and responsibilities, in an organisational, administrative and social perspective and as part of the wider health service,
- 18) possesses knowledge of, understands and is able to reflect on the priorities for deploying professional resources under the prevailing framework conditions in the health service,
- 19) possesses knowledge of, understands and is able to reflect on the theory of science, research methods and models for evaluation, quality assurance and quality enhancement, as well as relating this knowledge to research and development work in professional practice.

Skills

The graduate is able to:

- 1) master the organisation and provision of midwifery care during pregnancy, childbirth, post-childbirth period and family formation, obstetric skills and, in the event of complications, work with doctors and master the assessment of practical and theoretical issues and justify, select and use relevant solutions,
- 2) master the organisation and provision of health promotion and disease prevention, screening, diagnosis, triage and preadmission assessment, treatment and care of women, foetus, the family and the newborn child, as well as assessing and using technological assistive devices and information and communication technology,
- 3) master guidance on nutrition and breastfeeding on the basis of the woman's and family's resources, wishes and needs,
- 4) master care of healthy newborns and babies in need of specialised care, including resuscitation of newborns,
- 5) master midwifery care in connection with obstetrics and gynaecological surgical procedures, as well as miscarriages and abortions, as well as carry out post-operative and intensive care for pregnant women, birthing and gynaecological patients,
- 6) master prevention of infection and refer cases to doctors, and comply with hygiene principles,
- 7) master requisition, administration and dispensing of medicine to pregnant women, women in labour and newborn babies in accordance with the circular on midwifery,
- 8) master teaching, dissemination of knowledge, guidance and advice in health, sexual and reproductive health and family formation,

- 9) assess and analyse the significance of discourses, risk assessment and medicalisation in day-to-day practice, including identifying the difference between general recommendations in health promotion, disease prevention and treatment, and the more dialogue-based individual care,
- 10) use and provide clinical management of patient- and citizen treatment in collaboration with professionals, taking into account quality assurance,
- 11) act professionally across organisational, structural and academic frameworks in the healthcare system in both specialised and interprofessional teams and master methods of management, coordination and development,
- 12) master and apply situation-specific and professionally relevant communication, guidance and advice on the preparation and delivery of care and after-care in professional practice and in interprofessional collaboration,
- 13) master interprofessional and intersectoral collaboration in a range of types of citizen and patient care and contexts,
- 14) use professionally relevant information, communication and health technology that incorporates thinking about the citizen's own resources to the greatest possible extent,
- 15) use, assess and justify methods and described standards for quality assurance and development
- 16) master relevant study and working methods both to search for, assess and interpret empirical evidence, theory and research methods, and to initiate and participate in innovation, development and research work.

Competencies

The graduate is able to:

- 1) independently plan, carry out and provide professional midwifery care during pregnancy, childbirth and post-childbirth period for women, fetuses and newborn babies in connection with both spontaneous and uncomplicated births,
- 2) independently, in collaboration with doctors, plan, carry out and provide professional midwifery care during pregnancy, childbirth and post-childbirth period for women, fetuses and newborn babies in connection with complicated cases,
- 3) independently diagnose, refer, treat and prescribe in the field of midwifery in collaboration with the patient and citizen across organisations and professions in the whole health service,
- 4) independently assess the need to involve doctors in pregnancy, birth or post-childbirth care, including calling for help and providing emergency first aid until the doctor arrives,
- 5) independently work with engaging communication that forges relationships and with interaction that supports the process of family formation and attachment,
- 6) independently and reflectively provide citizen and patient-oriented disease prevention and health promotion,
- 7) independently analyse and assess the need for supportive measures of a psychological or social nature in connection with pregnancy, childbirth, post-childbirth period and family formation,
- 8) independently manage, participate in, use and implement innovation and development work in the area of health and provide clinical management in the field of reproduction,
- 9) work with basic academic working methods, including reflection, assessment and dissemination of

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knowledge about practice, development and research-based knowledge related to the profession specifically and professional healthcare activity in general,

- 10) independently work, and communicate in various contexts, including in equal, dialogue-based and value-generating relationships, with citizens, patients, relatives and interprofessional partners,
- 11) independently work with, take part in and coordinate interprofessional and intersectoral collaboration, and, on the basis of a holistic perspective, support citizens and patients as key, active stakeholders in individual care packages,
- 12) work with and use technology, including information and communication technology, relevant to the profession in the relevant context,
- 13) work with, and assume responsibility for, quality assurance and development,
- 14) demonstrate personal professional responsibility, and stay updated in midwifery by identifying and understanding their own learning processes and developmental needs.