

Circular Letter No 114 /2020

My No. PGIM/EX/10/MD/SE/OPH (2021)
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine,
160, Professor Nandadasa Kodagoda Mw,
Colombo 07.
18th November 2020

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

**SELECTION EXAMINATION FOR ENROLMENT TO THE TRAINING
PROGRAMME FOR MD OPHTHALMOLOGY – JANUARY 2021**

1. The above examination is scheduled to commence on **20.01.2021**
“The date given in the circular is subject to change due to the current Covid –19 situation of the country. You will be given two weeks’ time with the notification of actual date of the examination once the normality of the country is restored”
2. Applications are invited by me from medical officers in the state and non-state sectors possessing the following requirements to sit the MD Ophthalmology Selection examination.
 - (a) A medical degree registered with the Sri Lanka Medical Council;
 - (b) Satisfactory completion of internship acceptable to the Sri Lanka
 - (c) Satisfactory completion of one year of post internship in medical practice in a University/Public Sector Institution/Private Sector in Sri Lanka acceptable to the PGIM as at the date of closure of applications, ie. **07th December 2020.**

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 in MD Ophthalmology. The format of the examination for the perusal of the applicant is described in Prospectus 2014 and examination documents which are available on PGIM website.

4. The examination will be conducted in Two (02) steps.
Step 1 :- MCQ I –Anatomy and Physiology

MCQ II –Pathology, Microbiology and Pharmacology

Step 2 :- Structured Essay Questions in Three Subjects i.e (I) Anatomy (II) Physiology (III) Pathology, Microbiology and Pharmacology

Viva voce examination in Three Subjects i.e (I)Anatomy (II) Physiology (III) Pathology, Microbiology and Pharmacology
5. A candidate must obtain a minimum closed mark of 15 in the MCQ Papers in each of the three subjects in order to be eligible to proceed to Step 2 i.e. Essay Paper and Viva of the examinations.
6. Requirements to Pass the MD (Ophthalmology) Selection Examination
 - In order to pass **a subject**, a candidate must:

Obtain a minimum closed mark of 20 for that subject (a grade of **PASS - P** or an **EXCELLENT PASS – EP**)
And
Not obtain more than one closed mark of less than 20 in the 3 components (MCQ, Essay and Viva.)
And
Not obtain a closed mark of less than 15 in the essay component.
 - To pass **the examination**, a candidate must obtain passes in all 3 subjects in one and the same examination.
7. Past Essay Question papers can be downloaded from PGIM website. (<https://pgim.cmb.ac.lk/library/>)
8. Only a maximum of **10 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 2020”. The **10th MOH candidate’s marks will be taken as a cut-off line and the candidates in sections 10, 11, 12 and 13 will have to obtain a mark similar to this or above to be offered a place in the training programme.**

9. The final number of available training placements will be determined based on the total number of candidates above the cut-off line.
 10. 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 order of the merit.
 11. 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. They will be placed below the order of merit for candidates from the MOH, Other Government Ministries, State Universities and Armed Forces (including Police) based on the merit within the non-state sector category.
 12. All candidates from **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.
 13. All candidates from the **Armed Forces (including Police)** 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.
 14. Following the examination and release of results the above numbers shall not be changed nor shall requests for such changes be entertained.
 15. Each year only the scheduled Selection Examination in the approved examination calendar shall be held. No repeat or additional examinations will be held.
 16. The allocation of training units will be done as described in "General Regulations & Guideline – 2020" and according to the approved procedure by the PGIM based on merit. **The allocated training unit/s shall not be changed for personal reasons.**
- The number of available subspecialty training vacancies offered for Post MD training if any will be determined based on the vacancy list provided by the MOH prior to the allocation.
17. **The permitted number of attempts of an eligible candidate at a particular MD Selection Examination is limited to six (06). However, candidates who have already exhausted four (04) or more attempts would be allowed only two (02) more attempts. Those who have sat less than four (04) attempts would be allowed up to a maximum total six (06) attempts. This regulation comes in to effect from 27.05.2020.**
 18. 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.

19. 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, other Government Ministries or University.
20. The relevant information of the training programme, MD Examination, requirements for Board Certification are described in the Prospectus and other relevant documents which are on the PGIM website.
21. The minimum duration of Post MD training required to be eligible for Board Certification shall be one year local and one year overseas. However, the duration may be more than two years in certain sub specialties and the information are available in the prospectus.
22. 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 on the PGIM website for perusal.
23. Post-MD trainees should commence Post-MD overseas training within two (02) years after the expected date of completing local Post-MD training. Any delay will be added to the date of effective Board Certification. Post-MD trainees who delay commencing overseas Post-MD training by more than four (04) years after the expected date of completing local Post-MD training will have their trainee status terminated.
24. There should be no delay in submitting the dissertation or research report within the stipulated period if required as prescribed in the prospectus. If there is delay, the Board Certification will be delayed accordingly.
25. 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.
26. The prescribed fees for the examination for candidates in the state sector are as follows:
 - (a) Application fee - Rs. 3,000.00 (non refundable)
 - (b) Registration fee - Rs. 6,000.00 (non refundable)
 - (c) Examination fees - Rs. 37,000.00

(Only online payments through the PGIM online portal will be accepted by the PGIM)

(Private candidates will be charged 50% more on each fee of the PGIM)

Candidates are required to pay Rs. 3,000/= the application fee, Rs. 6,000/= the registration and Rs. 23,000/= the examination fee for the MCQ Papers, at the first instance. Those who qualify the MCQ Papers will have to pay the balance examination fee of Rs. 14,000 in order to proceed for the rest of the examination.

27. The application form can be downloaded from the website <http://pgim.cmb.ac.lk>.
28. Applications with **every cage duly filled** should be forwarded through the Head of Department. The applications should reach the Senior Assistant Registrar/ Examinations, PGIM. No. 160, Professor Nandadasa Kodagoda Mw, Colombo 07 **on or before 07th December 2020**. The envelope should be marked “Application for Selection Examination in MD Ophthalmology” at the top left hand corner **Incomplete applications and late applications will not be considered under any circumstances.**

(Please send the advance copy of your exam application along with the payment slip to exam@pgim.cmb.ac.lk on or before the deadline. You are permitted to send soft copies without the signatures of relevant authorities. However, you are required to send the duly completed application to be eligible to sit for the examination once the situation normalizes.)
29. The selected candidates shall 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.
30. Please refer the new regulations laid down by Ministry of Health regarding release of Medical Officers of Department of Health in MOH website - www.health.gov.lk
31. The results will be valid and official only after they are approved by the **Senate of the University of Colombo.**
32. 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 behaviour, 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.
33. 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.

34. The candidates who pass the Selection Examination and are selected for the MD programme should undergo the Professionalism & Ethics in Medical Practice Strand organized by the PGIM. Please note that this is compulsory for all MD trainees and should be completed within the first two years of Pre MD training. A certificate will be issued to trainees who complete this Strand successfully.
35. Candidates are requested to visit the PGIM website for further updates.
36. Please bring the contents of the Circular Letter to the notice of all medical officers / dental surgeons concerned in your department/division/faculty.



Director
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine
University of Colombo

Professor Senaka Rajapakse
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 Ophthalmology.
5. Secretary, College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka.
6. Hony. Secretary, GMOA.
7. PGIM Library
8. PGIM Branch Library, Peradeniya.