What is revalidation?
Revalidation is the process that all nurses, midwives and specialist community public health nurses will need to go through, to demonstrate that they continue to practise safely and effectively. It will replace the ‘PREP’ system from April 2016.

Who will need to revalidate?
All nurses, midwives and specialist community public health nurses who wish to remain on the NMC register (thus able to practise in the UK in their respective profession). Throughout FAQs document, we refer to this group of professionals as ‘registrants’.

Why is it being introduced?
The NMC consider revalidation will give the public, employers and professionals greater confidence that registrants are up to date with their practice. They intend this process to improve public protection by making sure that registrants continue to be fit to practise throughout their career.

Why do I need to revalidate?
You are part of a profession that has statutory regulation, and as such you must comply with any requirements laid out by your regulator the NMC.

When will I be due to revalidate?
Each year you pay an annual retention fee. Every third year you have to renew your registration and demonstrate that you meet the renewal requirements. This date is usually the anniversary of your first entry on to the NMC register. When you register with NMC online, you will find your revalidation (renewal/expiry date on the first page).

What is involved in the revalidation process?
These are the revalidation requirements in each three year period:
• 450 practice hours
• 35 hours of continuing professional development
• 5 pieces of practice-related feedback
• 5 reflections and discussion on the NMC Code
• Health and character declaration
• Professional indemnity arrangement
• Confirmation from a third party

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What advice do you have on how to prepare/go through the process?
Your first step should be to register with NMC online. We have produced a number of resources which support Unite in Health members. You can access these at www.unitetheunion.org/health/nmcrevalidation. These include step-by-step guides on how to revalidate and more detailed guidance on each of the requirements.

I’m a direct entry midwife, working as a Specialist Community Public Health Nurse (SCPHN) health visitor. Is the requirement still in place that I need to practice 900 hours (450 midwifery/450 SCPHN)?
No, you only need 450 practice hours. You do not need to file an Intention to Practise form. Your register entry will record that you are not entitled to practise as a midwife in the United Kingdom.

I am working as a nurse and a midwife. Do I have to fulfil the revalidation requirements for each registration?
You will need to undertake 450 hours of practice for midwifery and 450 hours of practice for nursing, but only a total of five pieces of feedback, five reflections and one reflective discussion and confirmation.

I’m not delivering hands-on clinical care. Does this mean that I am unable to go through the revalidation process?
No; revalidation requires you to reflect on your scope of practice, CPD and feedback in line with the NMC Code. As long as you can do this within your role, you will be able to go through the revalidation process. However if you are currently in a role where you do not use your skills, knowledge or experience as a registrant, you will not be able to meet the revalidation requirements so you will be unable to renew your NMC registration. There is a different process for re-joining the NMC register.

I am a mentor/practice teacher and maintain a portfolio. Will this mean additional work creating a portfolio for revalidation?
Not necessarily; you should be able to use the evidence that you already capture where it meets the NMC revalidation requirements but may need to add additional evidence (for example reflections over the previous three years) and these can be integrated into your current portfolio.

How soon am I able to have my Reflective Discussion and confirmation meeting?
You are able to have these up to 12 months before your renewal/revalidation date.

What will this process cost?
There is no additional cost on top of your NMC fee.

How do I revalidate if I am off work?
Revalidation is a continual process so it may be that you have accrued sufficient CPD and practice hours in advance.

I am concerned that my employer is not supporting me to meet the revalidation requirements; what can I do?
You should contact your local Unite representative.