

Circular Letter No.74/2026

My No. PGIM/EX/16/SE/MD/CN (26)
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine,
160, Prof Nandadasa Kodagoda
Mawatha,
Colombo 7.
25th August 2026

To: DDG-PHS,

Directors/Epidemiological Unit/MCH/Special Campaigns,
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/Eastern/Rajarata/Sabaragamuwa/Wayamba/ KDU,

SELECTION EXAMINATION MD IN CLINICAL NUTRITION - OCTOBER 2026
(PROSPECTUS 2017)

1. The above examinations is scheduled to commence on **23rd October 2026**.
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 enrolment to the training programme in MD Clinical Nutrition.
 - (a) Hold a medical degree registered with Sri Lanka Medical Council.
 - (b) Satisfactory completion of the internship acceptable to the Sri Lanka Medical Council.
 - (c) Satisfactory completion of one year of full-time post internship in Medical/ Clinical practice in a university/ public/ private sector institution in Sri Lanka acceptable to the PGIM as at the date of closure of applications i.e. on **25th September 2026**.
 - (d) Successfully completion of MSc Human Nutrition of the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, University of Colombo within last six years.
 - (e) One year of experience working in a Clinical Nutrition unit after obtaining the MSc in Human Nutrition.
 - (f) Complying with any other PGIM general regulations relevant to selection of trainees.

Note: The criteria prescribed in paragraph (a) to (f) 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 is described in the Prospectus 2017.

4. The selection examination consists of a MCQ paper which is a 90 minutes paper and consists of two parts.
 - 20 MCQs of the True/ False type
 - 15 MCQs of the Single Best Answer type
5. Only those who obtain a minimum aggregate of 50% or more shall be allowed to proceed for the course which will be held on a subsequent date decided by the Interim Specialty Board in Nutrition.
6. **Only a maximum of 20 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 2025”. **The 20th 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 order of merit.
9. **All Non-State Sector** candidates who pass the Selection Examination and 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.
10. All candidates from **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 merit.
11. 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 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 Regulations & Guidelines for trainees - 2026” 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. As per PGIM regulation of 27.05.2020, the permitted number of attempts limited to six (06). Candidates who have exhausted four (04) or more attempts at 27.05.2020 will be allowed only two (02) more attempts.
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 relevant information regarding the training programme and requirements for Board Certification are detailed in the Prospectus 2017 and in other relevant documents published in the PGIM website.
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. The minimum duration of post MD training required to be eligible for Board Certification should be one year local & one year overseas. However, the duration may be more than two years in certain specialties, and the information is available in the prospectus.
20. 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 the Board Certification
21. 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 the effective date of Board Certification.
22. The candidates should pass the Pre-Board Certification Assessment to be eligible for Board Certification. The details are available on the PGIM website.
23. The prescribed fees for the examination shall be as follows :-
 - Registration fee - Rs. 17,500.00 (Non refundable)
 - Application Fee - Rs. 9,500.00 (Non refundable)
 - Examination fees - Rs. 49,500.00

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

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

24. The application form can also be downloaded from the website www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk
25. All examination applications and other documents are collected through a Google Form <https://forms.gle/7jfgfU2nEYWxY4yn7> on or before **25th September 2026**. All applicants should have a Gmail account to access the google form. The exam application with all the 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.
26. 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.
27. 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.
28. The candidates who passes 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.
29. The orientation programme on 'PGIM library resources and services' is mandatory for all postgraduate trainees who enter PGIM training programmes. Please refer <http://library.pgim.cmb.ac.lk/> for more information.
30. 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.
31. The results will be valid and official after confirmation by the Senate of the University.
32. Please refer the new regulations laid down by the Ministry of Health regarding release of Medical Officers of Department of Health www.health.gov.lk
33. Candidates are requested to visit the PGIM website (www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk) for further updates.

34. Please bring the contents of this Circular Letter to the notice of all medical officers concerned in your department/division/faculty.



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