

From: WuGrace
Sent: Friday, November 26, 2010 3:01 AM
To: Kathleen Almond
Subject: Support the Consultation Draft on English Language Skills
Registration Standard

Dear Kathleen Almond,

I am a nursing student in Australian Catholic University. I am very happy to know that the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) considers that applicants who have been taught and assessed in English in their tertiary, entry to practice nursing education in Australia should meet the English language requirement. I strongly support this draft for the following reasons.

First of all, graduate attributes of Bachelor of Nursing course in Australian Catholic University, as well as the ones of other approved nursing education programs, include English language skills at a level that ensures safe and competent care is delivered to the public. It is impossible for a student without good English language skills to pass the exams and clinical practices. So it is unfair to require graduates of approved programs to take additional English exams because it wastes their money and time.

Secondly, additional English exams (IELTS or OET) for graduates of approved programs to get registration will damage the public trust to the NMBA. Graduates from approved programs have passed all the exam and clinical practices and met the registrations requirements set by the NMBA. If the graduates are required to take additional English exams, that means the education programs approved by the NMBA cannot meet the Registered Nurse Accreditation Standards and can probably pose potential risks to the public safety. Then the public will absolutely lose confidence to the NMBA's ability on ensuring safe care delivered to the public and on the regulation of approved nursing education programs.

To conclude, I strongly support this draft for the considerations of both nursing students and the reputation of the NMBA. I hope the revised English language skills registration standard commence as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Qiong Wu