



PANDEMIC RESPONSE SUB-REGISTER

Due to the expected surge in demand resulting from COVID-19, AHPRA and the NMBA have established a pandemic response sub-register to enable experienced and qualified nurses and midwives to quickly return to practice.

This sub-register came into effect on 6 April 2020.

Eligible nurses and midwives are those who previously held general registration, and:

- Moved to non-practising registration in the past three years; or,
- Left the Register in the past three years.

All nurses and midwives who met these criteria have been added to the sub-register automatically for a 12-month registration period. Those with conditions on their registration have been excluded.

Application and registration fees have been waived.

A nurse or midwife cannot commence practice until their name appears on the sub-register.

These nurses and midwives can opt out at any time, for any reason. However, if they think they may choose at some stage in the next 12 months to return to practice, then it's recommended they don't opt-out. Most nurses and midwives on the sub-register will not be required to work immediately but this is more likely in the coming weeks or months.

Those who choose to stay on the sub-register and make themselves available to return to work will need to comply with their Code of conduct, work within their scope of practice, and have professional indemnity insurance.

ANMF membership in all states and territories includes professional indemnity insurance.

Eligible nurses and midwives do not need to tell the NMBA why they are opting out. For further information go to: <https://www.ahpra.gov.au/News/COVID-19/Pandemic-response-sub-register.aspx>.

After 12 months (or sooner if the pandemic subsides), everyone will be removed from the sub-register. Those on the sub-register who want to continue practising after that time, will need to apply for registration through the standard process. If they had non-practising registration before the pandemic, they will be returned to non-practising registration.

If it has been more than three years since a nurse or midwife held practising registration they will need to apply for registration by submitting the relevant form to the NMBA. They will need to meet the usual return to practice requirements.