

Circular Letter No. 42 / 2024

My No. PGIM/EX/14/SE/PGD/PM (24)
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine,
160, Professor Nandadasa Kodagoda Mawatha,
Colombo 07.
21st May 2024

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

**SELECTION EXAMINATION FOR POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN
PALLIATIVE MEDICINE – JULY 2024 (PROSPECTUS 2015)**

1. The above examination is scheduled to commence on **18th July 2024**.
2. Applications are invited by me from individuals in the state and non-state sectors possessing the following requirements to sit the Selection Examination for enrolment to the training programme in Postgraduate Diploma in Palliative 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 service in a university/ public sector/ private sector institution in Sri Lanka acceptable to the PGIM.
 - d) The criteria prescribe in paragraph (a) to (c) must have been satisfied by the applicant at the date of closure of applications (20th June 2024) for the Selection examination for the Postgraduate Diploma in Palliative Medicine.
 - e) Where a shortfall has occurred due to any reasons including sickness, maternity or other leave, the applicant should complete such a shortfall to be 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 prospectus 2015.
4. The selection examination will consist of a MCQ paper, which will comprise 40 MCQs of the multiple true/ false type, to be answered in 120 minutes (02 hours) Negative marks will apply only within the question and will not be carried over. Questions on Basic Sciences, Pharmacology, Psychiatry, Medicine, Surgery, Paediatrics and Oncology relevant to Palliative care, based on undergraduate knowledge and expected clinical experience will be included.

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5. A candidate must obtain a minimum of 50% of the overall mark in order to pass the Selection Examination and qualify for selection. Final selection will be according to the order of merit based on the overall mark obtained at the Selection Examination.
6. Only a maximum of **15 candidates** from the **Ministry of Health (MOH)** who pass the Selection Examination will be enrolled in the training programme. Placements will be made purely on 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 2024”. The **15th 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 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 the merit.
9. All candidates attached to the **State Universities** who pass the selection examination and are above the cut-off line will be enrolled in the training programme in the order of the merit.
10. 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 the 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 above numbers shall not be changed, nor shall requests for such changes be entertained following the examination and after the release of results.
13. Each year only the scheduled Selection Examination in the approved examination calendar will be held. **No repeat or additional examinations will be held.**
14. The allocation of training units will be done as described in “General Regulations & Guideline – 2024” which is available on the PGIM web site: <http://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 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 enrolment 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 prescribed fees for the examination for candidates from the state sector are as follows:

(a) Application fee	- Rs. 6,500.00 (non refundable)
(b) Registration fee	- Rs. 14,000.00 (non refundable)
(c) Examination fee	- Rs. 34,500.00

(Note that the only payments made through the PGIM online portal will be accepted)
(Candidates from non-state sector will be charged 50% more of the above specified fees)
18. The application form can be downloaded from <https://pgim.cmb.ac.lk/>
19. All examination applications and other documents will be collected through a Google Form <https://forms.gle/Cy7MHddj7268jyM16> on or before **20th June 2024**. All applicants should have a Gmail Account to access 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 email will not be accepted.**
20. 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 (e.g. 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.
21. The results will be valid and official after confirmation by the **Senate of the University**.
22. 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.
23. Please refer the new regulations laid down by Ministry of Health regarding release of Medical Officers of Department of Health – www.health.gov.lk.

24. The orientation programme on 'PGIM library resources and services' mandatory for all postgraduate trainees who enter PGIM training programmes. Please refer <https://library.pgim.cmb.ac.lk/> for more information.
25. A trainee following a PG Certificate or PG Diploma or MSc or MD programme shall not be permitted to sit another Selection Examination for PG Certificate or PG Diploma or MSc or MD. If the trainee leaves the course before completion of the programme/ course of start, 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 does not apply for online and part-time courses.
26. Candidates are requested to visit the PGIM website <https://pgim.cmb.ac.lk/> for further updates.
27. Please bring the contents of the Circular Letter to the notice of all medical officers concerned in your department/division/faculty.



Dr. H.D. Molligoda,
**Acting Deputy Director, PGIM
for Director**