



Returning to midwifery practice in Aotearoa New Zealand

July 2021

1. Fitness to Practice

You must make your Aotearoa New Zealand Midwifery Return to Practice application through your MyMCANZ online portal. All registered midwives have an account. If you do not have access to this, please contact the Council in the first instance.

ALL required documents must be provided at the time of making your application online. When all documents and your application are received, your application will then be reviewed, and a decision made within three to five working days.

Documents required:

Police check
(any country
lived in for 12+
months)

Medical
Certificate

Certificate of
good standing

Your CV

Contact details
of two work
referees

Police check and Certificate of good standing must be current and forwarded directly to the Council not by yourself.

There are costs associated with completing a Return to Practice programme. You should check what these are.

The Midwifery Council

The Midwifery Council makes sure midwives meet and maintain professional standards of education, conduct and performance so that they deliver high quality healthcare throughout their careers. The safety of mothers and babies comes first.

2. Continuing Midwifery Education Requirements

Continuing midwifery education courses are required following the issuing of a practising certificate. These will vary depending on how long you have been overseas and therefore not practising in NZ. If you believe that you should have exemption from completing any of these courses, you will need to contact the Council with your reasons and submit a formal request.

<p>Category A (Return to NZ within three years)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midwifery Emergency Skills Refresher <six months • Midwifery Standards Review <two years from APC application • Electronic Fetal Monitoring education <six months** • GAP (Growth Assessment Protocol) <six months* 	
<p>Category B (Return to NZ after three to five years)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of category A, plus • Review national maternity policies and processes < six months • Family violence workshop <12 months • Smoking cessation course <12 months** • National screening unit (five online courses and update on the immunisation schedule including hep B programme) <12 months** • Examination of the newborn practical requirements <12 months 	<p>* Also satisfies the Continuing Midwifery Education requirements of the Recertification Programme</p> <p>** Available online</p>
<p>Category C (Return to NZ after five years)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of categories A and B , plus • NZ Maternity and Midwifery Systems online courses <18 months • Cultural competence for midwives<18 months** • Pharmacology and Prescribing online courses <18 months** • Formal Supervisor appointed until requirements complete <18 months 	

3. Annual Practising Certificate

This is a separate application from your Aotearoa New Zealand Return to Practice application. You will be able to apply for your Annual Practising Certificate through your MyMCANZ when your application is approved.

If you are ready to begin or have any questions, please contact us at:

Education@midwifercouncil.health.nz or on +64 4 499 5040

NB: Times given are completion timeframes.

The full policy is: "Re-entry into New Zealand practice for midwives who have worked overseas"

As the requirements are completed, you will need to provide evidence to the Council.