

**Circular Letter No 44/2021**

My No. PGIM/EX/13/SE/PGD/Med/Micro (.,21)  
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine,  
160, Prof. Nandadasa Kodagoda Mw,  
Colombo 7.  
10<sup>th</sup> May 2021

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,  
Director/ MRI,

**SELECTION EXAMINATION FOR POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MEDICAL  
MICROBIOLOGY – JULY 2021**

1. The above examination will commence on **15<sup>th</sup> July 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 Selection Examination for Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Microbiology.

- (a) A medical degree registrable with the Sri Lanka Medical Council, and
- (b) Satisfactory completion of internship acceptable to the Sri Lanka Medical Council, and
- (c) Satisfactory completion of one year of full-time post internship in medical practice in University/Public Sector Institution/Private sector in Sri Lanka acceptable to the PGIM as at the date of closure of applications, ie. **11<sup>th</sup> June 2021**.

**Note:**

The criteria prescribed in paragraph (c) have 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.

3. The applicants to be eligible for enrolment to the training programme should pass the Selection Examination. The current format of the selection examination is described in the Prospectus 2013 and relevant examination documents which are available on the PGIM web site.

4. The selection examination shall consist of Two (2) components, an Essay Paper and a Multiple-Choice Question Paper. The Essay Paper requires the candidate to write an essay in 30 minutes, on a topic meant to judge general ability, creativity and maturity. The MCQ Paper which has 30 MCQs of multiple true/false type to be answered in 90 minutes, includes questions on Microbiology and Parasitology at undergraduate level.

5. A minimum of 50% of the overall mark should be obtained by a candidate to qualify for selection for the training programme.

**6. Only a maximum 12 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 on the PGIM website under “General Regulations and Guidelines 2021”. **The 12<sup>th</sup>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.

8. 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 order of the merit

9. 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 order of the merit.

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 **Non-State Sector** candidates 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. The permitted number of attempts of an eligible candidate at a particular PGD selection Examination is unlimited. However, in order to proceed for the MD after being successful at the Postgraduate Diploma examination, the candidate should have passed the Selection Examination for Postgraduate Diploma within 6 attempts. This regulation comes into effect from 30.09.2020.

13. Following the examination and release of results the above numbers shall not be changed nor shall requests for such changes be entertained.

14. Each year only the scheduled Selection Examination in the approved examination calendar shall be held. No repeat or additional examinations will be held. The allocation of training units will be done as described in “General Regulations & Guidelines -2021” and according to the approved procedure by the PGIM based on merit. 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. 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.

16. For all full-time 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 Universities.

17. The relevant information of the training programme, MD Examination, requirements for Board Certification are described in the Prospectus and other relevant documents available on the PGIM website.

18. The minimum duration of Post MD training required to be eligible for Board Certification shall be 01 year local & 01 year overseas. However, the duration may be more than 02 years in certain specialties and the information is available in the Prospectus.

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

20. 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.

21. 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.

22. The prescribed fees for the examination shall be as follows:

(a) Application fee	- Rs.	3,500.00 (Non- refundable)
(a) Registration fee	- Rs.	8,000.00 (Non- refundable)
(b) Examination fees	- Rs.	20,000.00

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

***Only online payment through the PGIM online portal will be accepted by the PGIM.***

23. The Application form could be download from our website [www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk](http://www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk)

24. Duly filled application should be forwarded through the Head of the Department confirming that the applicant if selected would be released for the Postgraduate training in the PGIM. All the candidates **should send the scan copy of your application** after obtaining all the signatures of relevant authorities to [exam@pgim.cmb.ac.lk](mailto:exam@pgim.cmb.ac.lk) and applicants are recommended to send the hard copy of the application to the Senior Assistant Registrar/Examinations, Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, 160, Professor Nandadasa Kodagoda Mawatha, Colombo 07 on or before 11<sup>th</sup> **June 2021. If you are unable to send the hard copy of the application, please mention the fact in the same email. Incomplete, handwritten 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 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/](http://www.health.gov.lk/).

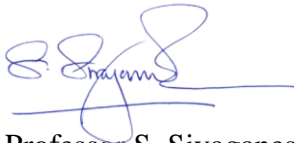
28. The results will be valid and official after confirmation by the Senate of the University.

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 behaviour, harassment, intimidation) and **NOT** regarding the format or content of the examination. The form should be sent back to the 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 will be selected to the MD (Medical Microbiology) training 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.

32. Candidates are requested to visit the PGIM web site [www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk](http://www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk) for further updated details.



Professor S. Sivaganesh  
Deputy Director, PGIM

- Copies: 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 Medical Microbiology  
5. Hony. Secretary, GMOA  
6. PGIM Library  
7. PGIM Branch Library, Kandy