



## Ireland (IE)

The National Council for the Professional Development of Nursing and Midwifery  
*An Bord Altranais*

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An Bord Altranais was established by the Nurses Act, 1950 to take over the functions of two bodies, the Central Midwives Board and the General Nursing Council, which had been established in 1918 and 1919 respectively.

An Bord Altranais was re-constituted and its functions were re-defined and expanded by the Nurses Act, 1985.

The Board consists of twenty-nine members, seventeen of whom are elected by nurses and twelve of whom are appointed by the Minister for Health.

Boards main fields of interest are nursing education and runing nurse register. The education department of An Bord Altranais was established in 1955 to provide support and advice to An Bord on matters relating to nursing, nurse education and training. The register of nurses was established under boards act.

Up until 2004 as much as 76 000 nurses have been registered