

Circular Letter No. 67 /2019

My No. PGIM/EX/7/MSc/CM/SE ('19)
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine,
160, Prof Nandadasa Kodagoda Mw,
Colombo 7.
10th July 2019

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

SELECTION EXAMINATION FOR MSc (COMMUNITY MEDICINE) - 2019

1. The above examination is scheduled to commence on **24th September 2019**.
2. Applications are invited by me from medical officers in the state and non-state sectors possessing the following requirements to sit the Selection Examination for admission to the full-time course leading to the degree of MSc in Community 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 clinical practice or teaching in a University/ Public Sector Institution/ Non-state Sector in Sri Lanka acceptable to the PGIM as at the date of closure of applications, ie. **2nd August 2019**.

Note:- The criteria prescribed in paragraph (c) must have been satisfied by the applicants as at the date of closure of applications, provided that 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.

3. The applicants to be eligible for enrolment to the training programme should pass the Selection Examination. The current format of the selection examination for the perusal of applicants is described in the prospectus 2017.
4. The selection examination for Community Medicine will consist of one written paper with five structured essay type questions of three (3) hours duration.
5. The candidates who pass the selection examination by obtaining an overall mark of 50% or more only shall be considered for enrolment to the course.
6. Only a maximum of **46 candidates** 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 2019". **The 46th MOH candidate's marks will be taken as a cut-off line and the candidates in sections 8, 9, 10 and 11 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.

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8. All candidates attached to **Other Government Ministries who pass the selection examination and "who are above the cut-off line"** will be enrolled in the training programme in the order of merit.
9. All candidates from the **Non-State Sector** who pass the selection examination and **"who are above the cut-off line"** will be enrolled in the training programme in the order of merit.
10. All candidates from the **State Universities** who pass the selection examination and **"who are above the cut-off line"** will be enrolled in the training programme in the order of merit.
11. All candidates from the **Armed Forces** who pass the selection examination and **"who are above the cut-off line"** will be enrolled in the training programme in the order of merit.
12. Following the examination and release of results the above numbers shall not be changed nor shall requests for such changes be entertained.
13. Each year only the scheduled Selection Examination in the approved examination calendar shall be held. No repeat or additional examinations will be held
14. The allocation of training units will be done as described in "General Regulation & Guidelines 2019" which is available on PGIM website www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk The allocated training unit/s shall not be changed for personal reasons.
15. When a candidate is selected, he/she should register in the same year. If this is not done another eligible candidate will be selected. 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.
16. 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, University, or by Armed Forces.
17. The relevant information of the training programme is described in the Prospectus. 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.
18. The training programme and the MSc examination shall be conducted as stipulated in the new MSc prospectus (2017).
19. The candidates who have the intention to register for the MD training programme following completion of the MSc examination should follow the MD programme according to the new MD prospectus (2015). The training programme will also include clinical training. The MD examination shall include a knowledge based assessment in addition to the evaluation of the out-come of the research project.
20. The candidates, who shall commence the pre MD (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.

21. Following the completion of prescribed requirements for Board Certification including overseas training, the prospective trainee should apply 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.
22. The prescribed fees for the examination for candidates in the state sector are as follows:
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| (a) Registration fee | - Rs. 6,000.00 (Non refundable) |
| (b) Examination fees | - Rs. 16,000.00 |
| (c) Application Fee | -Rs. 2,500.00 (Non refundable) |
- (Candidates from non-state sector will be charged 50% more of the above listed fees)
- ❖ **Only online payments through the PGIM online portal will be accepted.**
23. The Application form could be downloaded from our website www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk.
24. Completed 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 applications should reach the Senior Assistant Registrar/Examinations, Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, 160, Prof Nandadasa Kodagoda Mw, Colombo 7 on or before **2nd August 2019**. **Incomplete applications and late applications will not be considered under any circumstances.**
25. The selected candidates should report to the training unit allocated to him/ her within one month on receipt of the letter of selection to the training programme and allocation to the training unit.
26. Please bring the contents of the Circular Letter to the notice of all medical officers concerned in your department/division/faculty.
27. Please refer to the new regulations laid down by Ministry of Health regarding release of Medical Officers of Department of Health website – www.health.gov.lk
28. The results will be valid and official only after they are approved by the **Senate of the University of Colombo.**
29. The candidates will be issued an “**Examination Feedback Form**” with the admission documents. Feedback in Part II should be limited to concerns, if any, regarding the conduct of the examination (eg . perceived biases, discriminatory behavior, harassment, intimidation) and **NOT** regarding the format or content of the examination. The form should be sent back to Director/PGIM under confidential cover **within 48 hours after conclusion of the examination. No 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.

30. A trainee following a PG Certificate or PG Diploma or MSc or MD programme shall not be permitted to sit another selection examination for a PG Certificate or PG Diploma or MSc or MD. If the trainee leaves the course before completion of a programme/course of study, he/she shall not be permitted to sit for another selection examination for a minimum period of two years from the date of leaving the programme/course of study. This rule shall not apply for online and part time courses.
31. The candidates who pass the Selection Examination and are selected for the MD programme should undergo the professionalism Strand organized by the PGIM. Please note that this is a compulsory for all MD trainees and should be completed within first two years of pre MD training. A certificate will be issued to trainees who completed this strand successfully.
32. Candidates are requested to visit the PGIM website (www.pgim.ac.lk) for further updates.

H. J. de Silva

Professor H. Janaka de Silva
Director, PGIM

- Copies:
1. Secretary, Ministry of Healthcare & Nutrition
 2. Director General of Health Services
 3. Deputy Director General of Health Services/Dental Services
 4. Registrar, Sri Lanka Medical Council
 5. Secretary of Board of Study in Community Medicine
 6. Hony. Secretary, College of General Dental Practitioners
 7. Hony. Secretary, Government Dental Surgeons Association
 8. Hony. Secretary, College of Community Physician
 9. Hony. Secretary, College of Community Dentistry
 10. Hony. Secretary, GMOA
 11. PGIM Library
 12. PGIM Branch Library, Peradeniya