
	Registered Nurses Association of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut Page: 1 of 5	Registration Policy Policy Description: Expedited Registration as a Registered Nurse or Nurse Practitioner in an Emergency Situation Policy Number: R4
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Effective Date: November 18, 2020 Signature:  Review Date: November 2023	New Policy _____ Revision: Partial <input type="checkbox"/> Complete <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Applies to: Any Northwest Territories (NT) or Nunavut (NU) employer and all individuals applying for expedited registration with RNANT/NU as a Registrant in an emergency situation.
Purpose: This policy outlines the requirements for expedited registration as a Registrant in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut ONLY in an emergency situation to ensure public safety. These requirements are in addition to, or in clarification of, those found in the Nursing Profession Act (2003), Consolidation of the Nursing Act (1998), and RNANT/NU Bylaws and Policies.

Definitions:

Emergency Situation - an emergency situation requiring expedited registration of nurses includes an active Territorial/Regional outbreak of an acute, life-threatening disease or a natural/man-made disaster requiring additional staff above the normal complement to contain and/or control the outbreak or the results of a disaster.

NT/NU Employer - the employer for whom the applicant will be working in the NT or NU during the emergency situation.

Good Character – refers to the moral and ethical qualities expected by the general public of a professional nurse. Examples of such qualities include: integrity, trustworthiness, commitment to caring for others, honesty, accountability, reliability, ability to distinguish right and wrong, avoidance of aggression to self and others, and taking responsibility for one’s own actions (Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 2016).

Good Standing – per Bylaw 2 s3(1)(f)(ii), an individual is in good standing if deemed to be in good standing by all current or former regulatory authorities where registration was held. Additionally, the individual is not currently the subject of any investigations, undertakings, conditions or consensual agreements related to continuing competence requirements or discipline.

Fitness to Practice – all the qualities and capabilities of an individual relevant to their capacity to practice as a registered nurse, including but not limited to, freedom from any:

- (i) cognitive;
- (ii) physical;
- (iii) psychological;



- (iv) emotional condition; or
- (v) dependence on alcohol or drugs impairing her or his ability to practice nursing (CNA, 2017).

English Fluency - defined as the primary language used to read, write, listen, and speak.

Policy:

The following items are required for expedited registration as a Registrant during an emergency situation:

- (1) The applicant or NT/NU employer must provide payment of the expedited registration fee as outlined in Policy R16.
- (2) The applicant must submit the completed RNANT/NU Expedited Registration application.
- (3) The applicant must provide a copy of one of the following for proof of identification. **All documentation must be government issued, in colour, contain a signature, and be current:**
 - i. passport or another Government issued photo ID (e.g., Driver's License); or
 - ii. notarized statutory declaration of identity.

Note: Where there has been a name change, one of the following is required:

- a marriage certificate, or
- divorce decree, or
- notarized statutory declaration of legal name change.

- (4) Proof of fluency in English by meeting one of the following:
 - A. Graduation from an approved Canadian nursing program where theory and clinical instruction was in English (on-line or distance education programs are not acceptable for evidence of fluency); or
 - B. Successful completion of the national nursing examination in English; or
 - C. Verbal and/or written confirmation from employer reference(s) showing evidence of safe practice and where the primary language, practice setting, and services are in an English speaking and writing environment for the previous two years as a Registered Nurse in Canada; or



- D. Applicant met the English language proficiency test requirement at the time of registration with another Canadian jurisdiction and has continued to work in an English-speaking and writing environment since that time; or
- E. Demonstration of English language competence through successful completion of one of the following tests of English within the last 2 years:
- Canadian English Language Benchmark Assessment for Nurses (CELBAN)
 - International English Language System (IELTS) Academic Version

The scores on these tests used to determine proficiency in the English language are:

Test	CELBAN	IELTS Academic
Writing	7	7
Speaking	8	7
Listening	10	7.5
Reading	8	6.5
Total	N/A	7

- The applicant cannot mix and match various tests or test components to achieve a passing score.
- An official copy of test results must be submitted with the registration application. If you provided results that do not meet our requirements, you will be required to resubmit satisfactory results.
- The registration applicant is financially responsible for all costs related to English testing.

Note: All registration documentation provided to RNANT/NU must be provided in English.

- (5) Electronic or verbal confirmation of being in good standing as a Registrant in another Canadian jurisdiction. Official verification of registration may be requested by the Registrar as needed.
- (6) Evidence of good character, fitness to practice, and competency through the following:



- A. A satisfactory employer reference, and/or
- B. A satisfactory colleague reference.

Note: These references can be verbal or written.

- (7) The NT/NU employer must confirm, in writing, the applicant is applying for registration with RNANT/NU for the sole purpose of providing nursing care during an emergency situation.
- (8) The NT/NU employer must provide a written explanation of the emergency situation requiring the expedited registration of Registrants.

Conditions and Exceptions:

1. An emergency situation requiring expedited registration will be determined at the discretion of the Executive Director in consultation with the Director of Regulatory Services and Policy/Registrar.
2. An Expedited Registration in an emergency situation will only be valid until one of the following terms are met, in whichever order arises first:
 - a. When the Public Health Order/Emergency is declared over by the NT/NU Chief Public Health Officer(s), or
 - b. A maximum of 90 calendar days, unless determined otherwise by the Director of Regulatory Services and Policy/Registrar and the Registration Committee, or
 - c. December 31st of the given calendar year.
3. There shall be no renewal of an Expedited Registration. Any nurse who intends to practice in the NT and/or NU post-emergency must apply for a reinstatement registration as a Registrant with RNANT/NU.
4. The NT/NU employer will be required to supply RNANT/NU with the names of nurses who will be applying for Expedited Registration with the Association.
5. An applicant that has disclosed a criminal conviction for an offense under the Criminal Code (Canada), the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (Canada), or the Food and Drugs Act (Canada) must provide sufficient evidence about the conviction to the Director of Regulatory Services and Policy as outlined in Policy 1.1: Criminal Convictions.
6. If an applicant has not disclosed on the registration application a previous or current investigation, undertaking, conditions, suspension, or revocation of her or his licence in all jurisdictions where they have been employed, the application may be denied by the Registrar.



7. Formal complaints about unprofessional conduct occurring in the NT and/or NU by a nurse registered with an expedited registration in an emergency situation will be forwarded to the Professional Conduct Committee.

Authority and Accountability:

This policy is issued under the authority of RNANT/NU Board of Directors and as governed by the Nursing Profession Act (2003); Consolidation of the Nunavut Nursing Act (1998); and RNANT/NU Bylaw. The Board of Directors has the authority to revise this Policy as required.

The Director of Regulatory Services and Policy/Registrar and Executive Director are accountable to the Board of Directors, and ultimately to the members, for the implementation of this policy and may delegate any related administrative tasks.

History:

This policy replaces the former Registration Policy R4: Expedited Registration as a Registered Nurse or Nurse Practitioner in an Emergency Situation, issued in September 2009.

Revisions: September 2020

References:

Commonwealth of Massachusetts. (2016). *Determination of good moral character- Policy No. NH-09-01*. Retrieved from: <https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2016/07/wv/nursing-good-moral-policy.pdf>

Canadian Nurses Association. (2017). *Code of ethics for registered nurses*. Ottawa, ON: Author. Retrieved from <https://www.cna-aiic.ca/~media/cna/page-content/pdf-en/code-of-ethics-2017-edition-secure-interactive>