

Circular Letter No/...60....2023

My No. PGIM/EX/16/SE/MSc/CM (23)
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine,
160, Prof Nandadasa Kodagoda Mawatha,
Colombo 7.
06th July 2023

To : Deputy Director General /NHSL,
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/Eastern/Rajarata/Sabaragamuwa/Wayamba/ KDU

SELECTION EXAMINATION FOR MSc (COMMUNITY MEDICINE) – SEPTEMBER 2023

1. The above examination is scheduled to commence on **15th September 2023**.
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/Private Sector Institution in Sri Lanka acceptable to the PGIM as at the date of closure of applications, **04th August 2023**.

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 shortfall 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 should pass the selection examination to be eligible for enrolment to the training programme. The current format of the Selection Examination is described in the Community Medicine 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 2023”. The **46 MOH candidate ’s marks will be taken as a cut-off line and the candidates in sections 7, 8, 9 and 10 given below will have to obtain a mark similar to this or above to be offered a place in the training programme.**

- 07 All candidates attached to **Other Government Ministries** who pass the selection examination and are above the cut-off line will be enrolled in the training programme in the order of merit.
- 08 All candidates attached to the **State Universities** who pass the selection examination and are above the cut-offline will be enrolled in the training programme in the order of merit.
- 09 All candidates from the **Armed Forces (including Police)** who pass the selection examination and are above the cut-off line will be enrolled in the training programme in order of the merit.
10. **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.
11. The above numbers shall not be changed, nor shall requests for such changes be entertained following the examination and after the release of results.
12. Each year only the scheduled Selection Examination in the approved examination calendar shall be held. No repeat or additional examinations will be held.
13. The allocation of training units will be done as described in “General Regulation and Guidelines 2022” which is available on the PGIM web site: <https://pgim.cmb.ac.lk/>. 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.
14. The permitted number of attempts of an eligible candidate at a particular MSc selection Examination is unlimited. However, in order to proceed for the MD after being successful at the MSc examination, the candidate should have passed the Selection Examination for Postgraduate Diploma within 6 attempts. This regulation comes in to effect from 30.09.2020.
15. When a candidate is selected, he/she should register in the same year. If a candidate fails to do so, another eligible candidate will be selected. Any candidate who refuses to register in the current year, 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. A fulltime release from the candidate’s current employer–i.e., Ministry of Health, Other Government Ministries, Universities or by the Armed Forces - is a prerequisite for enrollment in all fulltime training programmes. It may be necessary to sign a bond before such enrollment if it is required by the candidate’s employer.

17. The candidates who intend 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.
18. 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 effective date of Board Certification. The trainee status of trainees will be terminated in those who delay commencing overseas post-MD training by more than four (04) years after the expected date of completing local post-MD training.
19. There should be no delay in submitting the research report within the stipulated period as prescribed in the prospectus. Any delay will be added to the effective date of Board certification.
20. The trainees must, within one (1) calendar month of satisfactory completion of the prescribed requirements, apply for Board Certification. All relevant documents must be submitted with the application. Failure to do so will result in a delay of effective date of Board Certification.
21. The candidates should pass the Pre-Board Certification Assessment to be eligible for Board Certification. The details are available on the PGIM website.
22. The prescribed fees for the examination for candidates from the state sector are as follows:


(a) Registration fee	- Rs	12,500.00 (non-refundable)
(b) Application Fee	- Rs.	5,500.00 (non-refundable)
(c) Examination fees	- Rs.	31,000.00

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

Note that only the payments made through the PGIM online portal will be accepted.

23. The application form can be downloaded from <https://pgim.cmb.ac.lk/>
24. All examination applications and other documents will be collected through a Google form <https://forms.gle/7uEBGMqoqsrKg8Lt9> on or before **04th August 2023**. All applicants should have a Gmail account to access the Google form. The exam application with all relevant documents must be attached as a single pdf document since this portal does not allow uploading of multiple documents. **Please note that incomplete, handwritten, late submissions and applications sent via e-mail will not be accepted.**
25. The selected candidates should report to the training unit allocated to him/her within one month of receipt of the letter of selection to the training programme and allocation to the training unit.
26. Please refer the new regulations laid down by Ministry of Health regarding release of Medical Officers of Department of Health—www.health.gov.lk/
27. The results will be valid and official after confirmation by the Senate of the University.

28. 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.
29. The Candidate who pass the selection Examination and are selected for the MD programme should undergo the Professionalism and ethics 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.
30. The orientation programme on ‘PGIM library resources and services’ is mandatory for all postgraduate trainees who enter PGIM training programmes. Please refer <https://library.pgim.cmb.ac.lk/> for more information
31. A trainee following a PG Certificate or PD 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.
32. Candidates are requested to visit the PGIM website <https://pgim.cmb.ac.lk/>
33. Please bring the contents of this Circular Letter to the notice of all medical officers concerned in your department/division/faculty.



Dr. Himani Molligoda
Acting Deputy Director, PGIM
For Director