

Hospital Authority
Professional Diploma in Nursing (Intake 2025)
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

| No. | Question | Suggested Answer |
|-----|--|---|
| 1. | <i>When will be the application period and its closing date for applying the Professional Diploma in Nursing (Intake 2025)?</i> | Professional Diploma in Nursing (PDN) (Intake 2025) is open for application from 3 March 2025 to 8 August 2025 (23:59:59 Hong Kong time) via online application. The application will not be processed if more than one submission is received from same applicant. |
| 2. | <i>What are the minimum entry requirements/ qualifications for applying the Professional Diploma in Nursing?</i> | <p>a. Fluency in both written English and Chinese, and spoken English and Cantonese.</p> <p>b. <i>Minimum Academic Entry Requirements</i></p> <p><i>I. <u>Applicable to applicants with Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination (HKCEE) results and Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination (HKALE) results</u></i></p> <p>(a) HKALE with Grade E or above in one subject, or HKALE Advanced Supplementary Level (AS-Level) with Grade E or above in two subjects; and</p> <p>(b) Passed 5 subjects in HKCEE, or equivalent, details are as below:</p> <p>(i) English Language (Syllabus B) at Grade D or above, or English Language (Syllabus A) at Grade B, or English Language at Level 3 (for HKCEE issued after 2007); and</p> <p>(ii) Chinese Language at Grade E or above, or Chinese Language at Level 2 or above (for HKCEE issued after 2007); and</p> <p>(iii) Any one science subject from the following at Grade E or above; Biology, Chemistry, Human Biology, Mathematics, Physics; and</p> <p>(iv) Any one other subject at Grade E or above: Accommodation and Catering Services, Additional Mathematics, Biology, Buddhist Studies, Chemistry, Chinese History, Chinese Literature, Commerce, Computer and Information Technology, Design and Technology, Design and Technology (Alternative Syllabus), Economics, Economics & Public Affairs, Electronics and Electricity, English Literature, French, Geography, Government and Public Affairs,</p> |

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| | | <p>Graphical Communication, History, Home Economics (Food, Home and Family), Human Biology, Integrated Humanities, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Principles of Accounts, Putonghua, Religious Studies, Science and Technology, Social Studies, Visual Arts, Word Processing and Business Communication (English); and</p> <p>(v) Any one other subject at Grade E or above; and</p> <p>(vi) Any one of the subjects listed in (b)(i) to (b)(v) must be at Grade C (or Level 3 for English Language or Chinese Language) or above.</p> <p><i>II. <u>Applicable to applicants with Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE) results</u></i></p> <p>The candidates must have a minimum of 5 subjects in the HKDSE, or equivalent, or any recognised qualification above. The 5 compulsory subjects required are:</p> <p>(a) 4 Core Subjects, with English Language and Chinese Language at Level 3 or above, Mathematics at Level 2 or above, and an attainment at “Attained” in Citizenship and Social Development[#]; and</p> <p>(b) 1 Elective Subject from Category A – New Senior Secondary Subjects at Level 2 or above.</p> <p>[#] For candidates who took Liberal Studies in 2023/24 or before, Level 2 or above in Liberal Studies will be regarded as “Attained” in Citizenship and Social Development.</p> <p>2. Fluency in both written English and Chinese, and spoken English and Cantonese.</p> |
| 3. | <i>How can I submit an application?</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announcement regarding application of the Programme is made via Hospital Authority (HA) homepage, education and career exhibitions and the Schools. Applications are accepted through HA Career Webpage [Link]. The completed online application form should be submitted with attachment of the copy of bank-in deposit slip of HK\$150 application fee and scanned copies of the applicant’s academic certificates and documentary proof of the equivalent qualification(s) (if applicable) on |

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| | | <p>or before 8 August 2025 23:59:59. An acknowledgement email will be sent to the applicants upon successful submission.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your personal data will be used in the application process, and will be transferred to student record system upon successful enrolment to the Programme. Personal data collected will be handled according to the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance. |
| 4. | <i>Will I have the acknowledgement receipt of application?</i> | An acknowledgement email will be sent to you upon successful submission of application. |
| 5. | <i>What is my application number?</i> | <p>In your acknowledgement email, an acknowledgment ID is printed at the bottom of the email. The last 5 or 6 digits shown after your acknowledgment ID is your application number.</p> <p>For example, if your acknowledgement ID is PDN_06_202536035, then 36035 will be your application number.</p> |
| 6. | <i>I have submitted the online application, but I did not receive any email acknowledgement. Can I resubmit another online application again?</i> | <p>No.</p> <p>Please contact us at our telephone enquiry hotline for assistance. The officer at the Joint Admission Centre will check for you in due course.</p> |
| 7. | <i>When will I be informed of successful in application?</i> | Applicants who do not receive any invitation email for interview from our Joint Admission Centre by 18 August 2025 should consider their applications unsuccessful. |
| 8. | <i>When will the programme commence and how long does the programme last?</i> | The Programme will commence on 1 September 2025, with the programme duration at 3.5-years leading to the award of Professional Diploma in Nursing. |
| 9. | <i>What will be the structure and the medium of instruction of the training programme about?</i> | <p>The 3.5-year Professional Diploma in Nursing (PDN) is a full-time programme that offers a range of nursing arts and sciences subjects to equip students with the necessary knowledge and nursing skill strengthened by experiential learning and field studies. The Programme consists of a total of 30 subjects with 1644 theoretical hours and 6 Field Studies with a minimum of 1400 clinical practice hours, which fulfil the minimum requirement as stipulated by the Nursing Council of Hong Kong (NCHK).</p> <p>Nursing subjects will be delivered by professional teaching staff with extensive clinical experience in public hospitals of HA. Clinical practicum is conducted in HA hospitals/clinics with the support from the multidisciplinary healthcare team.</p> |

| | | |
|-----|---|---|
| | | The medium of instruction is English supplemented by Chinese for all teaching/ learning activities and assessments (except for Chinese Language and Chinese Medicinal Nursing and Complementary and Alternative Medicine). |
| 10. | <i>Where will be the training venue of the training programme and clinical practicum taking place?</i> | Classes will be conducted at School of General Nursing of Caritas Medical Centre (CMC), Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) and Tuen Mun Hospital (TMH), as well as Saint Francis University (SFU) [formerly Caritas Institute of Higher Education (CIHE)]. Clinical practicum will take place in public hospitals and community settings of HA. |
| 11. | <i>How much is the tuition fee of the Professional Diploma in Nursing training programme?</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For students admitted in the academic year 2025/2026, the total tuition fee of the 3.5-year programme is HK\$133,600. Each student has to make two instalments ranging from HK\$32,320-36,640 per annum. Successful applicants will be notified of the payment detail. Tuition fee paid is non-refundable and non-transferrable. |
| 12. | <i>Can I apply for any financial assistance if I enrol in this programme?</i> | <p>Yes.</p> <p>Students enrolled in this programme may apply for the following financial assistance from the Student Finance Office, Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Assistance Scheme for Post-secondary Students; or, Non-means-tested Loan Scheme for Post-secondary Students <p>For details, please visit the website: https://www.wfsfaa.gov.hk/en/index.htm or telephone enquiry hotline: 2802 2345.</p> |
| 13. | <i>Will I receive any salary or allowance during the period of clinical practicum?</i> | <p>No.</p> <p>Students will have full-time student status upon successful enrolment to the Programme and they will not receive any monetary reward from the HA.</p> |
| 14. | <i>I am a degree holder of a local institution, can I be exempted from the minimum requirement of DSE/ HKCEE/ HKALE?</i> | All applicants are required to meet the minimum entry requirement to be considered as an eligible candidate. |
| 15. | <i>I am a degree holder of an overseas institution, can I be exempted from the minimum</i> | All applicants are required to meet the minimum entry requirement to be considered as an eligible candidate. |

| | | |
|-----|---|--|
| | <i>requirement of DSE/ HKCEE/ HKALE?</i> | Applicants with qualifications obtained outside Hong Kong are required to submit a valid documentary evidence to prove that they have fulfilled the entry requirement. Applicants who do not provide a valid documentary evidence will not be considered. The documentary evidence can be applied from the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ) Website: http://www.hkcaavq.edu.hk/ . Please note that the assessment will normally take 15 working days starting from the next working day of acknowledgement by the HKCAAVQ. |
| 16. | <i>Can I apply for credit accumulation/ transfer/ exemption if I had studied some of the subjects in other training programme?</i> | No. There is no credit accumulation/ transfer/ exemption policy in this Programme. |
| 17. | <i>Do you accept International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma qualification?</i> | Yes. Internal Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma is one of the equivalent qualifications that are accepted by the Programme. |
| 18. | <i>Will IELTS/ IGCSE/ GCE result be accepted for the language requirement?</i> | Yes. Valid IELTS/ IGCSE/ GCE result will be accepted as equivalent qualifications for language requirement. In case you have taken the related examination but your results will not be available by the application deadline, please mention this during your application, upload the relevant supporting document(s) and indicate the result available date and communicate with the JAC by email with details including justifiable reasons and proof of the reasons. |
| 19. | <i>Can I make amendment to the application which I have already submitted online?</i> | Yes. All amendments must be made before the application deadline. |
| 20. | <i>Can I add/ delete the supplementary information after submission of the online application?</i> | Yes. All information update must be made before the application deadline. |
| 21. | <i>I have submitted my non-local qualifications awarded to the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ)</i> | You should state clearly that your non-local qualification is undergoing assessment in your application. You should submit the assessment result by 17:00, 22 August 2025, if you are invited for the selection interview. |

| | | |
|-----|---|---|
| | <i>for qualifications assessment, but the documentary proof is under process, could I submit the online application first? What is the deadline for submit the qualification proof to Joint Admission Centre?</i> | |
| 22. | <i>I am appealing/ rechecking a result from the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE), could I submit the online application first and submit the final result later?</i> | You should state clearly an appeal/rechecking of result is in progress in your application and submit the documentary proof(s) of your application for appeal or rechecking of result(s). You should submit the final result by 17:00, 22 August 2025, if you are invited for the selection interview. |
| 23. | <i>What is the preferred ratio of female and male students for admission to each School?</i> | The schools consider admission of applicants regardless of their gender. |
| 24. | <i>When will the interview be arranged? What is the format of the interview?</i> | The interview is scheduled by batches on or before 14 August 2025. There will be an individual session and a group discussion during the interview. |
| 25. | <i>How many students will be recruited each year?</i> | There are 300 students per annual intake (i.e., 100 students per School). |
| 26. | <i>How many clinical placement hours will there be in the Programme?</i> | Students studying in the Programme will be assigned to different clinical areas for clinical practice and the total practice hours will not be less than 1400 hours in accordance with the requirement of the NCHK. |
| 27. | <i>Will there be holidays during the 3.5-year study in the Programme?</i> | There are periods of term break between study terms throughout the 3.5-year study. |