

Circular Letter No. 71 /2016

My No. PGIM/EX/2/SE/MD/Med (16/2)
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine,
160, Professor Nandadasa Kodagoda Mawatha,
Colombo 7.
7th July, 2016

To: Director/NHSL, Colombo,
Directors/MSS of Teaching/General Hospitals,
Regional Directors of Health Services,
Deans of Faculties of Medicine/Medical Sciences/ Universities of Peradeniya
/Colombo/Jaffna/Ruhuna/Kelaniya/Sri Jayewardenepura/Rajarata

SELECTION EXAMINATION IN MD MEDICINE – OCTOBER, 2016

1. The above examination is scheduled to commence on **18th October, 2016.**
2. Applications are invited from medical officers in the state sector, non state sectors, Universities and Armed Forces possessing the following requirements to sit the Selection Examination in MD Medicine.
 - (a) A medical degree registered with the Sri Lanka Medical Council ;
 - (b) Satisfactory completion of internship acceptable to the Sri Lanka Medical Council ;
 - (c) Satisfactory completion of one year of post internship in medical practice in a University / Public Sector Institution / Private Sector Institution in Sri Lanka acceptable to the PGIM as at the date of closure of applications ie. **12th August, 2016.**
 - (d) Have six (6) months of experience in general medicine as an intern house officer, and/or six (6) months of experience as a full-time medical officer after internship (consecutively or in total), with both in-ward and out - patient care, with first-on-call commitments, under the supervision of a full-time specialist, in general medicine or in cardiology, clinical oncology, dermatology, gastroenterology, nephrology, neurology, respiratory medicine, or rheumatology.
(a letter to prove the completion of the six months general medicine after internship certified by the relevant Consultant should be sent along with the application.)
 - (e) Produce a letter (medical certificate) from a specialist physician to confirm general mental and physical fitness.
 - (f) Comply with any other PGIM regulations.

Notes:

- (i) the criteria prescribed in paragraph (c) has to be satisfied by the applicants by the date of closure of applications. Where a short- fall has occurred due to any reasons including sick, maternity or other leave, the doctor concerned should complete such shortfall in order to become eligible to apply for the Selection Examination.
- (ii) foreign nationals who seek registration in respect of selection examinations should possess a medical degree registrable with the Sri Lanka Medical Council.

- (iii) A candidate with a certificate of completion of specialist training from a foreign country may be exempted from the Medicine Selection examination, provided this is in accordance with the prevailing general regulations of the PGIM. However, such candidate should comply with requirements 1, 2, 5 and 6 above to be eligible to enter the programme. Furthermore, such candidate should complete Stage 1 (complete the pre-MD training appointments recommended by the Board of Study), Stage 2 (be successful at the MD Examination), Stage 3 (complete the post-MD training appointments recommended by the Board of Study), and Stage 4 (be successful at the PBCA) in order to be eligible for board certification.

3. The examination consists of a written component and a practical component. The written component will be held first. Candidates who are successful at the written component will be eligible to sit the practical component. Only candidates who have passed both components at the same sitting will be considered for entry into the training programme. The current format of the selection examination is described in the Prospectus.

3.1. The written component

The written component consists of the following written question papers:

Paper 1: Biomedical Sciences Paper

The Biomedical Sciences Paper consists of True/False-type multiple choice questions (MCQs). It contains 60 stems, each with 5 items, constituting a total of 300 responses. The total duration of the paper is 3 hours.

Paper 2: General Medicine Paper

The General Medicine Paper is a 3-hour paper, and consists of two subcomponents

- a) A 2-hour True/False-type MCQ paper in medicine, containing 40 stems with each question having 5 responses (a total of 200 questions/responses).
- b) A 1-hour, Single Best Answer-type MCQ paper with 30 questions, each question giving 5 possible answers to select the best one from.

To be successful in the written component, a candidate must obtain a minimum aggregate of 50%, with a minimum of 40% in Paper 1 and a minimum of 50% in Paper 2.

Only the candidates who have passed the written component will be eligible to sit the practical component.

3.2. The practical component

The practical component consists of an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)- type practical examination. It has 12 stations, each lasting 5 minutes.

4. To be successful at the practical component, a candidate must:

- Obtain a Pass in the BALS station and
- Obtain a minimum mark of 40% of available marks in each domain tested and
- Obtain a minimum overall mark of 50%.

Candidates who have passed both written and practical components in the same sitting will be deemed to have qualified to be selected for the MD programme

5. The MCQ Paper will be held on **18th October, 2016**. The practical will be held on a subsequent date as decided by the Board of Examiners. All candidates will be informed in writing, their performance at the MCQ paper.
6. **56 candidates (available training slots)** from the **Ministry of Health (MOH)** who pass the selection examination will be enrolled in the training programme. Placements will be made purely in the order of merit. The details are available at the Examination Branch office of the PGIM and on the PGIM website under “General Regulations and Guidelines 2016”. **The 56th MOH candidate’s marks will be taken as a cut-off line and the candidates in sections 8, 9 and 10 will have to obtain a mark similar to this or above to be offered a place in the training programme.**
7. The final number of available training placements will be determined based on the total number of candidates above the cut-off line.
8. All candidates from **State Universities** who are above the cut-off line will be enrolled in the training programme in the order of merit.
9. All candidates from the **Armed Forces (including police)** who are above the cut-off line will be enrolled in the training programme in the order of merit.
10. All **Non-State Sector** candidates who are above the cut-off line will be enrolled in the training programme. They will be placed below the order of merit for candidates from the MOH, State Universities and Armed Forces (including Police) based on merit within the non-state sector category.
11. Following the examination and release of results the above numbers shall not be changed nor shall requests for such changes be entertained.
12. The allocation of training units will be done as described in “Guidelines for enrolment of non-state sector trainees in to PGIM training programmes-2016” and according to the approved procedure by the PGIM based on merit.
13. When a candidate is selected, he/she should register in the same year. If this is not done another eligible candidate will be selected. And the candidate, who refused, will not be permitted to register in the programme in a subsequent year with the same results unless a valid medical certificate from a consultant acceptable to the PGIM is submitted.
14. For all fulltime training programmes fulltime release from Ministry of Health is a prerequisite for enrollment. When relevant it may be necessary to sign a bond before such enrollment if such a requirement has been decided by the Ministry of Health or University.
15. The relevant information of the training programme, MD Examination, requirements for Board Certification are described in the Prospectus 2016 and other relevant documents. However if amendments have been made following printing of the Prospectus, the circulars with such amendments may be collected from the examination branch office of the PGIM. These circulars will also be handed over to the selected candidates at the commencement of the training programme.

16. The candidates who shall commence the pre MD (Registrar) or Post MD (Senior Registrar) training after 1st August 2011 should pass the Pre-Board Certification Assessment to be eligible for Board Certification. The details are available at the PGIM for perusal.

17. There should be no delay in submitting the dissertation or research report within the stipulated period as prescribed in the prospectus. If there is delay, the Board Certification will be delayed accordingly

18. Following the completion of prescribed requirements for Board Certification including overseas training, the prospective trainee applies for Board Certification with the relevant documents within one month following the completion of such requirements. If this is not followed, the date of Board Certification will be delayed.

19. The prescribed fees for the examination shall be as follows for state candidates.

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| (a) Registration fee | - Rs. 4,000.00 (non refundable) |
| (b) Examination fees | - Rs. 27,500.00 |

(candidates from non-state sector will be charged 50% more of the above listed fees)

Candidates are required to pay Rs. 4,000/= as registration fee and Rs. 17,000/= as the entry fee for the MCQ paper in the first instance. Those who qualify the MCQ paper will have to pay the balance entry fee Rs. 10,500/= in order to proceed for the rest of the examination.

20. Eligible candidates should obtain the prescribed application forms from the Examinations Branch, Postgraduate Institute of Medicine on payment of Rs. 1000/-. It also can be downloaded from our website www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk for which Rs. 1000/- should be paid together with other payments to the Bank.

21. Applications with **every cage duly filled** should be forwarded through the Head of Department, confirming that the applicants if selected would be released for postgraduate training in the PGIM. The envelope should be marked **“Application for the Selection Examination in MD Medicine”** at the top left hand corner. The applications should reach the Asst. Registrar/Examinations, Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, 160, Professor Nandadasa Kodagoda Mawatha, Colombo 7 on or before on or before, **12th August, 2016. Incomplete applications and late applications will not be considered under any circumstances.**

22. The selected candidate should report to the training unit allocated to him/her within one month on receipt of the letter of the selection to the training programme and allocation to the training unit.

23. Please refer to the new regulations laid down by the Ministry of Health regarding release of Medical Officers of Department of Health in MOH website – www.health.gov.lk.

24. The results will be valid and official after confirmation of the Senate of the University.

25. The candidates will be issued an **“Examination Feedback Form”** with the admission documents and this should be sent back to Director/PGIM under confidential cover **within 48 hours after conclusion of the examination.** If the form is not returned it will be assumed that you do not have any concerns regarding the examination and it was conducted according to the Prospectus/rules/regulations of the PGIM. **No complaints or concerns regarding the examination will be entertained after 48 hours of conclusion of the examination or following the release of results** nor will these be investigated by the PGIM.

26. The candidates who pass the Selection Examination and are selected for the MD programme should undergo a training module on Professionalism organized by the PGIM. Please note that this is a compulsory module for all MD trainees. A certificate will be issued to trainees who follow this module.

27. Please bring the contents of this Circular Letter to the notice of all medical officers concerned in your department/division/faculty.

Professor Janaka de Silva
Director, PGIM

- c.c. 1. Secretary, Ministry of Healthcare & Nutrition
2. Director General of Health Services.
3. Registrar, Sri Lanka Medical Council.
4. Secretary of Board of Study in Medicine.
5. Secretary, College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka.
6. Hony. Secretary, GMOA.
7. PGIM Library
8. PGIM Branch Library, Peradeniya.