**What do you have to do to become a nurse?**

***Secondary vocational education (MBO)***

Secondary vocational education takes up to four years, depending on the level of training. Those who complete their training can start work or go on to another form of education. More than 700 vocational courses are provided in the Netherlands.

## ***Levels of training***

MBO courses are given at four different levels of training, each leading to a specific job qualification:

* level 4: middle-management training;
* level 3: professional training;
* level 2: basic vocational training;
* level 1: assistant training.

Holders of a level 4 MBO certificate may go on to higher professional education (HBO).

### ***Practical training and classroom learning.***

For each MBO course there are two learning pathways: vocational training (BOL) where practical training takes up between 20% and 60% of the course; and block or day release (BBL) where practical training takes up more than 60% of the course.

<https://www.government.nl/topics/secondary-vocational-education-mbo-and-higher-education/contents/secondary-vocational-education-mbo>

***Training***

Professional education has two main options: the MBO (secondary professional education) and the HBO (higher professional education). Training of nurses is provided through both these systems (MBO and HBO).

<http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/qualifications/docs/nurses/2000-study/nurses_nederland_en.pdf>