

## **Abstract**

This thesis examines the impact of a 2004 reform that increased educational requirements for a regulated profession, namely nurses, on earnings level for both waged and salaried employees, and employment within nurse profession in the Czech Republic. Recently, a reform in the opposite direction regarding educational requirements for general nurses is in the approval process. It makes this analysis relevant. Similar country-based studies contracted by the European Commission regarding occupational regulation show mixed results, what additionally motivates this study. To identify effects of the reform a linear probability model and a difference-in-differences analysis were used. Empirical results suggest a negative effect on nurses' salaries with respect to doctors. In the case of wages, the effect appears to be fluctuating. As for the employment, a decrease in the probability of pursuing a nurse profession was identified for the years following the reform, but mostly insignificant. In general, this thesis shows that the reform had slightly negative short-term effect on nurses' earnings and employment levels. Due to few after-reform yearly observations it is challenging to make long-term conclusions.