

The Role of the Preceptor

"A preceptor is a registered nurse/midwife who has been specifically prepared to guide, direct, facilitate and assess nursing students learning during a practice placement" (subgroup preceptorship/competency 2002)

The following roles of a preceptor as identified by An Bord Altranais (2005) may assist you in completing the nomination form.

- Reviews and discusses with the student the learning outcomes for the specific practice placement.
- Identifies and mutually agrees the learning opportunities that will facilitate the achievement of the learning outcomes and challenge the student to assume responsibility for their own learning.
- Orientates the student into the policies and structure of the practice environment.
- Acts as a role model and demonstrates evidence based nursing/midwifery care.
- Assists the student to develop the interpersonal, technical, reflective and analytical skills that underpins nursing/midwifery care.
- Completes the competence assessment documentation.
- Actively involves and supervises the student in the assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation of nursing/midwifery care.
- Supports and challenges the student nurse/midwife to assume responsibility for nursing/midwifery care.
- Consults with other members of the nursing/midwifery/interdisciplinary team to elicit feedback on student performance.
- Facilitates the student to develop skills in self-assessment.
- Provides continuous constructive feedback, identifying student strengths and weaknesses.
- Acts as gatekeeper to the profession ensuring professional standards within nursing and midwifery care are maintained.
- Facilitates and guides students in reflective practice.

An Bord Altranais (2005) An Bord Altranais Requirements and Standards for Nurse Registration Education programmes. An Bord Altranais, Dublin.