

## SANC e-APC FORUM

# 2025

### eAPC FORUM

The SANC hosted a successful hybrid electronic Annual Practising Certificate (eAPC) Forum on Friday, 04 July 2025, with 685 attendees joining virtually and SANC management and relevant staff attended physically.

The eAPC forum was chaired by SANC Council Member Ms Trudy Kaseke, who is also the Chairperson of the Laws, Practice and Standards Committee.

During her welcoming address, Ms Kaseke mentioned that the purpose of the meeting was to address the transitioning of Annual Practising Certificates to an electronic format as per Council Circular 10 of 2024, which is aimed at modernising the annual fees payment process and will have been introduced to the profession and all relevant stakeholders in phases as a pilot study from July 2025.

She said the need for registration ensures that nurse practitioners are known to the regulatory body and are held accountable for the manner in which they deliver care to the health care users. She also emphasised that compliance with this requirement is not only a legal obligation, but also a professional and ethical responsibility. The SANC has made ongoing efforts to reinforce the importance of nurses maintaining their annual registration and payment of practice licence fees.

Dr J Muswede, Senior Manager: Professional Practice, presented the context and background of the new transition from physical to electronic Annual Practising Certificates (APCs). She highlighted that this initiative is informed by Section 31(4) of the Nursing Act, 2005 (Act No. 33 of 2005), which stipulates that no individual may use the title of a professional nurse, across any category, within the Republic of South Africa unless they are duly registered with the South African Nursing Council.

She further emphasised that Section 36(2) of the Act stipulates that a certificate of registration is valid proof of registration for one year from the date of issue, thereafter, proof of registration is established through the possession of a valid APC, which is issued upon payment of the prescribed annual fee.

She said that the SANC was experiencing challenges with the physical delivery of APCs to nurse practitioners via the South African Post Office (SAPO). In August 2024, the SANC communicated its intention to discontinue the printed APCs in favour of a more modern and efficient verification method.

She urged employers to utilise the eRegister on the SANC website for verification purposes, in line with modern regulatory practices and the ongoing digital transformation within the healthcare sector, rather than relying on hard copies of APC's.

Mr T Mokoena, the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) presented in terms of Section 31(3) of the Nursing Act which stipulates that employers are legally prohibited from employing or retaining any individual to perform functions related to the nursing profession unless that individual holds the appropriate qualifications and is duly registered with the South African Nursing Council.

During his presentation, Mr Mokoena highlighted that the introduction of the electronic APC will be implemented as a pilot phase from July 2025 and full implementation will be from July 2026. The electronic sample was also presented to the attendees with security features outlined to the profession. Each electronic APC will be encrypted and protected by a password, amongst other features, ensuring that only authorised individuals can access the APC. The content and design of the proposed electronic APC's will remain consistent with the current printed version. The electronic APC will include a QR code that can be scanned using a smartphone with camera capability. Scanning the QR code will direct the user to the SANC eRegister, where the nurse's registration details can be verified through a guided process.

He also encouraged the attendees to update their contact details - especially email addresses and cell phone numbers - because the eAPC will be sent via email. The employers were also urged to mobilise and assist those employees who do not have email addresses to set up an email address (e.g. through a service provider like Gmail as it is free and easy to set up).

In closing, Ms Kaseke appreciated the input received from attendees and said the SANC is looking forward to more engagement opportunities. She said this initiative must be taken as a collective responsibility to driving this important change forward.

**#buildingabetterSANC**

# SANC Circular 4/2025

## RETAINING SANC REGISTRATION FOR NURSE PRACTITIONERS EMPLOYED ON THE BASIS OF A NURSING QUALIFICATION

**CIRCULAR NO: 4/2025**

**TO: NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
NURSING EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS  
ALL STAKEHOLDERS**

**SUBJECT: UPDATE EMAIL ADDRESSES WITH THE SANC IN PREPARATION FOR THE DELIVERY OF ELECTRONIC ANNUAL PRACTISING CERTIFICATES AS OF 2026**

### 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. The purpose of this circular is to inform nurse practitioners who were employed based on a nursing qualification and whose employment requires proof of registration with the Council, to restore their status in the Nurse Register (if not currently registered) and renew their Annual Practising Certificates (APCs) annually.

### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The South African Nursing Council (SANC) is a statutory body established in terms of the Nursing Act, (Act No. 33 of 2005) to set and maintain the standards of nursing education and practice in the Republic of South Africa.
- 2.2. The SANC is mandated in terms of the Act to serve and protect the public in matters involving nursing and midwifery services, and to uphold and maintain professional conduct, ethics, and practice standards
- 2.3. In order to practise nursing, all the categories of nurses are required to renew their Annual Practising Certificates (APC) by 31st December each year.
- 2.4. The Council has, however, noted with concern, an ongoing trend of nurses failing to renew their APCs. This includes those employed based on a nursing qualification but not involved in patient care. The same pattern has been observed among nurses who lead or oversee the implementation of National Strategic Priorities in health, both at national and provincial level.

### 3. COUNCIL RESOLUTION

- 3.1. At its ordinary meeting held on 24-25 April 2025, the Council deliberated on the matter and resolved to notify the employers, stakeholders and the profession that nurses who were employed by virtue of a nursing qualification and whose employment require proof of registration with the Council must restore their status in the Nurse Register (if not currently registered) and renew their APCs annually.

#### 4. DIRECTIVE

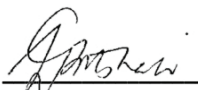
- 4.1. Nurses who were employed on the basis of a nursing qualification, and whose employment requires proof of registration with the Council, must restore their status in the Nurse (if not currently registered) and renew their APCs annually.
- 4.2. Nurses who are employed based on a nursing qualification, and whose employment requires proof of current registration with the Council, and lead or oversee the implementation of National Strategic Priorities in health both at national and provincial levels must restore their status in the Nurses Register (if not currently registered) and renew their APCs annually.
- 4.3. Employers must refrain from employing nurses without proof of current registration with the SANC or whose names were removed from the Nurses Register in terms of Section 44 of the Nursing Act, 2005 (Act No. 33 of 2005).
- 4.4. Employers or prospective employers, MUST verify registration status using the Nurse eRegister (electronic register of Nurses and Midwives) at: [sanc.co.za/eRegister.aspx](https://sanc.co.za/eRegister.aspx)
- 4.5. For further information regarding restoration, please contact Mr. B Manganyi, Manager: Revenue Collections and Sales at [bmanganyi@sanc.co.za](mailto:bmanganyi@sanc.co.za) or Tel: 012 420 1081.

#### 5. IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. The contents of this circular must be brought to the attention of all employers, national and provincial departments of health, stakeholders and nurses across all nursing service platforms.

#### 6. IMPLEMENTATION

- 6.1. This circular shall become effective on the date of issue. Enquiries in this regard can be directed to Dr J Muswede, Senior Manager: Professional Practice at [jmuswede@sanc.co.za](mailto:jmuswede@sanc.co.za) or Tel: 012 420 1073.



**PROF NG MTSHALI**  
**REGISTRAR AND CEO**  
**SOUTH AFRICAN NURSING COUNCIL**

**DATE:** 01 AUGUST 2025



## 2025 INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES (ICN) CONGRESS PARTICIPATION BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN NURSING COUNCIL

The South African Nursing Council delegation attended the 30th ICN Congress, which took place in Helsinki, Finland, from June 9 to 13, 2025. The 2025 ICN Congress was co-hosted by ICN and the Finnish Nurses Association, marking the significant 100th anniversary of Finland hosting an ICN Congress. The ICN Congress is a major global gathering held every two years that unites nurses from around the world to exchange knowledge, expertise and best practices. The theme of the Congress, "NURSING POWER to Change the World," resonated with the approximately 7,000 nurses, researchers, and experts from over 130 countries who attended.

The South African Nursing Council (SANC) was represented by five delegates, including Dr. MC Molepo, Chairperson of Council; Prof. NG Mtshali, SANC Registrar and Chief Executive Officer; Prof. P Jordaan, Chairperson of the Education and Development Committee (EDCO); Dr. S. Mthembu, Deputy Chairperson EDCO; and Dr. NJ Muswede, Senior Manager for Professional Practice. The SANC delegation presented two e-posters in alignment with the Council's strategic goal of advancing the nursing profession locally and globally. They were titled:

1. "Strengthening the Healthcare System: The Evolution of Clinical Nurse Specialists in South Africa," authored by Prof. P Jordaan and Dr. S. Mthembu.
2. "Pilot Testing of the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) System for Nurses in South Africa: A Participatory Action Approach," presented by Dr. NJ Muswede and Prof. NG Mtshali.

The Congress provided insightful information, evidence, and research across various tracks, including nursing education, regulation, practice, and training. It underscored the vital influence of nurses on healthcare and boldly addressed critical issues such as nursing education, practice regulation, and the urgent need for safe working environments.



From left: Prof P Jordaan and Dr S Mthembu during the e-poster presentation



From left to right: Prof NG Mtshali, Prof P Jordaan, Dr NJ Muswede, Dr MC Molepo and Dr S Mthembu

Two key highlights were the State of the World's Nursing Report 2025 by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the launch of a new definition of nurse and nursing by ICN. The State of the World's Nursing Report 2025 provides a comprehensive up-to-date information on the nursing workforce globally, the critical contributions of the nursing workforce to health systems worldwide, and ongoing challenges such as workforce shortages, gender disparities, and gaps in leadership opportunities. It also highlights the need to invest in jobs, education, leadership and service delivery. WHO calls "policy-makers in countries, nursing associations, regulators, development partners, partner organizations and other stakeholders to utilise this report for policy dialogue and decision-making on how and where to strengthen nursing to achieve universal health coverage and the other health-related SDGs." The report is accessible from <https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/381329/9789240110236-eng.pdf>

ICN launched a new definition of "nurse" and nursing which resulted from a year-long global initiative led by an expert panel and backed by a Delphi group of distinguished nurses from each ICN region. This collaborative effort ensured inclusivity and cultural relevance across diverse health systems and communities, reflecting a true global consensus. The updated definition clarifies the scope, identity, and contributions of the nursing profession to global health, emphasizing nursing as a science-based, people-centred, and socially just profession while highlighting the roles of nurses as innovators, educators, researchers, and leaders in policy development. The full report is available from the ICN website <https://www.icn.ch/resources/nursing-definitions/current-nursing-definitions>.



From left: Prof NG Mtshali and Dr NJ Muswede during the e-poster presentation

## CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!



**Professor Deliwe Rene Phetlhu**, Deputy Chairperson of Council and Head of the Department of Nursing Sciences at Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University has been awarded the prestigious National Research Foundation (NRF)'s u'Good Grant to the value of R9.1 million. Her successful proposal, selected from over 200 global submissions, is one of only 22 awarded internationally and will fund a groundbreaking project titled "Youth Mental Health in the Era of Climate Change."

The three-year project (2025–2027) aims to develop a culturally responsive intervention to enhance the psychological resilience and

well-being of young people in South Africa, Ghana, and Tanzania. The research will be grounded in the relational well-being (RWB) theory and principles of Ubuntu, integrating culture, socio-economic contexts, and environmental stressors into its approach.

The project will begin by investigating youth awareness, cultural narratives, and environmental anxieties linked to climate change, before developing and piloting a targeted intervention. Innovative methodologies such as photovoice and vignettes will be employed to capture lived experiences, while technologies like RedCap will ensure secure data handling.

The long-term goal is to influence youth mental health policy and practice. "Mental health is becoming a global pandemic. The next generation will carry the heaviest burden of climate change, and they must be equipped with resilience and leadership skills," Prof Phetlhu said.

*Prof Phetlhu also extended gratitude to the SMU Grants Office. "Ms Winnie Motsatsi was phenomenal, supporting me through every step, arranging a reviewer, and accommodating my schedule. I couldn't have done it without her."*

Source: <https://www.smu.ac.za/2025/06/25/smu-professor-secures-over-r9-million-nrf-grant-to-champion-youth-mental-health-in-the-face-of-climate-change/>



**Professor Ntombifikile Gloria Mtshali**, SANC Registrar and CEO, also Associate Professor of the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), was named a **2024 Top Scholar** by ScholarGPS.

Prof Mtshali ranks among the **top 0.5% of scholars globally** in the field of **Nurse Education**.

ScholarGPS, a globally recognised academic analytics platform, celebrates top-performing scholars for their exceptional contributions across disciplines. Prof Mtshali received recognition in two distinguished categories:

- **Top Scholar** – Lifetime: Ranked #137 globally in Nurse Education
- **Top Scholar** – Past 5 Years: Ranked #22 globally in Nurse Education.

This recognition reflects Prof Mtshali's exceptional research output, global impact, and commitment to strengthening nursing and midwifery education both in South Africa and internationally.

Source: <https://ndabaonline.ukzn.ac.za/UkzndabaStory/Vol13Issue21/>

**Mr Sifiso Vincent Mkhathshwa**, SANC 17<sup>th</sup> Council member, won the 2025 Young Leaders Award in the politics and government category. This category recognises young leaders who are actively engaged in politics and government affairs, demonstrating a commitment to improving their communities and the nation as a whole. Nominees in this category may have initiated positive policy changes, advocated for democratic rights, or shown exceptional leadership within political or governmental institutions.

Mr Mkhathshwa is a passionate advocate for youth leadership and equitable healthcare, his work bridges the gap between public health services and young people, particularly in rural and urban communities.

His leadership journey is rooted in a strong belief in empowering the next generation within the health sector and beyond. With a focus on politics, leadership, and management, he actively nurtures young leaders—encouraging them to step confidently into managerial roles and contribute meaningfully to public service.

He champions a values-driven approach to leadership that promotes integrity, accountability, and social impact. One of his core priorities is improving access to public health, particularly by strengthening linkages between young people and the healthcare system.

Through mentorship, motivational speaking, and strategic initiatives, he inspires youth to rebuild their self-esteem, pursue leadership opportunities, and advocate for inclusive, quality healthcare for all. His work has empowered countless young individuals to view themselves not only as beneficiaries of healthcare, but as contributors and change-makers within the system.

More than a healthcare professional, Mr Mkhathshwa is a catalyst for transformation - cultivating confident, ethical leaders who are committed to rebuilding South Africa's health sector and uplifting their communities from within.

Source: <https://www.freesa.org.za/young-leaders-awards-2025/#categories>



# REMINDER: 2026 ANNUAL FEES

## 1.1 NORMAL ANNUAL FEES

The annual fees for the calendar year 2026 for different categories of practitioners are provided in the table below:

CATEGORY	ANNUAL FEE FOR 2026
Registered Nurses and Midwives	R870.00
Enrolled Nurses and Midwives	R520.00
Enrolled Nursing Auxiliaries	R370.00

## 1.2 REDUCTIONS IN ANNUAL FEES FOR AGE 60 AND OVER

The Council has resolved to introduce reduced fees for nurses 60 years of age and over as per the table below:

### 1.2.1 60 TO 64 YEARS OF AGE ON 1 JANUARY 2026 (25% REDUCTION)

CATEGORY	ANNUAL FEE FOR 2026
Registered Nurses and Midwives	R660.00
Enrolled Nurses and Midwives	R390.00
Enrolled Nursing Auxiliaries	R280.00

### PLEASE NOTE:

- **Bank transfers** from different banks **takes up to 3 working days** – pay well in advance to meet the **31 December 2025 deadline**.
- Request **voluntary removal** if you are not practising as a nurse = reduced restoration fees to be re-registered
- **Community Service:** Your registration fee code is: **REGFPRA, not ANLFEES (e.g 12345678REGFPRA)**

### 1.2.2 65 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER ON 01 JANUARY 2026 (50% REDUCTION)

CATEGORY	ANNUAL FEE FOR 2026
Registered Nurses and Midwives	R440.00
Enrolled Nurses and Midwives	R260.00
Enrolled Nursing Auxiliaries	R180.00

**NB:** To qualify for the discount amounts, practitioners may be required to submit a certified copy of their identity document in order to confirm their age.

#### Notes:

- The annual fees for 2026 must be received by the SANC (reflect in its bank account) **on or before 31 December 2025**.
- The amounts in the tables above all include 15% VAT.
- The amounts are rounded off to the nearest R10.00.

## 2. RESTORATION FEES FOR 2026

The restoration fees for different categories applicable from 1 January 2026 are shown in the following table.

CATEGORY	NORMAL RESTORATION FEE	REDUCED RESTORATION FEE
Registered Nurses and Midwives	R2 610.00	R180.00
Enrolled Nurses and Midwives	R1 560.00	R180.00
Enrolled Nursing Auxiliaries	R1 110.00	R180.00
Retired Nurses	R 180.00	R180.00

#### eRegister

The SANC has made an eRegister facility available on the SANC website which can be utilised by employers to verify the registration status of all nurse practitioners in their employment. Employers **MUST** utilise this facility to verify the authenticity of the electronic annual practising certificate presented to them.

Visit: <https://www.sanc.co.za/eRegister.aspx> for more details.



**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**South African Nursing Council**  
Regulating nursing, advocating for the public

# You asked, we listened: **NO MORE PRINTED APCS!!!**

SANC introducing electronic Annual Practising Certificate (e-APC) from 01 July 2025 as part of the pilot study. From 1 July 2026 all APCs will be sent electronically only, except in exceptional cases as defined during the 2025/26 pilot study.



- **NO MORE QUEUES**, access your e-APC at your convenience.



- **NO MORE TRAVELLING** to the SANC office in Pretoria.



- **UPDATE** your email address and cell phone number on: [www.sanc.co.za/updated](http://www.sanc.co.za/updated), to receive your e-APC via an email.



- **EMPLOYERS VERIFY THE NURSE'S STATUS** on eRegister as the SANC is phasing out printed APCs: [www.sanc.co.za/eRegister.aspx](http://www.sanc.co.za/eRegister.aspx)

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## SANC CSR PROJECT 2025 - RAISING FUNDS THROUGH RECYCLABLE MATERIAL

The South African Nursing Council (SANC) hosted its **2025 Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) campaign in celebration of Nelson Mandela International Day on Wednesday, 30 July 2025.**

**The SANC participated during the 67 minutes of CARING** by donating recyclable materials to **Via Nova School** which is one of the schools that are serviced by Mpact Recycling in Pretoria.

**Via Nova School** is a school for learners with special educational needs specialising in learners with Severe Intellectual Disabilities (SID) and Autism.

This programme allows schools to raise funds, as the schools get paid for their recyclables, whilst teaching environmental awareness, responsibility and sustainability. This initiative also stimulates the learners to showcase their creativity in hand work, by using the recyclable material.

The SANC staff members donated white/photocopying paper, flattened cardboard boxes for cereals, long-life milk cartons, juice cartons, etc.

The SANC would like to extend its gratitude to all staff members who donated recyclable material and made the SANC's 2025 International Nelson Mandela initiative a success.



## Stakeholder Relations and Collaboration Plan - Q1 (April to June 2025) Progress Report

1

On 02 April 2025 a media response was shared with Bhekisisa regarding the SANC comment on NSP plans about nurses and mental health

2

On 10 April 2025 Circular 1/2025 - SANC Easter Holidays Closure 2025 was shared with staff and external stakeholders

3

On 10 April 2025 the SANC Executive and Senior Management held a collaboration meeting between the SANC and Health & Welfare SETA.

4

On 15 April 2025 a media response was shared with the Devi Show on eTV & eNCA regarding the accreditation status of Thuto Bophelo with the SANC.

8

On 05 May 2025 the International Day of the Midwife message was shared with staff and external stakeholders.

7

Daily in the News was sent to Council Members, Senior Managers and Managers for noting.

6

On 29 April 2025 the #SANCnews for March/April 2025 was sent to staff and external stakeholders.

5

On 22 April 2025 Dr Molepo and Prof Mtshali attended the naming ceremony of the North West University Medical School.

9

On 12 May 2025 a Media Release - International Nurses Day Message 2025 was shared with the media, staff and external stakeholders.

10

On 12 May 2025 a Happy International Nurses Day Message 2025 was shared with staff and external stakeholders.

11

On 12 May 2025 the SANC handed promotional gifts as a token of appreciation to ±150 nurses who visited the SANC premises.

12

On 16 May 2025 the SANC hosted the International Nurses Day celebration for the internal Nursing Staff.

16

From 21 May 2025, the SANC shared the SANC Values refresher poster for the three new values (Excellence, Collaboration and Accountability).

15

On 20 May 2025 the SANC received a SABC TV interview request on how the long hours and hectic work schedule affects nurses as primary healthcare providers in the public sector.

14

On 19 May 2025 the SANC sent the new SANC Instagram page to internal and external stakeholders.

13

On 19 May 2025 the SANC received an interview request from Radio Riverside in Upington for 21 May 2025 from 12:00 to 13:00.

17

On 23 May 2025 the SANC hosted the Angolan Order of Nurses for a benchmarking visit. From 26 to 28 May 2025 the SANC Executive and Senior Management attended the NLI Framework validation Workshop.

18

On 30 May 2025 the SANC sent the South African Nursing Council Nomination for the Princess Srinagarindra Award 2025 in Thailand.

19

Daily in the News was sent to Council Members, Senior Managers and Managers for noting.

20

Take Notes were sent to staff as per departmental requests.

24

On 10 June 2025 a #SANCnews - May Special Edition was shared with staff and external stakeholders and posted on facebook.

23

On 09 June 2025 Circular 2/2025 - Updating of contact details for Electronic APC was shared with staff and external stakeholders and was posted on social media platforms.

22

On 09 June 2025 a reminder was sent to staff regarding the SANC Service Standards Charter.

21

On 05 June the SANC received a media enquiry requesting a confirmation of the nurse's registration status with the SANC.

25

On 11 June 2025 bulk SMS was sent to nurses encouraging them to update their contact details in preparation for the electronic Annual Practising Certificate.

26

From 09 to 13 June 2025 the SANC Council Members and Executives attended International Council of Nurses congress in Finland, Helsinki.

27

On 24 June 2025 the SANC received a media enquiry from the Devi Show on eTV & eNCA about the registration status for Saint Ignatius College with the SANC.

28

On 25 June 2025 Circular 3/2025 - Annual Fees for 2025 was shared with staff and external stakeholders. It was posted on social media pages.

32

On 30 June 2025 the #SANCnews May/June 2025 Edition was shared with staff and external stakeholders and posted on social media platforms.

31

On 27 June 2025 a reminder email was sent to staff reminding them about the prescripts of the SANC Corporate Identity Manual and encouraging them to use spell checker to ensure that their documents are professional and free of spelling errors.

30

On 26 June the e-APC video was posted on social media pages.

29

On 25 June 2025 the invitation and programme for the hybrid electronic Annual Practising Certificate (e-APC) forum was sent to all approved attendees.

33

Daily in the News was sent to Council Members, Senior Managers and Managers for noting.

APRIL  
STAKEHOLDER  
COLLABORATION

MAY  
STAKEHOLDER  
COLLABORATION

JUNE  
STAKEHOLDER  
COLLABORATION