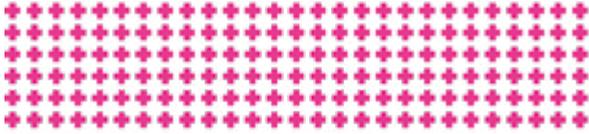


# The Queen's Nursing Institute

## Long Service Award



### Frequently asked questions

#### **About the award:**

The Long Service Award was originally awarded to Queen's Nurses trained by the Institute, but as the numbers of Queen's Nurses reduced the badge was no longer requested.

As part of the celebrations for the 150th anniversary of District Nursing the award was made available to long-serving District Nurses to acknowledge the contribution they made to community nursing. It is now available to all community nurses across all specialties.

#### **What's the difference between the Outstanding Service Award and the Long Service Award?**

The Outstanding Service award is given to community nurses who have made an exceptional contribution to community nursing, over and above that expected of their post.

The Long Service Award is available to all community nurses completing 21 years of service.

#### **Is there a closing date?**

No. Applications are accepted at any time

#### **Who can apply?**

Any nurse who has worked in the community for a period of twenty one years is eligible to apply. This applies to District Nurses, Community Nurses, Health Visitors, and those working across other disciplines, such as Occupational Health, School Nursing, General Practice, Learning Disability and Mental Health, as well as nurses working in other specialist services, such as prisons and homeless health. Please contact the QNI Practice Development team if you are not sure.

#### **About you:**

##### **I am retired, can I apply for the Long Service Award?**

You can apply if you retired within two years from the date of your application and your former manager is able to countersign your application form.

##### **I have only ever worked part-time can I apply for a Long Service Award?**

Part-time service is counted as half full-time service. The equivalent amount of part-time service must have been worked to be eligible for the Award.

##### **I'm an enrolled nurse working in the community, can I apply?**

Yes. Applications are welcomed from enrolled nurses.

##### **I have completed 21 years of service but have gaps in my employment history, am I still eligible?**

Gaps in service are acceptable providing that total service in community nursing equates to 21 years.

**I have been a community staff nurse for 21 years but don't have a specialist qualification, am I still eligible?**

Yes, additional post registration qualifications are not necessary in order to apply for the Long Service Award.

**I have been trained as a district nurse for over 21 years but have spent some of that time working as a health visitor and midwife as I am dual trained, am I still eligible?**

Yes, as long as you can demonstrate 21 years in the community.

**I qualified 21 years ago but have spent some of that time working in hospitals, am I still eligible?**

No. Only service as a community nurse will fulfil the criteria.

**Do I have to be nominated or can I apply?**

Applications must come from the individual nurse.

**From what date do I calculate my 21 years service?**

21 years service must be calculated from the date of commencement in community nursing employment.

**Can educators/managers apply for a long service badge?**

Yes: community nurses with some of their service in education or management are eligible.

**What proof do I need to show 21 years of service?**

- Photocopy of certificate of successful completion of Nurse training (as RN or EN).
- List of dates and posts held in community nursing, either full or part-time. Signature from your current manager to verify that this matches the information your current employer holds in your personnel file.

**Across the UK:**

**I'm a District Nurse working in Scotland can I apply?**

No. Please contact QNI Scotland who run a similar scheme [www.qnis.org.uk](http://www.qnis.org.uk)

**Does service in Scotland count if I'm now working in England?**

Yes.

**What about Wales and Northern Ireland?**

Yes. Applications are welcome from community nurses working in England, Wales or Northern Ireland.

**Receiving your award:**

**How much does the Long Service Award cost?**

The cost is £25 to include certificate, badge, administration, postage and packing. We accept bank payments only. Please email [gabriella.acen@qni.org.uk](mailto:gabriella.acen@qni.org.uk) for details.

**How will I receive my award?**

Successful applicants will receive a Certificate and at a later stage also a Long Service Badge.

**Does having a Long Service Award make me a member of the QNI's fellows and alumni?**

No, but you are welcome to join the QNI community by registering on our website at [www.qni.org.uk](http://www.qni.org.uk). You will then receive all our regular information and updates.

