1965 No. 1490 (S. 80)

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, SCOTLAND

The National Health Service (Qualifications of Health Visitors) (Scotland) Regulations 1965

Made - - - -	*28th July* 1965
Laid before Parliament	*4th August* 1965
Coming into Operation	*1st September* 1965

In exercise of the powers conferred on me by section 65 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1947(a) and of all other powers enabling me in that behalf, I hereby make the following regulations:—

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the National Health Service (Qualifications of Health Visitors) (Scotland) Regulations 1965 and shall come into operation on 1st September 1965.

(2) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them:—

"health visitor" means a woman employed by a local health authority for the visiting of persons in their homes for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of young children, persons suffering from illness and expectant or nursing mothers and as to the measures necessary to promote health and to prevent the spread of infection, and includes a woman so employed by a voluntary organisation under arrangements with a local health authority;

"the Council" means the Council for the Training of Health Visitors constituted by section 1 of the Health Visiting and Social Work (Training) Act 1962(b);

(3) The Interpretation Act 1889(c) applies for the interpretation of these regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2. No woman shall be employed as a health visitor unless—

(*a*) she holds the health visitors certificate issued by the Council; or

(*b*) she holds the health visitors certificate issued by the Royal Sanitary Association of Scotland under conditions approved by the Secretary of State; or

(*c*) she holds the health visitors certificate issued by the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health under conditions approved by the Minister of Health; or

(*d*) she held the appointment of health visitor immediately before the date of the coming into operation of these regulations; or

(a) 10 & 11 Geo. 6. c. 27.
(b) 10 & 11 Eliz. 2. c. 33.
(c) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

(*e*) she holds a qualification obtained outside the United Kingdom which the Secretary of State, after consultation with the Council, has approved for the purposes of this regulation:

Provided that

(i) a woman who is qualified under paragraph (*d*) of this regulation shall be regarded as so qualified only in respect of employment by the local health authority or voluntary organisation by whom she is employed at the coming into operation of these regulations or by any other local health authority whose employment she enters in consequence of the transfer to that authority by or under any enactment of any functions of the first mentioned authority; and

(ii) a woman who is qualified under paragraph (*e*) of this regulation shall be regarded as so qualified only for such period and in respect of such employment as is specified by the Secretary of State in his approval of the qualification.

3. The Secretary of State may dispense with any of the requirements of these regulations in any case in which he is satisfied that the woman whom it is proposed to employ as a health visitor is a registered general nurse with a midwifery qualification and appropriate experience and that the local health authority is unable to obtain the services of a health visitor qualified in accordance with paragraphs 2(*a*), (*b*), (*c*) or (*e*) of the foregoing regulations.

William Ross,
One of Her Majesty's
Principal Secretaries of State.

St. Andrew's House,
Edinburgh, 1.

28th July 1965.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the regulations.*)

The regulations prescribe for the first time the qualifications to be held by health visitors employed by local health authorities or employed by voluntary organisations under arrangements with local health authorities. The position of existing employees without health visitors certificates is safeguarded and power is taken to dispense with the requirements of the regulations when a fully qualified health visitor is unobtainable.