

NEW REGISTRANTS' POLICY

A midwife who is issued an active-practising (clinical) or provisional (clinical) licence in Nova Scotia, who has not previously practised as a registered midwife in a regulated Canadian jurisdiction, will be considered a new registrant for the first year of licensure.

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

1. For her first year of licensure, a new registrant shall work in a practice team that includes at least one other midwife with an active-practising (clinical) licence without conditions.
2. During her first six months of practice, a new registrant shall provide care in partnership with an experienced midwife who holds an active-practising (clinical) licence without conditions. An experienced midwife or physician 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 her first six months of practice, 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 provisional (clinical) licence, unless the latter has significant out of hospital birth experience.
4. If the new registrant is issued a provisional (clinical) licence with a supervision requirement, the six 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 MRC further recommends that new registrants who are new graduates of midwifery education programs should work full-time if possible during their first year of practice, to consolidate their knowledge and skills and develop a solid foundation of confidence as primary maternity care providers.

Approved by the MRC on September 13, 2012
Amended by the MRC on November 13, 2014