

The Lugala College of Health and Allied Sciences (LUCHAS) began in 1989 as a Preparatory School of Nursing (LPSN) offering a one-year pre-nursing course. The pre-nursing course was offered until 2009 when Tanzania's Ministry of Health (MoH) banned the pre-nursing one-year course throughout the country. The main reason for the ban was that the course was considered to be recruiting cheap labourers without opening a professional perspective for the participants. In Lugala, for instance, only a few students were the form IV leavers. However, form IV was a standard requirement for entrance into the lowest grade of nursing school. In this regard, the LPNS was, in fact, not a preparatory school because only a few, the form IV leavers, would have the chance to continue afterwards with nursing.

The government's ban was, therefore, meaningful. Following the ban and considering the soaring demand for nursing staff, the Lugala Lutheran Hospital (LLH) management team started a nursing course on October 5, 2009, with an intake of 40 students, changing its name to Lugala School of Nursing (LSN). The school provided a certificate in nursing for two years. The school's staff included a principal, three retired staff, and two part-time staff from the hospital. The school's first intake was in 2009, who graduated as registered nurses in September 2011 (see the table below). In 2014, the LSN made a striking official and formal step forward after the National Committee for Technical Education (NACTE) granted not only the school's application for registration of the Certificate (B)- level but also the registration of the Diploma (A)- level. In 2022, the Hospital Management Team (HMT) and the school's advisory board started another course (diploma in clinical medicine), which led to the change of school name from Lugala School of Nursing to Lugala College of Health and Allied Sciences (LUCHAS).