

## What is the Role of the Registrar?

The Registrar must be a person who is a registered nurse or holds a nursing qualification and is eligible for registration. The Registrar is the Chief Executive Officer of the Board and also holds additional specific functions under the *Nurses Act 1999* and delegated by the Board.

The Registrar is responsible for maintaining the register and roll and ensuring that the register and roll are accurate and current. The Registrar also has the responsibility for removing names from the register/roll when the person has ceased to be a nurse. The Registrar can lay a complaint before the Board against a nurse. The Registrar can authorise Nurse Practitioners and Enrolled Nurses to work without supervision of a registered nurse and can provide for limited registration/enrolment.

Role and Function of the Nurses Board of South Australia



**nursesboardsouthaustralia**

PO Box 7176 Hutt Street Adelaide SA 5000

Office hours 9.00am – 5.00pm

Payment hours 9.00am – 4.30pm

Telephone (08) 8223 9700

Facsimile (08) 8223 9707

Email [ceo-registrar@nursesboard.sa.gov.au](mailto:ceo-registrar@nursesboard.sa.gov.au)

Website [www.nursesboard.sa.gov.au](http://www.nursesboard.sa.gov.au)

nursesboardsouthaustralia

SHADI DESIGN

### **What is the Nurses Board?**

The Nurses Board of South Australia is a regulatory body responsible for regulating nursing for the purpose of maintaining high standards of competence and conduct by nurses in South Australia. The Board's role is to ensure that the community is adequately provided with nursing care of the highest standard. It does this in the public interest.

### **What is the Nurses Act 1999?**

The Nurses Board is mandated under the *Nurses Act 1999*. The Act outlines the responsibilities of the Board including its general functions and powers; the requirements for registration and enrolment of nurses and the maintenance of the register and roll; restrictions relating to the provision of nursing care; complaints and investigations against nurses and the responsibilities of the Board members and the Registrar.

### **What are the functions of the Nurses Board?**

The functions and powers of the Board are as follows:

- (a) to regulate the practice of nursing in the public interest;
- (b) to determine the scope of nursing practice;
- (c) to approve courses of education or training that provide qualifications for registration or enrolment as a nurse under this Act;
- (d) to determine the requirements necessary for registration or enrolment under this Act;
- (e) to investigate the fitness of persons to practise as nurses in this State, and to investigate the professional conduct of nurses who are registered or enrolled under this Act;
- (f) to endorse codes of conduct for nurses;
- (g) to endorse professional standards, including definitions and titles;
- (h) to authorise areas of specialist nursing practice for inclusion on the register or roll under this Act;
- (i) to determine and recognise special practice areas for the purposes of this Act;
- (j) to exchange information with other registering authorities for nurses;
- (k) to provide advice to the Minister as may be appropriate; and
- (l) to carry out other functions assigned to the Board by or under this Act, or by the Minister.

### **How are the Board Members selected?**

The Board comprises eleven (11) members who are all required to be appointed by the Governor. The Presiding Member of the Board is nominated by the Minister for Health and is required to have nursing qualifications.

There are five (5) members who are nurses. Nurse members are elected to the Board and are required to be registered or enrolled under the *Nurses Act 1999*. Nurses Board elections are conducted by the South Australian Electoral Commission. All registered and enrolled nurses are eligible to vote in the election of nurse members.

The Board must also have a medical practitioner, a legal practitioner and three (3) consumer members. These members are all nominated by the Minister. The Act requires that at least one member of the Board is a male and at least one member is a female.

A Board member holds a position or office of public trust and confidence. The Board member assumes responsibility for ensuring that the Nurses Board fulfils its statutory functions whilst acting within the legal and financial framework described by the *Nurses Act 1999*. Board members are appointed for a three (3) year term of office and may be re-appointed for consecutive terms.