A GUIDE TO THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REGISTRATION RULES FOR REGISTRATION IN THE REGISTER OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS IN THE:

- TRAINEE SPECIALIST DIVISION (interns and postgraduate trainees)
- SPECIALIST DIVISION (completed recognised specialist training)
- GENERAL DIVISION (all other eligible medical practitioners)

(Excludes Visiting EEA Practitioners Division – see separate Guide and Declaration Form)

THIS DOCUMENT SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MEDICAL COUNCIL REGISTRATION RULES 2010
ADDITIONAL GUIDES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR THE PRE-REGISTRATION EXAMINATION SYSTEM (PRES) AND THE REVIEW PROCEDURE FOR REFUSED APPLICANTS

THE PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS TO CLARIFY THE STRUCTURE OF THE REGISTER OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS AND EXPLAIN HOW A MEDICAL PRACTITIONER MAY APPLY FOR REGISTRATION AND COMPLY WITH THE RULES AND SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRATION AND RETAIN THEIR NAME ON THE REGISTER OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

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PLEASE ENSURE YOU READ THE MOST UP-TO-DATE GUIDE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE
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TSD = Trainee Specialist Division; GD = General Division; SpD = Specialist Division

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1. RELEVANT LEGISLATION / WHY REGISTER?

1.1 Legal Obligations
The Medical Council and medical practitioners are legally bound by the provisions of the Medical Practitioners Act 2007 and must comply with the Act. Part 6 of the Act provides for the registration of medical practitioners. The Medical Council is obliged to register eligible medical practitioners in the appropriate Division of the Register, on fulfilling the application requirements. All medical practitioners are obliged to be registered appropriately at all times when they practise medicine in this jurisdiction and to comply with other requirements under the Act.

1.2 Understanding the Legislation
All applicants/registrants should be aware of the legislation pertaining to registration. The legal “jargon” contained in the Act and the Registration Rules can be confusing for anyone who is not familiar with the Act or with legislation in general. In this Guide, the Medical Council has tried to interpret the Act in plain English while making references to the Act in footnotes at the bottom of each page, so that the rules and guidelines can be easily traced back to the Act, when necessary. It is important to note that, in the case of a dispute or discrepancy, the provisions of the Act or other relevant legislation take precedence over any interpretation made in this Guide.

1.3 Legislation

1.4 Why should a medical practitioner be registered?
If a medical practitioner wishes to practise medicine in Ireland, they are required by law to be registered with the Medical Council. It is an indictable offence for a medical practitioner to practise medicine within the State, or to advertise their services, while unregistered, with the exception of visiting EEA practitioners attending in an emergency. Each medical practitioner is responsible for ensuring that their registration is current and appropriate for their individual circumstances and failure to do so could result in criminal proceedings being made against them.¹

¹ See sections 37, 38 and 41 of the Act for further details.
1.5 Unregistered medical practitioners

Any application for registration following a period of unregistered practice may be suspended or refused, pending or based on the decision of the Medical Council’s Standards in Practice Committee (which is authorised to make decisions on non-standard applications for registration in the first instance), or other authorised person(s). An Garda Síochána (Ireland’s National Police Service) will normally be informed of any unregistered medical practitioner who, to the Medical Council’s knowledge, has practised medicine while unregistered.

2 THE REGISTER OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

2.1 Structure of the Register of Medical Practitioners (“the Register”)

The Register of Medical Practitioners was established in March 2009 and replaced the General Register of Medical Practitioners and the Register of Medical Specialists. The Register comprises four Divisions. A medical practitioner can only be registered in one Division at a time, except when a specialist is training in another specialty, for example, a medical practitioner could be registered in the Specialist Division in the specialty of General (Internal) Medicine but is also registered in the Trainee Specialist Division while training in the specialty of Gastroenterology.

Trainee Specialist Division:

Internship Registration is specifically for medical practitioners intending to practise in individually numbered, identifiable intern training posts, so that they may complete their internship training in Ireland and be awarded a Certificate of Experience.

Graduates of most Irish/EU medical schools are entitled to internship registration. Each year, the Medical Council writes to students of each medical school in Ireland in the final year of their studies, informing them of the registration process. It is the responsibility of each graduate to submit a complete application for internship registration (see the "DOCUMENTATION" section of this Guide on page 15).

Trainee Specialist Registration is specifically for medical practitioners who practise in individually numbered, identifiable postgraduate training posts which are recognised by the Medical Council for training, while they are completing all or part of their medical specialist training in Ireland. Ideally, registrants will remain registered in the Trainee Specialist Division until they have completed their specialist training and are registered in the Specialist Division.

Registrants will normally be registered on a training programme approved by the Medical Council for the purposes of medical specialist training. Training normally takes place in a hospital, health institution, clinic, general medical practice or other health service setting approved by the Council. NOTE: All applicants for trainee specialist registration must have been awarded a document which is at least the equivalent of a Certificate of Experience (Internship Certificate) AND pass or be exempted from the PRES. This is different to the eligibility requirements for general registration.

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2 The new Register of Medical Practitioners was established under section 43 of the Act
3 The previous General Register of Medical Practitioners and Register of Medical Specialists were established under the Medical Practitioners Act 1978
4 See "Recognised Intern Training in Ireland", the Registration Rules and section 49 of the Act for further details.
6 See sections 88(4) and 89(3) of the Act.
Specialist Division:

**Specialist Registration** is specifically for medical practitioners who have completed specialist training recognised by the Medical Council and can practise independently (unsupervised) as a specialist. They are not limited to practising only in that specialty.\(^7\)

**Specialist registration or eligibility for specialist registration is a Health Services Executive requirement for medical practitioners who wish to apply for consultant, temporary consultant or locum consultant posts of any duration.**

General Division:

**General Registration** is the only form of registration available for medical practitioners who have not completed their specialist training and do **not** practise in individually numbered, identifiable postgraduate training posts.

*Medical practitioners registered in the General Division may practise independently without supervision, but must not falsely represent themselves as being a registered specialist.*\(^8\) **NOTE:** All applicants for general registration must either have a recognised basic medical degree from an Irish/EU/EEA/Swiss medical school OR have been awarded a document which is considered to be at least the equivalent of a Certificate of Experience (Internship Certificate) OR pass or be exempted from the PRES. *This is different to the eligibility requirements for trainee specialist registration.*

Visiting EEA Practitioners Division:

**Visiting EEA Registration** is only available to eligible EU/EEA/Swiss citizens who are fully established (hold “full registration” or equivalent) in another EU/EEA member state or in Switzerland and wish to practise medicine in Ireland on a temporary and/or occasional basis.\(^9\)

**Figure 1: Structure of the Register of Medical Practitioners**

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\(^7\) See "Recognised Specialist Training and Experience/Specialist Registration”, the Registration Rules and section 47 of the Act.

\(^8\) See "General Division” below and the Registration Rules and section 46 of the Act.

3. **ELIGIBILITY – WHICH DIVISION?**

3.1 The Act and the Registration Rules outline the criteria for registration in each Division of the Register. Further details are also available from:
- the eligibility maps provided at Appendix A of this document; and
- Categories of Applicant outlined below; and
- A helpful tool to determine eligibility can also be used on the Medical Council’s website: [http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Registration/What-division-am-I-eligible-to-be-registered-in/](http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Registration/What-division-am-I-eligible-to-be-registered-in/)

Each medical practitioner should first establish which Division of the Register they are eligible to apply for. Eligibility will be determined by the Medical Council on assessment of each application submitted, following which the applicant will be informed if they are eligible and, if so, in which Division of the Register.

3.2 **Categories of Applicant**

3.2.1 **Trainee Specialist Division**

**Internship registration** may only be granted to a medical practitioner who has completed successfully a course of study in the State or a Member State resulting in the award of a basic medical qualification\(^{10}\) and who intends to practise in an individually numbered, identifiable intern training post which has been approved by the Council for the purpose of intern training.

**Trainee specialist registration** may only be granted to a medical practitioner who has established an entitlement to recognition of their professional qualifications under the Act and/or EU Directive 2005/36/EC by meeting the criteria under categories Trainee 1 or Trainee 2; or meets the criteria under categories Trainee 3 or Trainee 4 overleaf.

**Category** | **Who is eligible?**
--- | ---
Trainee 1: | Graduates of Irish medical schools approved by the Medical Council\(^{11}\) who have completed satisfactorily internship training in accordance with Medical Council policy on internship training and been awarded a certificate of experience.\(^{12}\)

Trainee 2: | EU/EEA/Swiss Nationals who do not meet the eligibility requirements for category Trainee 1 above and who:
- have been awarded a formal qualification in basic medical training recognised by the Medical Council under EU Directive 2005/36/EC and possess the required accompanying certificate (if any) listed in the aforementioned EU Directive 2005/36/EC as a requirement for formal qualification within the meaning of the Directive; or
- possess a Certificate of Acquired Rights; or
- graduates of medical schools who are entitled to recognition of their qualifications under the general system for recognition of evidence of training in the Directive; and have completed satisfactorily internship training in accordance with Medical Council policy and been awarded a document which, in the opinion of the Council, is at least the equivalent of a certificate of experience.\(^{13}\)

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\(^{10}\) See section 2 of the Act for the definition of a basic medical qualification

\(^{11}\) Medical schools within the State are approved under section 88(2)(a)(i) of the Act

\(^{12}\) See section 48(1) of the Act

\(^{13}\) See section 48(2)( of the Act
Trainee 3: Nationals of a Third Country (non-EU/EEA/Swiss) who:
• have been awarded a formal qualification in basic medical training that would be recognised by the Medical Council under EU Directive 2005/36/EC if they were an EU/EEA/Swiss national and possess the required accompanying certificate (if any) referred to in the Directive as a requirement for formal qualification within the meaning of the Directive; or
• possess a Certificate of Acquired Rights; and have completed satisfactorily internship training in accordance with Medical Council policy and been awarded a document which, in the opinion of the Council, is at least the equivalent of a certificate of experience.14

Trainee 4: Medical practitioners not listed in any of the above categories who have completed satisfactorily internship training in accordance with Medical Council policy and been awarded a certificate of experience or equivalent and who either pass or are exempt from the Pre-Registration Examination System (“PRES”)15.

3.2.2 General Division

General Registration may only be granted to a medical practitioner who has established an entitlement to recognition of their professional qualifications under the Act or EU Directive 2005/36/EC by meeting the criteria under categories General 1 or General 2 or meets the criteria under categories General 3 or General 4 overleaf:

Category | Who is eligible?
--- | ---
General 1: Graduates of Irish medical schools approved by the Medical Council16 who have completed satisfactorily internship training in accordance with Medical Council policy on internship training and been awarded a certificate of experience.17

General 2: EU/EEA/Swiss Nationals who do not meet the eligibility requirements for category General 1 above and:
• have been awarded a formal qualification in basic medical training recognised by the Medical Council under EU Directive 2005/36/EC and possess the required accompanying certificate (if any) listed in the aforementioned EU Directive 2005/36/EC as a requirement for formal qualification within the meaning of the Directive; or
• possess a Certificate of Acquired Rights; or
graduates of medical schools who are entitled to have their qualifications assessed under the general system for the recognition of evidence of training under the Directive.18

General 3: Nationals of a Third Country (non-EU) who have been awarded a formal qualification in basic medical training that would be recognised by the Medical Council under the above Directive if they were an EU/EEA/Swiss national and possess the required accompanying certificate (if any) referred to in the Directive as a requirement for formal qualification within the

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14 See section 48(3)(a)(ii) of the Act
15 See section 48(3)+(4) of the Act
16 Medical schools within the State are approved under section 88(2)(a)(i) of the Act
17 See section 46(b)(ii) of the Act
18 See section 46(b)(iii) of the Act
meaning of the Directive or possess a Certificate of Acquired Rights.\textsuperscript{19}

**General 4:** Medical practitioners not listed in any of the above categories who have:
- completed satisfactorily internship training in accordance with Medical Council policy\textsuperscript{20} and been awarded a certificate of experience or equivalent\textsuperscript{21}; or
- have passed or are exempt from the Pre-Registration Examination System ("PRES")\textsuperscript{22}.

### 3.2.3 Specialist Division

**Specialist registration** may only be granted to a medical practitioner who is entitled to recognition of their specialist training under the Act or EU Directive 2005/36/EC by meeting the criteria under categories A to D; or by meeting the criteria under category Specialist E below:

#### Category Specialist A: Who is eligible?
Graduates of higher specialist training programmes supervised by postgraduate training bodies recognised by the Medical Council ("recognised postgraduate training body/ies")\textsuperscript{23} who have completed satisfactorily higher specialist training and been awarded a Certificate of Satisfactory Completion of Specialist Training ("CSCST") by that training body\textsuperscript{24}.

#### Specialist B: Who is eligible?
Graduates of higher specialist training programmes supervised by postgraduate training bodies in Member States who have been awarded a Certificate of Specialist Training which meets the requirements of EU Directive 2005/36/EC\textsuperscript{25}.

#### Specialist C: Who is eligible?
Graduates of higher specialist training programmes in Member States who have been awarded a Certificate of Acquired Rights in specialised medicine which meets the requirements of EU Directive 2005/36/EC\textsuperscript{26}.

#### Specialist D: Who is eligible?
Graduates of higher specialist training programmes completed in a Third Country who have been awarded a Certificate of Specialist Training / Acquired Rights and/or are established and recognised as a specialist by the competent authority of a Member State and have the same rights as specialists who have trained in that member state under EU Directive 2005/36/EC and have lawfully practised medicine for at least the required period specified in the Directive. In any case, Article 3(3) of EU Directive 2005/36/EC will apply\textsuperscript{27}.

#### Specialist E: Who is eligible?
Medical practitioners who do not meet any of the above criteria but whose specialist training and experience is assessed by the Medical Council and deemed to be equivalent for the purposes of specialist registration.\textsuperscript{28}

\textsuperscript{19} See section 48(b)(ii) of the Act
\textsuperscript{20} See paragraph 12 – Recognised intern training in Ireland and equivalence / Internship registration
\textsuperscript{21} See section 46(b)(iv) of the Act
\textsuperscript{22} See section 46(b)(i)+(ii) of the Act
\textsuperscript{23} Postgraduate training bodies in Ireland are recognised by the Medical Council under section 89(3)(a)(ii) of the Act
\textsuperscript{24} See section 47(1)(b) of the Act
\textsuperscript{25} See section 47(1)(c) of the Act
\textsuperscript{26} See section 47(1)(d) of the Act
\textsuperscript{27} See section 47(1)(e) of the Act
\textsuperscript{28} Applicants must meet the criteria under section 47(1)(a) and 47(1)(f) of the Act
4. THE APPLICATION PROCESS

4.1 The application process works as follows:

1. Find out if you are eligible to be registered in Ireland and, if so, in which Division of the Register. There is a helpful tool for doing this on our website at: http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Registration/What-division-am-I-eligible-to-be-registered-in/

   Eligibility is based on your stage of medical education and training – you can broadly identify which Division is appropriate for you from the table below:

   - Recently completed a basic (primary) medical qualification within the EU/EEA and are about to commence internship training
   - Have a recognised primary/basic medical qualification; and
   - Completed internship training/equivalent; and
   - Passed/exempt from the PRES; and
   - Registered on a recognised postgraduate training programme with an approved Irish postgraduate training body and practise in recognised training posts

   → Internship registration in the
   → Trainee Specialist Division

   → Trainee specialist registration in the
   → Trainee Specialist Division

   - Have completed specialist medical training (subject to recognition of that training by the Medical Council)

   → Specialist Division

   - Have a recognised primary/basic medical qualification; and
   - Completed internship training/equivalent or passed/exempt from the PRES; and
   - Do not fit any of the above circumstances

   → General Division

The above is a broad outline, but the various categories of eligibility for each Division are based mainly on legislation and rules and further details are contained within this document.

2. Complete the relevant Application Form. You will only be required to complete the sections of the form which are relevant to the Division of the Register appropriate for your personal circumstances, as indicated on the form.
3. Gather together all required documentation, passport-sized photo(s) and application fee for your application, as outlined on the application form. Where notarised/attested copy documents are required, bring all originals with an exact photocopy of the original to an appropriate person to have the photocopy notarised or attested. [See paragraph 9.1.]

4. Submit your complete application with all required documentation and fees by post to the Medical Council in the required format.

5. Request all relevant competent authorities (registration/regulatory bodies) with whom you have been registered in the past five years to provide a Certificate of Good Standing / Certificate of Current Professional Status directly to the Medical Council. [You are required to provide this certificate even if you have not worked there in the past five years, or never.]

6. On receipt of your application, it will be acknowledged by email and you will be issued with an application reference number which should be quoted in all future transactions with the Medical Council. [If you are granted registration, this will eventually become your registration number.] Please allow a reasonable time for your application to reach the Medical Council by post before receiving an acknowledgement.

7. Your application will be assessed and your documentation may be verified directly with other bodies/institutions, e.g. medical school/university, competent authority, referees, etc. You will normally be informed promptly if there are any outstanding documents which you are required to submit.

8. Once the Medical Council is satisfied that all required documentation has been received and it has verified the documentation, a decision will be made on your application.

9. If you are required to pass the Pre-Registration Examination System ("PRES"), you will be informed how to enrol for the examination.

10. If the Medical Council decides you are eligible for registration, you will be informed of the Division in which you may be registered and requested to pay the registration fee, if not already submitted with your application.

11. When you have paid the registration fee, you will be registered and issued with a Certificate of Registration, which will expire at the end of the current registration year. You should read your Certificate and inform the Medical Council immediately if it contains any errors or omissions. Always store your Certificate in a safe place. You will be required to produce your Certificate to your employer and you are legally obliged to display it at your principal place of medical practice while registered. You are also legally obliged to include your registration number on all medical documents, prescriptions, reports and clinical records.
5. THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

5.1 Assessment Levels 1-5
There are five different levels to the application process. The levels a medical practitioner is required to complete will depend on which Division of the Register they are applying for and whether or not they are exempt from that Level (see Table 1):

ALL APPLICANTS
LEVEL 1 – submission of an application form, fee and required documentation for assessment and verification by the Medical Council. This level applies to all applicants for registration.

AND

PRES APPLICANTS ONLY
LEVEL 2* – currently in the form of a Multiple Choice Questions (“MCQ”) examination which examines the candidate’s factual knowledge in the main clinical disciplines. This level applies to certain applicants for trainee specialist registration and general registration only. *

PRES APPLICANTS ONLY
LEVEL 3* – currently in the form of an examination of the candidate’s clinical skills. This level applies to certain applicants for trainee specialist registration and general registration only. *

NOTE: Applicants who are not required to pass the PRES prior to being registered in the General Division may be required to pass the PRES if they wish to be registered in the Trainee Specialist Division.

TRAINEE SPECIALIST OR GENERAL DIVISION APPLICANTS ONLY
LEVEL 4 – an evaluation of the applicant’s internship training to establish whether or not they have been granted a document which is considered to be at least the equivalent of a Certificate of Experience (Internship Certificate). This level applies only to applicants for trainee specialist registration who were granted general registration on or after 1st January 2011 and who have not yet provided this evidence or applicants for general registration who wish to be exempt from the PRES under section 46(b)(iv) of the Act on this basis.

SPECIALIST DIVISION APPLICANTS ONLY
LEVEL 5 – an assessment of the applicant’s postgraduate education, training, qualifications and experience to establish the applicant’s eligibility for specialist registration. This level applies to applicants for specialist registration only. 

5.2 Duration of the Application/Assessment Process
Applications are processed as promptly as possible once the applicant has strictly adhered to the application requirements and submitted a complete application. Medical practitioners must not commence medical practice within the State unless and until they are registered in the appropriate division.

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29 See paragraph 15 of this Guide – “Pre-Registration Examination System”
30 In accordance with section 48 of the Act, Applicants must have been awarded a Certificate of Experience/ Internship Certificate or equivalent document, in order to be eligible for trainee specialist registration.
31 See “Recognised Specialist Training and/or Experience / Specialist Registration”
**Table 1: Summary of the Application Process**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Trainee Specialist Division</th>
<th>General Division</th>
<th>Specialist Division</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Establish which division you are eligible to apply for (see <strong>Appendix A</strong>)</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read the Registration Rules and the Guide</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete the appropriate application form; submit application with all the required documentation in the specified format.</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEVEL 1</strong> Document examination for all applicants</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEVEL 2</strong> Currently MCQ (where applicable)</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEVEL 3</strong> Currently OSCE (where applicable)</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEVEL 4</strong> Evaluation of internship (where applicable)</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEVEL 5</strong> Assessment of postgraduate education, training, qualifications and experience</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*See paragraph 15 of this Guide – "Pre-Registration Examination System”*

° See section 14 of this Guide – “Recognised Specialist Training and Experience/Specialist Registration”

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6. **THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS**

6.1 **The Decision-Making Process**

The decision-making process is outlined overleaf. All standard applications are processed by Medical Council staff. Non-standard issues/applications are referred to the Council’s Registration Working Group for a recommendation to the Council’s Standards in Practice Committee. The Working Group considers the application in detail and makes a recommendation to the Committee. The Committee is authorised by the Council to make decisions in the first instance.

6.2 **Refusing Registration – Your Rights**

If an applicant is refused registration in the first instance by the Standards in Practice Committee, they may, within three months of the date of the decision, request in writing that the decision be reviewed prior to a final decision being made on their application by Council. The Council makes a final decision on the application, either following a requested review, or on expiry of the window within which the applicant is allowed to request a review. If, following review, the Medical Council decides to endorse the original decision to refuse the applicant registration, the applicant may appeal to the Courts against the decision.

6.3 **Invalid Applications**

Failure to comply with the Medical Council’s registration requirements will preclude the granting of registration. Applicants who fail to submit a complete application for registration within a reasonable time period will be declared invalid and are not considered to have been refused registration in the first instance. The review process does not apply in such circumstances, as they may re-submit an application for registration at any time.

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33 See Section 54 of the Act
A Guide to the Application Procedure and Rules for Registration in the Trainee Specialist, Specialist or General Divisions of the Register of Medical Practitioners V.11 – August 2012

Level 1 Assessment
(BMQ + Internship
+ IELTS [where applicable]
+ professional standing
+ ID check
+ any other issues)

Pre-Registration Examination System (PRES)
Level 2 Assessment
(MCQ)
OR EXEMPT

Applicant does not submit required documentation to enable MC to make a decision

Further assessment if Dr not in a training post...
Level 4 (General / Trainee Specialist Registration) or Level 5 (Specialist Registration)

There are two possible alternative outcomes

File Closed pending documentation

Applicant does not pass all required levels and/or other issues (eg relevant medical disability)

Dr has 3 months from date of refusal to request a Review

Dr informed of right of Appeal to the High Court

Application comes to Council either:
1. following Review with a recommendation from the Review Panel; or
2. if no Review was requested

Council could decide Dr should be registered...

... or Council could endorse SIPC decision to refuse Registration

Committee could decide Dr can be registered in appropriate Division...

... or Dr could be refused registration in the first instance.

Referred to Standards in Practice Committee for a decision

Referred to Registration Working Group for a recommendation

If Dr passes appropriate levels + no other issues, Dr is registered
7. **DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED TO APPLY**

7.1 When making an application for registration a medical practitioner is required to provide the following documentation:

- completed application form, as specified by the Medical Council (see below);
- notarised/attested evidence of identification as specified by the Medical Council (see below);
- original Certificate of Current Professional Status/Good Standing, dated within the last three months, to be sent directly from all relevant competent authorities with whom the applicant has been registered within the last five years;
- notarised/attested copy basic medical qualification;
- notarised/attested copy Certificate of Experience (Internship) or equivalent if the applicant is applying for general or trainee specialist registration and did not graduate from an Irish/EU medical school;
- notarised/attested copy relevant certificate(s) confirming the applicant's higher specialist qualification, if appropriate;
- any other documentation deemed by the Medical Council to be appropriate in the circumstances.

The Medical Council reserves the right to seek further information or documentation from an applicant or make any enquiry/ies with any body/ies or person(s) in pursuance of an application for registration.

7.2 **Specialist Registration**

Medical Practitioners who wish to apply for specialist registration are required to submit the relevant documentation listed at Appendix G. Medical practitioners reapplying, having previously applied for specialist registration, should submit a complete application, as their previous application may be out of date and/or archived.

8. **APPLICATION FORMS FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF APPLICATION**

8.1 Medical practitioners applying for registration for the first time after 16th March 2009 should complete the **Generic Application Form** UNLESS they are applying for specialist registration, in which case they should complete the **Specialist Application Form**.

8.2 Applicants for internship registration should complete the Application **Form IR**.

8.3 Applicants applying to **transfer** to the Specialist Division should complete the **Specialist Application Form**, although they are not required to re-submit all documentation already provided as a first-time applicant for registration.

8.4 Applicants applying to **restore** their name to the Register having voluntarily withdrawn or been removed from the Register for failure to pay fees on or after 16th March 2009 should complete the **RestoreApp Form**. They are not required to re-submit copies of their basic (primary) degree and other qualifications. For example, a medical practitioner applying to restore their name to the Register would not normally be required to re-submit their basic medical qualification and internship certificate. If they have completed specialist
training since last registered, they could apply for specialist registration once their name has been restored to the Register.

8.5 Applicants should follow the instructions on the relevant form. Each section of the form should be completed unless instructed not to do so by virtue of the type of registration the applicant is applying for. Applicants should ensure that they:

- write legibly,
- affix a recent passport-sized colour photograph to their application form,
- personally sign and date the Declaration, and
- submit all required documentation in the exact format specified on the application form.

Failure to provide all documentation in the required format will result in a delay in processing an application. Providing documentation which is not relevant to the application is discouraged as it may only lead to confusion and delay the application.

9. THE REQUIRED FORMAT OF THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

9.1 What is an acceptable Notarised/Attested Copy?
All copy documents must be notarised by a Notary Public or attested by a Justice of the Peace/Commissioner for Oaths/Member of An Garda Síochána (documents signed by a Police Officer from another State are not acceptable). They should confirm that the copy is a true copy of the original document, provide their full name and sign, date and officially stamp each copy document. Documents which are not stamped clearly or have not been properly notarised/attested cannot be accepted and will cause a delay in the processing of an application. With the exception of IELTS Certificates and Certificates of Current Professional Status / Good Standing, original documentation should not be submitted with an application. The Medical Council will not be responsible for original documentation lost or mislaid in transit or at the Medical Council’s offices. The Medical Council reserves the right to verify any documentation submitted in support of an application for registration.

9.2 What is an acceptable English Language Translation?
All documents which are not in the English language must be attached to an English language translation issued and officially stamped by an official translator. The name and address of the translator used must be included, to allow for verification. Failure to do so could result in a delay in processing an application for registration.

9.3 Evidence of Identification
Applicants should submit a notarised/attested copy of their current passport, which should be valid for at least another three months for Category 1, 2 or 3 applicants, or six months for Category 4 applicants. The copy should clearly display their photograph; the same name as displayed on the applicant’s basic (primary) medical qualification (“carton degree”) (or State Marriage Certificate / Deed Poll, where the names are different); date of birth; nationality; gender; and passport number and expiry date. If an applicant can only provide their original passport, they must attend the Medical Council’s offices in person with the original passport, so that an ID check may be carried out. Medical practitioners who have been granted refugee status within the State must submit with their application a notarised/attested copy of their current Garda National Immigration Bureau card and travel document, both of which clearly display their refugee status.
9.4 **Certificate of Current Professional Status / Certificate of Good Standing**

Original certificate(s) ("CCPS/COGS") must be dated within the last three months and sent directly from the relevant competent authority/ies to the Medical Council. Submitting certificates with an application will cause a delay in the application process. Certificates must be provided from all competent authorities where the applicant has been registered within the past five years, even if they have not practised medicine in that jurisdiction.

9.5 **Certifying Periods of unregistered medical practice in other jurisdictions**

Applicants must submit a sworn Declaration accounting for any unregistered periods while practising medicine and provide alternative satisfactory evidence that they are in good professional standing in that jurisdiction. If the applicant has not practised medicine in the past five years, they must submit a statement explaining how they have been occupied and may be required to provide evidence of same and of their attendance at Continuing Medical Education/Continuing Professional Development ("CME/CPD") courses.

9.6 **Evidence of Basic (Primary) Medical Qualification**

Applicants must submit a notarised/attested copy of the degree awarded to them on conferral of their basic (primary) medical qualification (commonly known as a "carton degree"), clearly displaying the full date of conferral. If the applicant cannot provide a copy of their carton degree, a duplicate may be submitted for consideration. Some basic medical qualifications will be verified directly with the medical school.

Graduates of Irish medical schools

Graduates of Irish medical schools are not required to provide a copy of their basic (primary) medical qualification as the Medical Council receives sealed Conferral lists directly from all Irish medical schools/awarding bodies as evidence of their qualification. In some cases, graduates of EU/EEA/Swiss medical schools may also be required to provide a Certificate confirming that their qualification and training are in accordance with the relevant Articles of the Directive.

9.7 **Evidence of Higher Specialist Qualification**

Applicants for specialist registration are required to provide evidence of their postgraduate education, training, qualifications and experience, which may be submitted to the relevant postgraduate training body for examination (assessment) as to their appropriateness for specialist registration. This should include evidence of Membership(s) or Fellowship(s) of postgraduate training bodies (if any), e.g. M/FRCSI, M/FRCPI, etc and recently-dated references from employers. Instructions are provided on the Application Form and on the website. Applicants for trainee specialist registration who wish to be exempt from the PRES on the basis of having a recognised Higher Qualification are also required to provide evidence of same.

9.8 **Other Documentation Appropriate to the Applicant’s Circumstances**

In certain circumstances, applicants are required to provide additional documentation. Some examples of additional documentation that have been required by the Medical Council in the past are:

- Evidence that the applicant’s basic or specialist medical qualification meets the requirements of the Directive;
- Where the applicant has a history of a relevant medical disability which may affect their competence as a medical practitioner, the applicant should request their treating GP/Consultant to provide a recently-dated report(s) directly to the Medical Council;
- Evidence of CME/CPD, for example, where a medical practitioner has had a prolonged period of absence from clinical practice;

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34 See paragraph 4 of this Guide for accepted basic medical qualifications.
35 See Appendix G of this Guide for required evidence of specialist qualification(s).
36 See paragraph 11
• Where the applicant has a history of disciplinary proceedings in another jurisdiction, they are required to provide full details of those proceedings; This is merely a sample and not a comprehensive list of additional documentation that may be required. The Council also reserves the right to request a doctor to attend its offices for an appointment where a personal interview is seen as appropriate to their application.

9.9 **Incomplete Applications**
Applicants should follow all instructions on the application form and ensure that they submit all required documentation in the requested format. A complete application should be submitted in order for the Medical Council to consider the applicant’s eligibility for registration. The Medical Council reserves the right to return incomplete applications to the applicant at the correspondence address provided on their application. The Medical Council reserves the right to declare an application invalid if the applicant submits an incomplete application form and fails to provide the outstanding documentation within a specified time period, or if the Medical Council is unable to verify the documentation submitted in support of an application for registration. Invalid applications will be returned to the applicant at the correspondence address provided on the application form. If the applicant wishes to re-apply, they must submit a new, complete application.

9.10 **Forged/falsified documentation/misrepresentation**
If an applicant provides documentation in support of an application for registration which is found to be a forgery, it is likely that the applicant will be refused registration. This means that the Medical Council will remove from the Register the name of all/any medical practitioners who were registered due to fraud or misrepresentation.

10. **FEES**
Each applicant must pay the appropriate fee, by a method acceptable to the Medical Council, prior to completing each level of the application process. **Fees are non-refundable.** Applicants for specialist registration should note that if their application is referred to a postgraduate training body for advice, they will be subject to a fee charged by the training body, which is separate to the Medical Council’s fee. The fee will be requested directly by the training body and should not be sent to the Medical Council. Once the applicant has completed Level 1 and either passed or been exempted from Levels 2 and 3 and, if applicable, passed Level 4 or 5 of the application process, they must pay the appropriate registration fee prior to their name being entered in the Register. A reduced registration fee is available to medical practitioners who are registered in the latter half of a registration year. Medical practitioners pay a reduced annual retention fee if they are over the age of 65. Declined credit or laser card payments will cause a delay in the processing of an application. For further information about fees and acceptable methods of payment, please consult the Medical Council’s website at: [www.medicalcouncil.ie/registration/fees](file:///C:/Users/103472/AppData/Local/Temp/69-695A15A0CAE09B2C92F76A489C29D3F6.html).

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37 See Appendix F and G and the Application Form.
38 The provisions of section 55(1) of the Act will apply.
11. RECOGNISED BASIC MEDICAL QUALIFICATIONS

11.1 Graduates of Medical Schools in Ireland
The Medical Council approves programmes of basic medical education and training and medical schools delivering these programmes. The Medical Council currently approves the basic medical qualifications awarded within the State and medical schools delivering programmes of basic medical education and training listed at Appendix B.

11.2 Graduates of EU/EEA/Swiss Medical Schools
In addition to the basic medical qualifications listed at paragraph 11.1, the Medical Council recognises formal medical qualifications awarded within the EU/EEA/Switzerland listed at Appendix C of this document. Medical practitioners who were awarded their basic medical qualification prior to the “reference date” in the Directive are required to provide a Certificate from the competent authority confirming that their basic/formal medical qualification and training comply with Article 24 and Annex V, V.1, 5.1.1 of the Directive. Where additional documentation is required to accompany their basic medical qualification (see Appendix C – this does not apply to all EU countries), if a medical practitioner cannot provide this additional documentation they may be only eligible for internship registration, unless they can prove to the satisfaction of the Medical Council that they have been awarded a document which is equivalent to a Certificate of Experience (Internship Certificate) (see Level 4 Assessments).

11.3 Graduates of Third Country Medical Schools (outside the EU/EEA/Switzerland)
The Medical Council currently recognises basic medical qualifications which are at least the equivalent of a basic medical qualification awarded within the State. In general, the Medical Council recognises basic medical qualifications awarded by schools listed in the current edition of the World Health Organisation (“WHO” or “AVICENNA”) Directory of Medical Schools and/or the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (“FAIMER”) International Medical Education Directory (“IMED”).

12. RECOGNISED INTERN TRAINING IN IRELAND AND EQUIVALENCE / INTERNSHIP REGISTRATION

12.1 Approved/recognised Internship Training
For the purposes of approving/recognising internship training and awarding a Certificate of Experience, internship training must comply with the Council’s “Standards for Training and Experience required for the Granting of a Certificate of Experience to an intern”. This document can be downloaded from the Medical Council’s website here: http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Professional-Development/Standards-Guidelines/
12.2 **Individually Numbered, Identifiable Posts**
The HSE is obliged to assess annually the number of intern training posts required by the health service and put a proposal to the Medical Council. The Medical Council then specifies the number of intern training posts approved for the purposes of intern training. As at July 2010, there were 512 intern training posts approved for this purpose. Employment in these posts is arranged centrally by the HSE. Applicants are required to follow the application procedures outlined by the HSE. For further information, contact Medical Education and Training at the HSE directly.

12.3 **Gaps Before and During Internship Training**
Internship training should normally be commenced immediately after graduation and completed within one calendar year, but may, in exceptional circumstances, be completed over a period of more than one calendar year (normally no longer than two years), during which time an aggregate period of twelve months’ internship training must be completed satisfactorily.

12.4 **Obtaining a Certificate of Experience**
Prior to commencement of Part 6 of the Act on 16th March 2009, a Certificate of Experience could only be issued by the Head/Dean of the medical school where the medical practitioner completed their basic (primary) medical qualification. On a date to be determined, Certificates of Experience will only be issued by the Medical Council on completion of internship training. The Medical Council recommended that, in the interim period while targeted consultation was under way, the Dean of the medical school and intern network coordinator/tutor both sign off on criteria for satisfactory completion of intern training for those who commenced intern training in 2009. The Medical Council has published criteria for the issuing of a Certificate of Experience. From 1st June 2011 Certificates of Experience will be issued by the Medical Council.

12.5 **Graduates of EU/EEA/Swiss medical schools**
The Medical Council recognises evidence of formal qualifications in basic medical training that meet the requirements of Article 24 and Annex V, V.1, 5.1.1 of the Directive, for the purposes of trainee specialist registration and/or general registration only if accompanied by the required certificate listed in the Directive (if any). The documentation required as evidence of formal qualification varies from one member state to another and is listed at Appendix C. For example, graduates of Irish medical schools must provide satisfactory evidence of their basic (primary) medical qualification (degrees awarded since 20th December 1976) and a Certificate of Experience (Internship), whereas graduates of some member states are not required to provide any documentation in addition to their basic (primary) medical degree. The Medical Council strongly recommends that every medical practitioner undergoes internship training as described here. Medical practitioners who graduated from an EU/EEA/Swiss medical school and completed internship training in a third country or a Member State other than the Member State where they were awarded their basic medical qualification should read paragraph 12.5 below.

12.6 **Other Internship Training Completed Outside the State**
In order to be eligible for trainee specialist registration (or exempt from the PRES if applying for general registration), internship training completed outside the State must be at least equivalent to the internship training described in the Council’s "Standards for Training and Experience required for the Granting of a Certificate of Experience to an intern". This document can be downloaded from the Medical Council’s website here: \[http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Professional-Development/Standards-Guidelines/\]

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\[42\] See section 49(2) of the Act
Graduates of Irish medical schools who intend completing all or part of their internship training outside the State should note that, since the commencement of Part 10 of the Medical Practitioners Act 2007, the Medical Council can no longer prospectively approve an intern training post outside Ireland; its powers in this regard are confined to within the State. Internships undertaken outside the State, including outside the EU, may be recognised retrospectively for the purposes of obtaining a Certificate of Experience, with a view to being registered in Ireland and/or other EU Member States. It will therefore be the experience of the intern that the Medical Council will assess for registration purposes. You therefore need to ensure, before you take up an overseas intern training post, that it provides appropriate experience to support any subsequent application for registration. You need to be proactive in making your decision about the suitability of a prospective post. You should also read the Medical Council’s Information on the Recognition of Overseas Internship for the purposes of Granting a Certificate of Experience. This document can be downloaded from the Medical Council’s website here:
You should consult your medical school if you need additional advice. This information is primarily intended for final year medical students and recent graduates of medical schools in Ireland who are considering or intending to undertake an overseas internship, but is also useful for other applicants for registration who wish to assess whether or not they have “equivalent” internship training abroad.

NOTE: Applicants who completed their internship training in Pakistan are required to submit a Certificate of Experience from the Pakistan Medical and Dental Council and should not submit the certificate(s) issued to them by the hospital where they completed their training, unless requested to do so.

13. RECOGNISED POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SPECIALIST TRAINING IN IRELAND/ TRAINEE SPECIALIST REGISTRATION

13.1 Recognised specialties
The Medical Council currently recognises the medical specialties listed at Appendix D for the purposes of granting trainee specialist and specialist registration.43

13.2 Approved Postgraduate Training Bodies
The Medical Council currently approves the postgraduate training bodies listed at Appendix E for the purposes of granting evidence of specialist training in relation to medical specialties.44 Medical practitioners wishing to undergo medical specialist training should register with the relevant approved postgraduate training body.

13.3 Individually numbered, Identifiable Posts
The HSE is obliged to assess annually the number and type of specialist medical training posts required by the health service and put a proposal to the Medical Council. The Medical Council then specifies the number of specialist medical training posts approved for the purposes of specialist training. As at July 2010, there were 3044 specialist training posts approved for this purpose. Employment in the majority of these posts is arranged by the HSE and/or relevant postgraduate training body. For further information, you should contact them directly.45 The medical practitioner must apply and pay the appropriate registration fee in order to be registered in the Trainee Specialist Division, using the Form TSR1.

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43 Specialties are recognised in accordance with sections 89(1) and (7) of the Act
44 Postgraduate training bodies are recognised in accordance with section 89(3)(a)(ii) of the Act
45 Medical practitioners intending to practise in a postgraduate training post must have first been issued with an Acceptance Letter prior to August 2010 which states that they are eligible for trainee specialist registration, or be registered in the General Division; and must have passed a Level 4 Assessment of their internship training.
13.4 **Applying for a new period of trainee specialist registration**

Medical practitioners must apply for a new period of trainee specialist registration if they:-

(a) leave the hospital(s) named on the Certificate of Registration before the expiry date of their registration, to take up a new appointment; OR

(b) take up an appointment at a different grade in their existing hospital; OR

(c) have been offered another appointment after the expiry date of their registration.

To apply for a new period of trainee specialist registration the following is required:

(i) Completed **Form TSR1**; and

(ii) The appropriate fee.

A medical practitioner is not permitted to take up duty in a hospital or to continue in employment or to return to a previous post until they are registered. Where there are any doubts concerning registration, the medical practitioner should contact the Medical Council.

13.5 **Limitations of Trainee Specialist Registration**

Trainee specialist registration in individually numbered, identifiable training posts only permits the practice of medicine within the clinical site/health service setting stated on the Certificate of Registration or clinics/health service settings formally connected with that training post. Trainee specialist registration permits the prescribing of drugs only for those patients of the clinical site/health service setting in which the medical practitioner is employed. These limitations do not apply where, in the final year of their training, a trainee specialist is acting up at Consultant grade in that specialty, or a GP Registrar is acting up as a General Practitioner, for a period of up to three months. Conditions of employment in training posts, including cross cover, are a matter between the employer and employee. Medical practitioners should not receive or take up any offer of locum appointments outside of their training programme, in a non-training capacity.

13.6 **Registration while undertaking postgraduate training overseas**

Medical practitioners can only hold trainee specialist registration while occupying individually numbered, identifiable training posts within the State. If eligible, a medical practitioner can apply to have their name transferred to another appropriate Division of the Register while they undertake training/research in another country. **Fuller details regarding applications for trainee specialist registration are available from the Medical Council’s website at:**

http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Registration/First-Time-Applicants/Trainee-Specialist-Registration/Trainee-Specialist-Registration.html

14. **RECOGNISED SPECIALIST TRAINING AND/OR EXPERIENCE / SPECIALIST REGISTRATION**

14.1 **Completion of Approved Specialist Training in Ireland**

Medical practitioners who complete postgraduate training under the supervision of a postgraduate training body within the State which is approved by the Medical Council must submit a Certificate of Satisfactory Completion of Specialist Training (CSCST) or equivalent with their application.

14.2 **Eligibility on the Basis of Recognition of Specialist Training under the Directive**

EU/EEA/Swiss citizens who hold the appropriate specialist qualifications which meet the requirements of the Directive must submit with their application the specialist qualifications listed at **Appendix H** of this document. The qualifications must be awarded in accordance with Article 25 and Annex V, 5.1.2 / 5.1.3; or Article 28 and Annex V, 5.1.4 for General Practice. If the Articles and Annexes of the Directive are not referenced explicitly on the Certificate of Specialist Training, the Certificate must be accompanied by a statement from the relevant competent authority attesting that the applicant’s training is in accordance with the relevant Articles and Annexes.
14.3 **Eligibility on the Basis of Recognition of Acquired Rights under the Directive**
EU/EEA/Swiss citizens who have “acquired rights” to recognition which meet the requirements of the Directive must submit with their application an attestation from the relevant competent authority, in the member state where the applicant has trained, stating that the applicant has acquired rights to recognition as a specialist in accordance with:
(a) Article 23 or 27 for medical specialties. The attestation must state that the applicant’s qualifications are treated as the qualifications listed in Annex V, 5.1.2 and 5.1.3 of the Directive.
(b) Article 30 for General Practice. The attestation must state that the applicant’s qualifications are treated as the qualifications listed in Annex V, 5.1.4 of the Directive and the training, leading to the award of the qualifications, complies with Article 30.

14.4 **Eligibility on the Basis of Establishment in the EU under the Directive**
EU/EEA/Swiss citizens whose specialist training took place outside the EU but who are established and recognised as a specialist in another member state should provide an attestation from the relevant competent authority in the member state where they first obtained recognition as a specialist. The attestation should state that:
(a) the specialist training equates to training that meets the requirements of Articles 25 or 28 of Directive 2005/36/EC;
(b) the applicant’s training is treated as equivalent to the qualifications listed at Annex 5.1.2 or 5.1.4 (General Practice), in accordance with Article 2(2);
(c) the applicant is treated as a specialist by the competent authority of the said member state; and
(d) has practised the profession concerned for three consecutive years in the said member state in compliance with Article 3(3) of the Directive.

14.5 **Assessment by an Approved Postgraduate Training Body**
Medical practitioners who do not meet the requirements for recognition of their specialist qualifications under the Directive (generally they have completed all or most of their specialist training in a third country or have completed self-structured training) must submit structured evidence of completion of their specialist training and experience, which will be referred to the relevant approved postgraduate training body in Ireland (see Appendix E) for assessment of the equivalence or otherwise of their specialist training and experience to that of a medical practitioner who completes an approved, structured training programme within the State, leading to the award of a CSCST or equivalent certificate. Applicants will be considered under three broad scenarios:
(i) completion of a structured higher specialist training programme;
(ii) completion of self-structured training comparable to that of a formal, structured training programme;
(iii) a combination of (i) and (ii) above.

The emphasis is on the competencies a medical practitioner needs to attain in order to meet the requirements for specialist registration. Competencies are the typical suite of skills that the medical practitioner must attain in each specialty area in order to be recognised as a specialist. For further information on competencies in general and on competencies in a chosen specialist area, contact the relevant postgraduate training body for further information.

**Fuller details regarding applications for specialist registration are available from the Medical Council’s website at:**
http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Registration/First-Time-Applicants/Specialist-Registration/Categories-of-entry-into-Specialist-Division.html.
PRE-REGISTRATION EXAMINATION SYSTEM
This section contains information about:
15. The Pre-Registration Examination (PRES)
16. Exemptions from the PRES

15. PRE-REGISTRATION EXAMINATION SYSTEM (PRES)

15.1 Trainee Specialist and/or General Registration
Applicants for trainee specialist registration and general registration are required to pass or be exempted from the Pre-Registration Examination System ("PRES"). Applicants may be exempted from the examination(s) if they satisfy the criteria for exemption specified below. Non-exempt applicants for trainee specialist or general registration must complete the examinations known as Level 2 and Level 3 of the application process.

15.2 LEVEL 2*
This examination tests the candidate’s factual knowledge in the main clinical disciplines. It currently consists of an MCQ examination of 2½ hours’ duration. A pass in the Level 2 examination is valid for a period of two years from the date of passing. Level 2 is available electronically at centres in Egypt, India, Pakistan and in Ireland. Once a medical practitioner has been declared eligible to sit Level 2, he or she will be provided with details of how and where to schedule their examination. The examination must be passed within two years from the date of a candidate being declared eligible.

15.3 LEVEL 3*
This examination is primarily a test of clinical skills in the main clinical disciplines. The examination is normally at least 2 hours’ duration. Level 3 is usually offered in a centre in Ireland. There are currently no overseas centres for Level 3.
*Further information about Level 2 and 3 examinations is available in the PRES Handbook.

16. EXEMPTIONS FROM THE PRES
Applicants are exempt from the PRES if they meet the eligibility criteria below:

16.1 General Registration
(a) The applicant was registered in Ireland (in any Division of the Register) prior to the introduction of new Registration Rules in January 2011. Medical practitioners who were registered in Ireland prior to the new Registration Rules are not normally required to pass the PRES if they apply to restore their name to the Register having been unregistered for a period of time; or
(b) The applicant meets the eligibility requirements for general registration under Category General 1 (see paragraph 3.2.2, i.e. they are a graduate of an Irish medical school and have completed internship training and been awarded a satisfactory Certificate of Experience; or
(c) The applicant meets the eligibility requirements for general registration under Category General 2 or 3 (see paragraph 3.2.2), i.e. they are a graduate of an EU medical school and are entitled to automatic recognition of their professional qualifications under EU legislation or, in the case of Category General 3, would be entitled if they were an EU citizen; or
(d) The applicant meets the eligibility requirements for general registration under Category General 4 and has been awarded a document which is considered by the Medical Council to be at least the equivalent of a Certificate of Experience (Internship Certificate), or
(e) The applicant meets the eligibility requirements for special exemption from the PRES (see below – 16.1.1).

46 See paragraph 5 for further details – an applicant would be required to undergo a Level 4 Assessment of their internship training.

A Guide to the Application Procedure and Rules for Registration in the Trainee Specialist, Specialist or General Divisions of the Register of Medical Practitioners – V.11.1 - April 2013
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16.1.1 Special Exemption from the PRES – General Registration only
Applicants may be exempt from the PRES (if they are being registered in the General Division) by virtue of having a Higher Qualification which is recognised by the Medical Council for the purposes of exemption from the PRES. The Higher Qualifications listed in Appendix A of the Registration Rules (Appendix I of this Guide) are currently recognised for the purpose of exemption from the PRES for doctors being registered in the General Division. The Medical Council may recognise Higher Qualifications awarded by other postgraduate training bodies outside the State, where the relevant Irish training body deems them to be equivalent to their own. In order to be granted an exemption from the PRES on the grounds of having a recognised Higher Qualification, the applicant must also meet the specific criteria outlined at paragraph 16.1.2 below.

16.1.2 Specific Criteria for Special Exemption – GENERAL DIVISION ONLY
• The applicant must have completed an internship of a minimum of one year supervised practice (to include at least three months in medicine and three months in surgery) which can be verified by an appropriate certificate from the competent authority where the internship was completed, or
• The applicant must have completed a minimum of three years in an accredited training programme, which can be verified by the applicant providing a signed certificate of a satisfactory completion of a three year programme – the certificate must be signed by the programme director and must indicate the accreditation body that oversees and/or approves the programme.

NOTE: All applicants for general registration must either meet the eligibility requirements under Categories General 1, 2 or 3 OR have been awarded a document which is considered to be at least the equivalent of a Certificate of Experience (Internship Certificate) OR pass or be exempted from the PRES. This is different to the eligibility requirements for trainee specialist registration.

16.2 Trainee Specialist Registration
(a) The applicant was registered in Ireland (in any Division of the Register) prior to the introduction of new Registration Rules in January 2011 – the new Rules are not retrospective; or
(b) The applicant meets the eligibility requirements for trainee specialist registration under Category Trainee 1 (see paragraph 3.2.1), i.e. they are a graduate of an Irish medical school and have completed internship training and been awarded a satisfactory Certificate of Experience; or
(c) The applicant meets the eligibility requirements for trainee specialist registration under Category Trainee 2 or Trainee 3 (see paragraph 3.2.1), i.e. they are a graduate of an EU medical school and are entitled to automatic recognition of their professional qualifications under EU legislation or, in the case of Category Trainee 3, would be entitled if they were an EU citizen; or
(d) The applicant meets the eligibility requirements for trainee specialist registration under Category Trainee 4 and has been awarded a Higher Qualification which is recognised for the purposes of exemption from the PRES (see Appendix I); or
(e) The applicant meets the eligibility requirements for special exemption from the PRES (see below).

NOTE: All applicants for trainee specialist registration must have been awarded a document which is considered to be at least the equivalent of a Certificate of Experience (Internship Certificate) AND pass or be exempted from the PRES. This is different to the eligibility requirements for general registration.
16.3 Special Exemption from the PRES – Trainee Specialist Registration only

16.3.1 Recognised Higher Qualifications

Applicants may be exempt from the PRES (if they are being registered in the Trainee Specialist Division) by virtue of having a Higher Qualification which is recognised by the Medical Council for the purposes of exemption from the PRES. The Higher Qualifications listed in Appendix A of the Registration Rules are currently recognised for the purpose of exemption from the PRES for doctors being registered in the Trainee Specialist Division only. The Medical Council may recognise Higher Qualifications awarded by other postgraduate training bodies outside the State, where the relevant Irish training body deems them to be equivalent to their own. **In order to be granted an exemption from the PRES on the grounds of having a recognised Higher Qualification, the applicant must also meet the specific criteria outlined at paragraph 16.3.3 below.**

16.3.2 Participation in recognised exempted training programmes

Participants in a limited number of higher specialist training programmes which are recognised by the Medical Council by virtue of meeting criteria identified by the Medical Council are exempt from the PRES. Applications for recognition of such programmes for the purpose of exemption from the PRES will only be considered on application from the relevant Irish postgraduate training body to the Council’s Professional Development Committee. Programmes likely to be granted an exemption from the PRES would typically be for a limited duration. **In order to be granted an exemption from the PRES on the grounds of having been accepted into an exempted training programme, the applicant must also meet the specific criteria outlined at paragraph 16.3.3 below.**

16.3.3 Specific Criteria for Special Exemptions – TRAINEE SPECIALIST DIVISION

- The applicant must have been accepted into a training programme by virtue of demonstrating the necessary competence for the specialty at that level (the relevant postgraduate training body should confirm this in writing to the Medical Council);
- In the case of Higher Qualifications awarded outside the State, the applicant must have been awarded a Higher Qualification (which will be verified) which is, in the opinion of the Medical Council, equivalent to the relevant recognised Higher Qualification awarded by an Irish postgraduate training body;
- In the case of exempted training programmes, exemption from the PRES does not extend beyond recognised training posts associated with the relevant exempted training programme and any registrant who wishes to practice outside of that training programme will be required to pass the PRES;
- The applicant must have applied for registration at least six months in advance of commencing the training post/programme, to allow the Medical Council sufficient time to consider their application fully and must provide up-to-date Certificates of Good Standing prior to being granted registration.

16.3.4 Applicants who are granted a special exemption from the PRES and who cease to practise in recognised postgraduate training posts will be registered in the General Division\(^\text{47}\).

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\(^{47}\) See section 48(6) of the MPA 2007
17. **REFUGEE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS**

17.1 Medical practitioners who have been granted refugee status within the State and who can satisfy the Medical Council that they meet the criteria for at least one of the above categories are eligible to apply for trainee specialist registration. They must:

- submit with their application a notarised/attested copy of their current Garda National Immigration Bureau card and travel document, both of which clearly display their refugee status; and
- indicate on their application form the documents they are unable to produce as a result of their refugee status (if any); and
- make every attempt to provide alternative satisfactory evidence in place of the missing documentation.

The Medical Council must be satisfied that the applicant's education, training, qualifications and professional standing are appropriate for the granting of trainee specialist registration.48

18. **MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS WITH A RELEVANT MEDICAL DISABILITY**

18.1 Applicants for registration are obliged to declare on application if they have/had any relevant medical disability.49 A “relevant medical disability” means a physical or mental disability (including addiction to alcohol or drugs) which may impair the medical practitioner’s ability to practise medicine or a particular aspect thereof. Any applicant for registration who indicates that they have a relevant medical disability should request their treating doctor to submit directly a recently-dated report, giving a history of the applicant's condition(s) and expressing their opinion as to whether or not the applicant is fit to practise medicine. The applicant may also be required to attend an independent medical practitioner of the Medical Council’s choice, for an assessment of their condition(s). The Medical Council may decide that it is appropriate to only grant registration to the applicant subject to certain conditions. In such circumstances, the applicant will be requested to agree, in writing, to the attachment of the proposed conditions to their registration. If the applicant agrees, the conditions may be entered in the Register and published.50 If the applicant does not agree to the attachment of the proposed conditions, the Medical Council may decide to refuse to register the applicant.51

19. **INDEPENDENT MEDICAL PRACTICE**

19.1 Applicants are advised not to engage in independent medical practice unless and until they have completed a significant period of medical specialist training and experience at Senior House Officer level (or equivalent or higher).

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48 See section 48(4) of the Act.
49 See section 53 of the Act
50 Subject to the provisions of section 43(6) of the Act
51 See paragraph 13 "Refusing Registration".
20. **PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE**

20.1 Employing authorities require registered medical practitioners to hold professional indemnity insurance. Medical practitioners should ensure that they have adequate professional indemnity cover prior to engaging in the practise of medicine within the State. The Medical Council cannot advise medical practitioners on how/where to obtain professional indemnity insurance cover.

21. **MOVING TO IRELAND**

21.1 Although the Medical Council does not provide information about living and working in Ireland, there are many informative websites about Ireland's culture, tax system, housing, citizenship, health service, banking, etc. Some examples are available on the Medical Council’s website at: [www.medicalcouncil.ie/registration](http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/registration)

21.2 Please note that the Medical Council cannot assist in the processing of visa applications, nor does it play any role in the granting or refusing of visas. For information about applying for a visa, please contact the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform ([www.justice.ie](http://www.justice.ie) and/or [http://www.inis.gov.ie/](http://www.inis.gov.ie/)).

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52 See paragraph 50.1 of the Medical Council’s current Ethical Guide.
22. CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION AND OTHER CERTIFICATION

22.1 Certificate of Registration
On being granted registration, a medical practitioner will be issued with a Certificate of Registration. The Certificate of Registration will display the medical practitioner's registered name, qualifications and year of conferral, registration number, registered address, division of the Register in which the medical practitioner's name is included and registration status including, at the Medical Council’s discretion, any terms or conditions attached to their registration and/or the medical practitioner’s registration history. This Certificate must be displayed at the medical practitioner’s place of work and must be produced to their employer, on request. Duplicate certificates are available by written request, quoting your name, registration number and, for security reasons, your date of birth and mother’s maiden name.

22.2 Certificate of Current Professional Status
Formerly known as “Certificates of Good Standing”, a Certificate of Current Professional Status must be requested in writing (email will suffice), quoting your name, registration number and, for security reasons, your date of birth and mother’s maiden name, and payment of a fee. These Certificates can also be requested via the Medical Council’s website by going to the section entitled “Update Registration Details and Request Certificates”.

22.3 EU Certification / CSTAR
Certificates of Specialist Doctor (CSDs) and Certificates of Specific Training or Acquired Rights (CSTARs) entitle eligible medical practitioners to mutual recognition of specialist qualifications in other EU/EEA member states. CSTARs are also required for entry into the General Medical Services (GMS) scheme in Ireland. If the eligibility of the medical practitioner for specialist registration (this eligibility being one of the requirements for issuing EU Certification) has not been established, under certain circumstances the applicant may be required to make an application for specialist registration in the first instance. The certificates must be requested in writing (using Form ‘EU Certification’) and payment of a fee. CSDs and CSTARs can be requested via the Medical Council’s website by going to the section entitled “Update Registration Details and Request Certificates” and the application form is downloadable from there.

22.4 Duplicate Certificates
Duplicate Certificates of Registration / Certificates of Current Professional Status / CSDs / CSTARs can be requested in writing (e-mail will suffice to duplicatecertificate@mcirl.ie). The request should quote your name, registration number and, for security reasons, your date of birth and mother’s maiden name. There is currently no charge for a small number of duplicate certificates.
23. **OBLIGATION TO NOTIFY THE MEDICAL COUNCIL OF CHANGES IN CONTACT OR OTHER DETAILS**

23.1 **Legal Obligation on the medical practitioner**
Registered medical practitioners are legally obliged to inform the Medical Council of any change in the details entered in the Register, e.g. registered address\(^{53}\).

23.2 **Change of Address, Name or other Registration Details**
Medical practitioners may at any time apply to change their registered address, name or any other details. Where a medical practitioner wishes to change their registered name, they are required to provide a notarised copy of their State Marriage Certificate or a Deed Poll as evidence that they may legally use the changed name. Any application for a change of registration details, including address, should be made in writing by post, fax, email or online, quoting their registered name, registration number, current registered address, date of birth and mother's maiden/birth name [surname prior to marriage] (for security reasons).

24. **ANNUAL RETENTION PROCESS**

24.1 At any one time, registration may only be granted for the remaining portion of the current registration year, which runs from July to June. To have their registration renewed, on expiry of a Certificate of Registration, which will occur at least once every twelve months, all medical practitioners entered in the Register must pay the appropriate fee and complete any retention process specified by the Medical Council. A retention notice is normally sent to all registered medical practitioners in May/June each year. All registered medical practitioners are required to complete an annual declaration. This can be completed on the Medical Council’s website at [www.medicalcouncil.ie](http://www.medicalcouncil.ie). They will normally be required to update their registration details and inform the Medical Council of any material matter which would be likely to affect the continuation of their registration, such as the practise of medicine and/or any current or pending disciplinary proceedings in another jurisdiction. The medical practitioner is obliged to provide certain relevant information to the Medical Council and the Medical Council may correct the register, where necessary.\(^{54}\)

25. **PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE**

25.1 Part 11 of the Medical Practitioners Act 2007 – “Maintenance of Professional Competence” was commenced on 1\(^{st}\) of May 2010. It is now a requirement for all registered medical practitioners to maintain professional competence and to satisfy the Medical Council with regard to any requirements it sets in this regard. A registrant who refuses, fails, or ceases to satisfy Council with regard to these requirements may be the subject of a complaint leading to a “Fitness to Practice” inquiry, which ultimately may affect the registrant’s registration status. Medical practitioners holding general or specialist registration will be required to enrol in and pursue a professional competence scheme relevant to their practice, in order to satisfy the Medical Council of their maintenance of professional competence. Medical practitioners who are registered in the Trainee Specialist Division, holding internship registration or trainee specialist registration, are monitored by their supervising consultants and the relevant approved medical school and/or postgraduate training body and will satisfy Council that they are maintaining their professional competence whilst participating in a recognised training programme in Ireland. However, registrants in the Trainee Specialist Division (i.e. holding internship registration or trainee specialist registration) should be aware that, if at any stage they become registered in a Division other than the Trainee Specialist Division of the register, then they must enrol in a professional competence scheme.

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\(^{53}\) See section 55 - Correction of the Register

\(^{54}\) The provisions of section 55 of the Act will apply
to satisfy Council that they are maintaining professional competence. This is particularly significant for medical practitioners who hold trainee specialist registration, as they will be “automatically” registered in the General Division when they cease to practise in a recognised postgraduate training post. [See paragraph 26.2 below.]

25.2 As of January 2011, the Medical Council is continuing to put supporting arrangements in place for the implementation of Part 11 of the Medical Practitioners Act – Maintenance of Professional Competence. All registrants are advised to monitor the Medical Council’s website www.medicalcouncil.ie for further information on requirements and next steps.

26. MAINTAINING REGISTRATION IN THE TRAINEE SPECIALIST DIVISION

26.1 Internship Registration
Medical practitioners who hold internship registration are initially provided with a Certificate of Registration valid for one calendar year, normally from July to June or January to December. On expiry of the Certificate of Registration, an intern will normally have completed their internship training and will apply for trainee specialist registration, so that they may commence medical specialist training at Senior House Officer level. In the event that they have not completed their internship training within their first year of internship registration, they are required to pay the relevant annual retention fee in order to obtain a further Certificate of Registration valid for either six or twelve months, depending on the duration required to complete their internship training. They may also be required to provide a reference from the Dean/Head of their medical school and/or their most recent supervising consultant and/or employer.

26.2 Trainee Specialist Registration
Medical practitioners who hold trainee specialist registration are required to submit Form TSR1 and pay the current annual retention fee if they occupy an individually numbered, identifiable, medical specialist training post(s) during that registration year, regardless of the duration of the post(s). A medical practitioner will only be required to pay the annual retention fee once in any given registration year. For example, if a medical practitioner has paid the annual retention fee for registration in the General Division and then applies for registration in the Trainee Specialist Division during that same registration year, they will not be required to pay an additional registration fee to do so. On expiry of their training post, their name will be “automatically” transferred back to the General Division unless they are registered in another post, on application.

27. REGISTRATION/MEDICAL PRACTICE IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS

27.1 A medical practitioner can, if eligible, be registered in the General, Visiting EEA Practitioners or Specialist Division while practising medicine and/or undertaking training outside the State, but they are obliged to inform the Medical Council, in writing, of:
(a) any absence from the State for a continuous period of more than twelve months;
(b) the particulars of any employment in a medical capacity that they take up or intend taking up outside the State during that period of absence;
(c) any material matter which would be likely to affect the continuation of their registration. This written notification must be given within thirty days of when the medical practitioner becomes aware of their changed circumstances.
28. TRANSFERRING TO OTHER DIVISIONS OF THE REGISTER

28.1 From Internship Registration to Trainee Specialist Registration or General Registration
Medical practitioners holding internship registration should normally apply for trainee specialist registration when they are nearing completion of their internship training. They should read the Registration Rules prior to completing and submitting the Generic Application Form with the appropriate fee and request their Intern Network Coordinator to send a Certificate of Experience directly to the Medical Council, when available. They are also required to provide evidence of an offer of an individually numbered, identifiable post in order to be granted trainee specialist registration. If their new NCHD post is deemed not to be a recognised postgraduate training post, they will be registered in the General Division.

28.2 From Trainee Specialist or General Registration to Specialist Registration
Medical practitioners who hold trainee specialist or general registration and have completed their medical specialist training should read Documents A and D of the Rules, to establish whether or not they may be eligible for specialist registration. If they think they may be eligible to apply for specialist registration, they should complete the Specialist Application Form and submit it with the required documentation and appropriate fee.

28.3 Ceasing to Practise in a Training Post
On notification by a medical practitioner and/or an employer (or authorised agent), a medical practitioner holding trainee specialist registration who ceases to practise in an individually numbered identifiable post (voluntarily or otherwise) prior to the expiry date on their Certificate of Registration will be registered in the General Division of the Register55 (unless they apply and are deemed eligible for registration in the Specialist Division).

28.4 From Trainee Specialist Registration to General Registration
The Medical Council recommends that medical practitioners enrol in and complete specialist training programmes, where possible. Medical practitioners holding trainee specialist registration who have not completed their specialist training but who cease to practise in a recognised training post will be registered in the General Division of the Register (unless they apply and are deemed eligible for registration in the Specialist Division). No application is necessary to be transferred to the General Division from the Trainee Specialist Division.

28.5 From General Registration to Trainee Specialist Registration
Medical practitioners must have been awarded a document which is considered to be at least the equivalent of a Certificate of Experience (Internship Certificate) in order to be granted registration in the Trainee Specialist Division of the Register AND pass or be exempted from the PRES. This is significantly different to the eligibility requirements for registration in the General Division. Medical practitioners must, therefore, have passed a “Level 4” assessment of their internship training56 AND pass or be exempted from the PRES in order to establish their eligibility for trainee specialist registration.

55 See section 48(6) of the Act
56 See paragraph 12 for further information about equivalence.
REMOVING A MEDICAL PRACTITIONER’S NAME FROM THE REGISTER

This section contains information about:

29. Voluntary withdrawal from the Register
30. Removal from the Register for failure to pay fees
31. Other means by which a medical practitioner’s name can be removed from the Register
32. Restoring a medical practitioner’s name to the Register

29. VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL FROM THE REGISTER

29.1 A registered medical practitioner may, at any time, apply for the withdrawal of their name from the Register on a voluntary basis. The practitioner must apply formally, either by completing the form provided with their annual retention notice, or by writing to the Medical Council by letter, fax or email, requesting the voluntary withdrawal of their name and quoting their registered name, address, registration number, date of birth and mother’s maiden name (for security reasons). Requests received from third parties are not accepted, unless the third party has power of attorney over the medical practitioner’s affairs. Voluntary withdrawal is granted at the Medical Council’s discretion. If deemed appropriate, voluntary withdrawal will take effect from the requested date, or the date on which a complete application for voluntary withdrawal is received, whichever is the later date.

29.2 A medical practitioner who is registered in the Trainee Specialist Division but ceases to practise medicine in an individually numbered, identifiable post which has been approved by the Medical Council for the purposes of medical specialist training prior to the expiry date on their Certificate of Registration is no longer entitled to be registered in the Trainee Specialist Division and should formally notify the Medical Council. They will normally be registered in the General Division, unless they apply for and are granted specialist registration.

30. REMOVAL FROM THE REGISTER FOR FAILURE TO PAY FEES

30.1 At the Council’s discretion, any registered medical practitioner who fails to pay the appropriate annual retention fee within a specified period of time may be removed from the Register. An annual retention notice is sent to each registered medical practitioner’s registered address and a reminder is also sent, prior to removing their name from the Register for non-payment of fees.

31. OTHER MEANS BY WHICH A MEDICAL PRACTITIONER’S NAME CAN BE REMOVED FROM THE REGISTER

31.1 Under part 9 of the Act a registered medical practitioner’s registration may be cancelled by the Council following a finding of professional misconduct by the fitness to practise committee. For further information about the procedures of the Fitness to Practise Committee, please see the Professional Standards section on the Council’s website at: http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Professional-Standards/.

57 The provisions of section 52 of the Act will apply
58 See section 48(6) of the Act
59 The provisions of section 79 of the Act will apply
32. **RESTORING A MEDICAL PRACTITIONER’S NAME TO THE REGISTER**

32.1 **Restoring Following Voluntary Withdrawal**

Medical practitioners wishing to restore their name to the Register having previously voluntarily withdrawn from the Register after 16th March 2009 should complete the *RestoreApp Form* and submit it with the required documentation. The medical practitioner is entitled to apply to restore their name to the register, having voluntarily withdrawn their name.\(^{60}\) Medical practitioners who have not been registered in Ireland at any time since establishment of the new Register are required to apply as a “first-time” applicant under the new Act, using the *Generic Application Form*.

32.2 **Restoring Having been removed from the Register for failure to pay Fees**

Medical practitioners wishing to restore their name to the Register having been removed for failure to pay fees\(^{61}\) should complete the *RestoreApp Form* and submit it with the required documentation. The medical practitioner is entitled to have their name restored to the Register, on application and payment of the appropriate fee within six months after the date on which the fee became due\(^{62}\). [The Medical Council is not precluded from restoring their name to the Register if the medical practitioner applies later than six months after the fee became due.\(^{62}\)] Medical practitioners who have not been registered in Ireland at any time since establishment of the new Register are required to apply as a “first-time” applicant under the new Act, using the *Generic Application Form*.

32.3 **Restoring Following Erasure under the Medical Practitioners Act 1978**

A medical practitioner whose name was erased from the General Register of Medical Practitioners prior to 16th March 2009 following disciplinary proceedings under the Medical Practitioners Act 1978 has never been registered in the new Register of Medical Practitioners and, as such, must apply as a “first-time” applicant under the new legislation. The details of their disciplinary history will be taken into account when making a decision on their application. Applicants may wish to seek their own legal advice prior to submitting an application.

32.4 **Restoring Following Cancellation under the Medical Practitioners Act 2007**

If a medical practitioner’s registration is cancelled following a finding of professional misconduct, they can apply to have their name restored to the Register. If an application is received, it will be reviewed by the Council’s Registration Working Group, which advises the Council on registration matters. The Working Group will then make a recommendation to the Council’s Standards in Practice Committee, which is authorised by the Council to make decisions on non-standard applications in the first instance. The medical practitioner may, however, apply directly to Council without being considered by the Working Group and Committee, as this is provided for in section 81 of the Act. The Medical Council has made statutory rules setting criteria for the Council when considering whether to restore the registration of a medical practitioner whose registration has been cancelled. These Rules can be downloaded from the Council’s website at: [http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Professional-Standards/Restoration-Rules.pdf](http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Professional-Standards/Restoration-Rules.pdf)

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\(^{60}\) See section 52 (4) and (5) of the Act

\(^{61}\) See section 79 of the Act

\(^{62}\) See section 80 of the Act
INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYERS

This section contains information about

33. Employing Registered Medical Practitioners
34. Visas and Work Permits
35. English language proficiency
36. Employing Medical Practitioners in Training Posts
37. Clinical Observers
38. Clinical Attachments

33. EMPLOYING REGISTERED MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

33.1 Employers should ensure that all medical practitioners hold current and appropriate registration with the Medical Council prior to allowing the medical practitioner commence employment. Medical practitioners must present to their employer (or authorised agent) a Certificate of Registration valid for the current registration period. The employer (or authorised agent) should record the registration status of all medical practitioners employed by them at least for the duration of the medical practitioner’s employment.

34. VISAS AND WORK PERMITS

34.1 The Medical Council does not request visas or work permits as part of the registration process. It is the responsibility of every employer to ensure that each and every medical practitioner they employ holds the appropriate visa/permit for the purposes of practising medicine within the State.

35. ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

35.1 Under EU freedom of movement legislation, the Medical Council is not entitled to require evidence of English language proficiency from EU citizens, established in another member state, moving to Ireland to practise medicine. Employers should satisfy themselves that all medical practitioners employed by them have sufficient English language skills to perform their duties and communicate effectively with patients and colleagues. Paragraph 12.1 of the Medical Council’s Guide to Professional Conduct and Ethics states: “If you do not have the professional or language skills....you must refer the patient to a colleague who can meet those requirements.” If an employer finds that a registered medical practitioner does not have sufficient English language skills to practise medicine, they should make a formal complaint to the Medical Council. It may be considered professional misconduct if a medical practitioner is unable to communicate effectively with their patients and colleagues.

36. EMPLOYING MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS IN TRAINING POSTS

36.1 All employers of medical practitioners in individually numbered, identifiable postgraduate training posts must inform the HSE (METR), in order for a proposal to come from the HSE for that post to be recognised for the purposes of trainee specialist registration. Employers are reminded that a trainee specialist is limited to practising medicine at a level appropriate to the post they occupy. It is the employer’s responsibility to ensure that their employees are not engaged in medical practice outside the scope of the training post. Postgraduate training is regarded by the Medical Council as an important step in a career of continuous education by a medical practitioner. As such, employers should ensure that the postgraduate training is a period of valued learning for the medical practitioner.
37. CLINICAL OBSERVERS / CLINICAL ATTACHMENTS

37.1 **Clinical Observers must not treat patients or engage in medical practice.** Medical practitioners in the process of applying for trainee specialist registration should only be permitted to act as Clinical Observers for an aggregate period of **three months**. This recommendation is made by the Medical Council to reinforce the expectation of patients to be seen and treated only by registered medical practitioners while, at the same time, accepting that some exposure to the hospital environment for medical practitioners waiting for registration is reasonable. The Medical Council cannot assist medical practitioners regarding Clinical Observerships.

37.2 **Clinical Attachments**

The Medical Practitioners Act 2007 does not make provision for registration in the Trainee Specialist Division in Clinical Attachment posts. Employers are reminded that medical practitioners must not practise medicine in Ireland unless and until they are registered in the appropriate Division of the Register. Nothing in the Act prevents a medical practitioner who is registered in the General Division from practising in a clinical attachment post.

**This Guide may be subject to amendment/changes in whole or in part at any time at the discretion of the Medical Council. This guide does not constitute an offer or guarantee of registration.**
USEFUL LINKS

Legislation

Medical Practitioners Act 2007

Health (Miscellaneous Provisions Act) 2007

EU Directive 2005/36/EC

EU Directive 2006/100/EC

From the Medical Council’s website:

Fees http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/registration/fees.asp

Internship Registration http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Registration/First-Time-Applicants/Internship-Registration/Internship-Registration.html

Trainee Specialist Registration http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Registration/First-Time-Applicants/Trainee-Specialist-Registration/Trainee-Specialist-Registration.html

Specialist Registration http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Registration/First-Time-Applicants/Specialist-Registration/Categories-of-entry-into-Specialist-Division.html

General Registration http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Registration/First-Time-Applicants/General-Registration/General-Registration.html

Basic Medical Qualifications

EU Directives
http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/qualifications/index_en.htm

World Health Organisation
http://www.who.int/hrh/wdms/en/index.html

Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research
https://imed.faimer.org/

The following links regarding EU Directive 2005/36/EC may assist:

http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/qualifications/index_en.htm
ELIGIBILITY MAP FOR FIRST-TIME APPLICANTS

1. Choose the Category below which best describes you.

   Category 1
   I graduated from a recognised medical school in Ireland (EU or non-EU citizen)
   I am Category 1, 2 or 3. I have recently completed my basic medical degree and I am seeking registration to do intern training.
   Note: This option is not available to Category 4

   Category 2
   I graduated from a medical school in another EUEEA Member State or in Switzerland and I am an EU citizen.
   I have completed specialist training.
   [Use the Generic Application Form]

   Category 3
   I graduated from a medical school in another EUEEA Member State or in Switzerland and I am not an EU citizen.
   I have not completed intern or specialist training. I have not been awarded a Certificate of Experience (Internship) or equivalent and I am not seeking registration to do intern training.
   [Use the Generic Application Form]

   Category 4
   I do not meet the requirements of any of the above categories. I have a basic medical qualification which is recognised by the Medical Council. [See Guide to Registration for recognised BAGs.] (EU or non-EU citizen)
   I have completed intern training and been awarded a Certificate of Experience (Internship) or equivalent.
   NOTE: Applicants who qualified within the EU/EEA/Switzerland and can provide the relevant documentation outlined in Appendix C of the Guide to Registration fulfil this equivalence requirement.
   [Use the Generic Application Form]

2. Choose the level of medical education and training which best describes you.

   Category 1
   I graduated from a recognised medical school in Ireland (EU or non-EU citizen)
   I am Category 1, 2 or 3. I have recently completed my basic medical degree and I am seeking registration to do intern training.
   Note: This option is not available to Category 4

   Category 2
   I graduated from a medical school in another EUEEA Member State or in Switzerland and I am an EU citizen.
   I have completed specialist training.
   [Use the Generic Application Form]

   Category 3
   I graduated from a medical school in another EUEEA Member State or in Switzerland and I am not an EU citizen.
   I have not completed intern or specialist training. I have not been awarded a Certificate of Experience (Internship) or equivalent and I am not seeking registration to do intern training.
   [Use the Generic Application Form]

   Category 4
   I do not meet the requirements of any of the above categories. I have a basic medical qualification which is recognised by the Medical Council. [See Guide to Registration for recognised BAGs.] (EU or non-EU citizen)
   I have completed intern training and been awarded a Certificate of Experience (Internship) or equivalent.
   NOTE: Applicants who qualified within the EU/EEA/Switzerland and can provide the relevant documentation outlined in Appendix C of the Guide to Registration fulfil this equivalence requirement.
   [Use the Generic Application Form]

3. How you can satisfy the Council that you have reached that level of medical education and training.

   Apply for Internship Registration using the form IR1 and provide the supporting documentation. You must have obtained your medical degree in Ireland or the EUEEA or Switzerland.

   Do you have an Irish/EUEEA CCST? [Are you eligible for recognition of your specialist qualification(s) under EU Directive 2005/36/EC?]

   NO
   Your specialist training and experience must be assessed by the relevant training body in Ireland for advice on equivalence.

   YES
   You are not considered to have completed specialist training. Go back to Column 2.

4. The type of registration which appears to be appropriate to you.

   INTERNSHIP REGISTRATION

   SPECIALIST REGISTRATION

   NOT ELIGIBLE FOR REGISTRATION

   GENERAL REGISTRATION

   NOTE: Category 4 Drs will not be eligible for Trainee Specialist registration until they have a Cert of Experience or equivalent AND pass the PRES.

   TRAINEE SPECIALIST REGISTRATION

   NOT ELIGIBLE FOR REGISTRATION
**APPENDIX A – ELIGIBILITY MAPS (CONTINUED) - MAP 2 – CATEGORY 1 APPLICANTS**

**ELIGIBILITY MAP FOR GRADUATES OF IRISH MEDICAL SCHOOLS**

1. Choose the level of medical education and training which best describes you.

   - I have recently completed my basic medical degree and I am seeking registration to do intern training
     
     Note: This option is not available if the majority of your training was completed outside the EU/EEA/Switzerland

   - I have completed specialist training
     [Use the Specialist Application Form]

   - I have not completed intern or specialist training. I have not been awarded a Certificate of Experience (Internship) or equivalent and I am not seeking registration to do intern training.
     [Use the Generic Application Form]

   - I have completed intern training and been awarded a Certificate of Experience (Internship) or equivalent.
     [Use the Generic Application Form]

2. How you can satisfy the Council that you have reached that level of medical education and training.

   - Apply for Internship Registration using the form IRT and provide the supporting documentation.
     You must have completed the majority of your medical degree in Ireland/EU/EEA/Switzerland

   - Do you have an Irish/EU/EEA GCST?
     [You must be eligible for recognition of your specialist qualification(s) under EU Directive 2005/36/EC7]

     - NO

     - Your specialist training and experience must be assessed by the relevant training body in Ireland for advice on equivalence.

     - Training Equivalent?
     
     - NO

     - NOT ELIGIBLE FOR REGISTRATION

     - YES

     - You are not considered to have completed specialist training. Go back to Column 1.

   - You must pass or be exempt from the PRES.
     [See Guide to Registration for exemptions from the PRES]

   - Passed/exempt PRES?
     
     - YES

     - TRAINEE SPECIALIST REGISTRATION

     - NO

     - GENERAL REGISTRATION

3. The type of registration which appears to be appropriate to you.

   - Will you be practising in a recognised postgraduate training post?
     [Contact METR, HSE, or Employer if unsure]

     - YES

     - INTERNSHIP REGISTRATION

     - NO

     - SPECIALIST REGISTRATION


**NOTE:** Drs who cease practising in recognised training posts “default” into the General Division
ELIGIBILITY MAP FOR GRADUATES OF EU/EEA/SWISS MEDICAL SCHOOLS

1. Choose the level of medical education and training which best describes you.

- I have recently completed my basic medical degree and I am seeking registration to do intern training.
  Note: This option is not available if the majority of your training was completed outside the EU/EEA/Switzerland.

- I have completed specialist training.
  [Use the Generic Application Form]

- I have not completed intern or specialist training. I have not been awarded a Certificate of Experience (Internship) or equivalent and I am not seeking registration to do intern training.
  [Use the Generic Application Form]

2. How you can satisfy the Council that you have reached that level of medical education and training.

- Apply for Internship Registration using the form IR1 and provide the supporting documentation.
  You must have completed the majority of your medical degree in Ireland/EU/EEA/Switzerland.

- Do you have an Irish/EU/EEA CCST?
  [You must be eligible for recognition of your specialist qualification(s) under EU Directive 2005/36/EC?]
  NO
  Your specialist training and experience must be assessed by the relevant training body in Ireland for advice on equivalence.
  Training Equivalent?
  NO
  NOT ELIGIBLE FOR REGISTRATION
  YES
  You are not considered to have completed specialist training. Go back to Column 1.

- You must pass or be exempt from the PRES.
  [See Guide to Registration for exemptions from the PRES.]
  NO
  NO
  GENERAL REGISTRATION
  YES
  Will you be practising in a recognised postgraduate training post?
  [Contact METR, HSE or Employer if unsure]
  YES
  TRAINEE SPECIALIST REGISTRATION
  NO
  NO

3. The type of registration which appears to be appropriate to you.
APPENDIX A – ELIGIBILITY MAPS (CONTINUED) - MAP 4 – CATEGORY 4 APPLICANTS

ELIGIBILITY MAP FOR GRADUATES OF NON-EU/EEA/SWISS MEDICAL SCHOOLS

1. Choose the level of medical education and training which best describes you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I have completed specialist training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[Use the Specialist Application Form]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. How you can satisfy the Council that you have reached that level of medical education and training.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you have an Irish/EU/EEA CCST?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[You must be eligible for recognition of your specialist qualification(s) under EU Directive 2005/36/EC?]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   | NO |
   | Your specialist training and experience must be assessed by the relevant training body in Ireland for advice on equivalence. |
   | Training Equivalent? |
   | YES |
   | SPECIALIST REGISTRATION |
   | NO |
   | You are not considered to have completed specialist training. Go back to Column 1 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I have not completed intern or specialist training. I have not been awarded a Certificate of Experience (Internship) or equivalent.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[Use the Generic Application Form]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| You must pass or be exempt from the PRES. |
| [See Guide to Registration for exemptions from the PRES.] |
| NOTE: You will not be eligible for Trainee Specialist Registration even if you pass the PRES because you do not have a Certificate of Experience (Internship) or equivalent. |

   | NO |
   | Passed exempt PRES? |
   | YES |
   | GENERAL REGISTRATION |
   | NO |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I have completed intern training and been awarded a Certificate of Experience (Internship) or equivalent.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[Use the Generic Application Form]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Will you be practising in a recognised postgraduate training post?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

   | YES |
   | HAVE YOU PASSED OR BEEN EXEMPTED FROM THE PRES? |
   | YES |
   | TRAINEE SPECIALIST REGISTRATION |
   | NO |

3. The type of registration which appears to be appropriate to you.
The Medical Council currently approves the following basic medical qualifications awarded within the State:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviations</th>
<th>Titles</th>
<th>Licensing Bodies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAH Dubl</td>
<td>Licentiate</td>
<td>Apothecaries’ Hall, Dublin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLM RCPI</td>
<td>Licentiates and Licentiates in Midwifery</td>
<td>Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLM RCSI</td>
<td>Licentiates in Medicine and Licentiate in Surgery</td>
<td>University of Dublin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LM LS U Dubl</td>
<td>Licentiate in Medicine and Licentiate in Surgery</td>
<td>University of Dublin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LMED LCH U Dubl</td>
<td>Licentiate in Medicine and Licentiate in Surgery</td>
<td>University of Dublin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LRCP &amp; SI</td>
<td>Licentiate</td>
<td>Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LRCP &amp; SI</td>
<td>Licentiates and Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery</td>
<td>Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MB BCh NUI</td>
<td>Bachelor in Medicine and Bachelor in Surgery</td>
<td>National University of Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MB BCh U Dubl</td>
<td>Bachelor in Medicine and Bachelor in Surgery</td>
<td>University of Dublin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM BS</td>
<td>Bachelor in Medicine and Bachelor in Surgery</td>
<td>University of Limerick</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Certain registrable qualifications which have ceased to be granted are shown in *italics*

The Medical Council currently fully/provisionally approves the following programmes of basic medical education and training delivered by the following bodies:

- National University of Ireland Galway (NUIG) – Medicine – GY501 – fully approved
- Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) – Medicine – RC001 – fully approved
- Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) – Medicine Graduate entry – RC101 – provisionally approved
- Trinity College Dublin (University of Dublin) (TCD) – Medicine – TR051 – fully approved
- University College Cork (UCC) – Medicine – CK701 – fully approved
- University College Dublin (UCD) – Medicine DN002 – fully approved
- University of Limerick (UL) – Medicine Graduate entry – LM101 – provisionally approved
- University College Cork (UCC) – Medicine Graduate Entry – CK791 – provisionally approved
- University College Dublin (UCD) – Medicine Graduate Entry – DN102 – provisionally approved
APPENDIX C – REQUIRED EVIDENCE OF FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS IN BASIC MEDICAL TRAINING IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANNEX V, V.1, 5.1.1 OF EU DIRECTIVE 2005/36/EC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBER STATE</th>
<th>EVIDENCE OF FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS</th>
<th>BODY AWARDING THE QUALIFICATIONS</th>
<th>CERTIFICATE ACCOMPANYING THE QUALIFICATIONS</th>
<th>REFERENCE DATE^</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>België/ Belgique/ Belgien / Belgium</td>
<td>Diploma van arts/ Diplôme de docteur en médecine</td>
<td>— Les universités/De universiteiten</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>България / Bulgaria</td>
<td>Диплома за висше образование на образователно-квалификационна степен ‘магистър’ по ‘Медицина’ и професионална квалификация ‘Магистърлекар’</td>
<td>Медицински факултет във Висше медицинско училище (Медицински университет, Висш медицински институт в Република България)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1 January 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Česká republika/ Czech Republic</td>
<td>Diplom o ukončení studia vě studijním programu všeobecné lékařství (doktor medicíny, MUDr.)</td>
<td>Lékářská fakulta univerzity v České republice</td>
<td>Vysvědčení o státní rigorózní zkoušce</td>
<td>1 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danmark / Denmark</td>
<td>Bevis for bestået ægevidenskabelig embedseksamen</td>
<td>Medicinsk universitetsfakultet</td>
<td>— Autorisation som læge, udstedt af Sundhedsstyrelsen og — Tilladelse til selvstændigt virke som læge (dokumentation for gennemført praktisk uddannelse), udstedt af Sundhedsstyrelsen</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deutschland / Germany</td>
<td>Zeugnis über die Ärztliche Prüfung — Zeugnis über die Ärztliche Staatsprüfung Und Zeugnis über die Vorbereitungszeit als Medizinalassistent, soweit diese nach den deutschen Rechtsvorschriften noch für den Abschluss der ärztlichen Ausbildung vorgesehen war</td>
<td>Zuständige Behörden</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eesti / Estonia</td>
<td>Diplom arstiteaduse õppekava läbimise kohta</td>
<td>Tartu Ülikool</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ελλάς / Greece</td>
<td>Πτυχίο Ιατρικής</td>
<td>— Ιατρική Σχολή Πανεπιστημίου, — Σχολή Επιστημών Υγείας, Τμήμα Ιατρικής Πανεπιστημίου</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1 January 1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>España / Spain</td>
<td>Título de licenciado en Medicina</td>
<td>— Ministerio de Educación y Cultura — El rector de una Universidad</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1 January 1986</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduates awarded basic medical qualifications prior to the relevant reference date must submit with their application a certificate from the relevant competent authority confirming that their qualification(s) comply with the requirements of the Directive.
### APPENDIX C – REQUIRED EVIDENCE OF FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS IN BASIC MEDICAL TRAINING IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANNEX V, V.1, 5.1.1 OF EU DIRECTIVE 2005/36/EC (CONTINUED)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBER STATE</th>
<th>EVIDENCE OF FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS</th>
<th>BODY AWARDING THE QUALIFICATIONS</th>
<th>CERTIFICATE ACCOMPANYING THE QUALIFICATIONS</th>
<th>REFERENCE DATE(^)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Diplôme de fin de deuxième cycle des études médicales</td>
<td>Universités</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland Island</td>
<td>Lækningaleyfi</td>
<td>Heilbrigðis- og tryggingamálaráðuneyti</td>
<td>1 January 1994</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland / Éire</td>
<td>Primary qualification</td>
<td>Competent examining body</td>
<td>Certificate of experience</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italia / Italy</td>
<td>Diploma di laurea in medicina e chirurgia</td>
<td>Università</td>
<td>Diploma di abilitazione all’esercizio della medicina e chirurgia</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kύπρος / Cyprus</td>
<td>Πιστοποιητικό Εγγραφής Ιατρού</td>
<td>Ιατρικό Συμβούλιο</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia / Latvia</td>
<td>ārsta diploms</td>
<td>Universitātes tipa augstskola</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>Aukštojo mokslo diplomas, nurodantis suteikta gydytojo kvalifikacija</td>
<td>Universitetas</td>
<td>Internatūros pažymėjimas, Nurodantis suteikta medicinos gydytojo profesinę kvalifikaciją</td>
<td>1 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>Diplôme d’Etat de docteur en médecine, chirurgie et accouchements</td>
<td>Jury d’examen d’Etat</td>
<td>Certificat de stage</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>Általános orvos oklevél (doctor medicinae univer- sae, röv.: dr. med. univ.)</td>
<td>Egyetem</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malta</td>
<td>Lawrja ta’ Tabib tal-Medicina u l-Kirurgija</td>
<td>Universita’ ta’ Malta</td>
<td>Čertifikat ta’ registrazzjoni mahruġ mill- Kunsill Mediku</td>
<td>1 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nederland / The Netherlands</td>
<td>Getuigschrift van met goed gevolg afgelegd artsexamen</td>
<td>Faculteit Geneeskunde</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway / Norge</td>
<td>Vitnemål for fullført grad candidata/candidatus medicinae, short form cand.med.</td>
<td>Medisinsk universitetsfakultet</td>
<td>Bekreftelse på praktisk tjeneste som lege utstedt av kompetent offentlig myndighet</td>
<td>01/01/1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Österreich / Austria</td>
<td>1. Urkunde über die Verleihung des akademischen Grades Doktor der gesamten Heilkunde (bzw. Doctor medicinae universae, Dr.med.univ.) 2. Diplom über die spezifische Ausbildung zum Arzt für Allgemeinmedizin bzw. Facharztdiplom</td>
<td>1. Medizinische Fakultät einer Universität</td>
<td>2. Österreichische Ärztekammer</td>
<td>1 January 1994</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^\text{Graduates awarded basic medical qualifications prior to the relevant reference date must submit with their application a certificate from the relevant competent authority confirming that their qualification(s) comply with the requirements of the Directive.}\)
### APPENDIX C – REQUIRED EVIDENCE OF FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS IN BASIC MEDICAL TRAINING IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANNEX V, V.1, 5.1.1 OF EU DIRECTIVE 2005/36/EC (CONTINUED)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBER STATE</th>
<th>EVIDENCE OF FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS</th>
<th>BODY AWARDING THE QUALIFICATIONS</th>
<th>CERTIFICATE ACCOMPANYING THE QUALIFICATIONS</th>
<th>REFERENCE DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Carta de Curso de licenciatura em medicina</td>
<td>Universidades</td>
<td>Diploma comprovativo da conclusão do internato geral emitido pelo Ministério da Saúde</td>
<td>1 January 1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>România / Romania</td>
<td>Diplomă de licenţă de doctor medic</td>
<td>Universităţi</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1 January 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenija / Slovenia</td>
<td>Diploma, s katero se podeljuje strokovni naslov ‘doktor medicine/doktorica medicine’</td>
<td>Univerza</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovensko / Slovakia</td>
<td>Vysokoškolský diplom o udelení akademického titulu ‘doktor medicíny’ (‘MUDr.’)</td>
<td>Vysoká škola</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suomi/Finland</td>
<td>Lääketieteen lisensiaatin tutkinto/ Medicine licentiatexamen</td>
<td>—Helsingin yliopisto/ Helsingfors universitet —Kuopion yliopisto —Oulun yliopisto —Tampereen yliopisto —Turun yliopisto</td>
<td>Todistus lääkärin perusterveydenhuollon lisäkoulutuksesta/ Examenbevis om tilläggsutbildning för läkare inom primärvården</td>
<td>1 January 1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sverige/Sweden</td>
<td>Läkarexamen</td>
<td>Universitet</td>
<td>Bevis om praktisk utbildning som utfärdas av Socialstyrelsen</td>
<td>1 January 1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>Diplôme fédéral de médecin Eidgenössisches Arztdiplom Diploma federale di medico</td>
<td>Département fédéral de l’Intérieur, Eidgenössisches Departement des Innern, Dipartimento federale dell’interno</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Primary qualification</td>
<td>Competent examining body</td>
<td>Certificate of experience</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

^Graduates awarded basic medical qualifications prior to the relevant reference date must submit with their application a certificate from the relevant competent authority confirming that their qualification(s) comply with the requirements of the Directive.
### APPENDIX D - RECOGNISED MEDICAL SPECIALTIES

#### Anaesthesia
- Anaesthesia

#### Emergency Medicine
- Emergency Medicine

#### General Practice
- General Practice

#### Medicine
- Cardiology
- Clinical Genetics
- Clinical Neurophysiology
- Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics
- Dermatology
- Endocrinology & Diabetes Mellitus
- Gastroenterology
- General (Internal) Medicine
- Genito-Urinary Medicine
- Geriatric Medicine
- Infectious Diseases
- Medical Oncology
- Nephrology
- Neurology
- Palliative Medicine
- Pharmaceutical Medicine
- Rehabilitation Medicine
- Respiratory Medicine
- Rheumatology
- Tropical Medicine

#### Paediatrics
- Paediatric Cardiology
- Paediatrics

#### Pathology
- Chemical Pathology
- Haematology (Clinical & Laboratory)
- Histopathology
- Immunology (Clinical & Laboratory)
- Microbiology
- Neuropathology

#### Psychiatry
- Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
- Psychiatry
- Psychiatry of Learning Disability
- Psychiatry of Old Age

#### Public Health Medicine
- Public Health Medicine

#### Radiology:
- Radiation Oncology
- Radiology

#### Sports and Exercise Medicine
- Sports and Exercise Medicine

#### Surgery
- Cardiothoracic Surgery
- General Surgery
- Neurosurgery
- Ophthalmic Surgery
- Oral & Maxillo-Facial Surgery
- Otolaryngology
- Paediatric Surgery
- Plastic, Reconstructive & Aesthetic Surgery
- Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery
- Urology

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*APPENDIX D - RECOGNISED MEDICAL SPECIALTIES*

**Anaesthesia**
- Anaesthesia

**Emergency Medicine**
- Emergency Medicine

**General Practice**
- General Practice

**Medicine**
- Cardiology
- Clinical Genetics
- Clinical Neurophysiology
- Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics
- Dermatology
- Endocrinology & Diabetes Mellitus
- Gastroenterology
- General (Internal) Medicine
- Genito-Urinary Medicine
- Geriatric Medicine
- Infectious Diseases
- Medical Oncology
- Nephrology
- Neurology
- Palliative Medicine
- Pharmaceutical Medicine
- Rehabilitation Medicine
- Respiratory Medicine
- Rheumatology
- Tropical Medicine

**Paediatrics**
- Paediatric Cardiology
- Paediatrics

**Pathology**
- Chemical Pathology
- Haematology (Clinical & Laboratory)
- Histopathology
- Immunology (Clinical & Laboratory)
- Microbiology
- Neuropathology

**Psychiatry**
- Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
- Psychiatry
- Psychiatry of Learning Disability
- Psychiatry of Old Age

**Public Health Medicine**
- Public Health Medicine

**Radiology:**
- Radiation Oncology
- Radiology

**Sports and Exercise Medicine**
- Sports and Exercise Medicine

**Surgery**
- Cardiothoracic Surgery
- General Surgery
- Neurosurgery
- Ophthalmic Surgery
- Oral & Maxillo-Facial Surgery
- Otolaryngology
- Paediatric Surgery
- Plastic, Reconstructive & Aesthetic Surgery
- Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery
- Urology
APPENDIX E – APPROVED POSTGRADUATE TRAINING BODIES IN IRELAND

In relation to each recognised specialty, the Medical Council currently recognises the following bodies in Ireland for the purpose of granting evidence of satisfactory completion of specialist training:

**Anaesthesia**
The College of Anaesthetists of Ireland
22 Merrion Square North, Dublin 2
Telephone: 01-6614412   Fax: 01-2650699
Email: info@coa.ie   Website: www.anaesthesia.ie

**General Practice**
The Irish College of General Practitioners
4-5 Lincoln Place, Dublin 2.
Telephone: 01-6763705   Fax: 01-6765850
Email: info@icgp.ie   Website: www.icgp.ie

**Medicine**
The Irish Committee on Higher Medical Training, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland,
Frederick House, 19 South Frederick Street, Dublin 2.
Telephone: 01-8639700   Fax: 01-6724707
Email: hmt@rcpi.ie   Website: www.rcpi.ie

**Obstetrics & Gynaecology**
The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland,
Frederick House, 19 South Frederick Street, Dublin 2.
Telephone: 01-8639729   Fax: 01-6724707
Email: iog@rcpi.ie   Website: www.rcpi.ie

**Occupational Medicine**
The Faculty of Occupational Medicine, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland,
Frederick House, 19 South Frederick Street, Dublin 2.
Telephone: 01-8639700   Fax: 01-6724707
Email: fom@rcpi.ie   Website: www.rcpi.ie

**Ophthalmology**
The Irish College of Ophthalmologists
121 St Stephen’s Green, Dublin 2.
Telephone: 01-4022777   Fax: 01-4022778
Email: ico@rcsi.ie   Website: www.seeico.com

**Paediatrics**
The Faculty of Paediatrics, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland,
Frederick House, 19 South Frederick Street, Dublin 2.
Telephone: 01-8639729   Fax: 01-6724707
Email: paediatrics@rcpi.ie   Website: www.rcpi.ie

**Pathology**
The Faculty of Pathology, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland,
Frederick House, 19 South Frederick Street, Dublin 2.
Telephone: 01-8639700   Fax: 01-7624707
Email: pathology@rcpi.ie   Website: www.rcpi.ie
APPENDIX E – APPROVED POSTGRADUATE TRAINING BODIES IN IRELAND (continued)

Psychiatry
The College of Psychiatry of Ireland,
5 Herbert Street, Dublin 2.
Telephone: 01-6618450 Fax: 01-669677
Email: info@irishpsychiatry.ie Website: www.irishpsychiatry.ie

Public Health Medicine
The Faculty of Public Health Medicine, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland,
Frederick House, 19 South Frederick Street, Dublin 2.
Telephone: 01-8639700 Fax: 01-6724707
Email: fphm@rcpi.ie Website: www.rcpi.ie

Radiology
The Faculty of Radiologists, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland,
121 St Stephen’s Green, Dublin 2.
Telephone: 01-4022139 Fax: 01-4022466
Email: radiology@rcsi.ie Website: www.radiology.ie

Sports and Exercise Medicine
The Faculty of Sports and Exercise Medicine, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland,
123 St Stephen’s Green, Dublin 2.
Telephone: 01-4022780 Fax: 01-4022781
Email: opuirseil@rcsi.ie Website: www.rcsi.ie

Surgery and Emergency Medicine
Irish Surgical Postgraduate Training Committee of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland,
123 St Stephen’s Green, Dublin 2.
Telephone: 01-4022100 Fax: 01-4022459
Email: info@rcsi.ie Website: www.rcsi.ie
### APPENDIX F – REQUIRED STANDARD DOCUMENTATION TO BE SUBMITTED WITH AN APPLICATION FOR TRAINEE SPECIALIST OR GENERAL REGISTRATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOCUMENTATION (SEE GUIDE FOR REQUIRED FORMAT)</th>
<th>ELIGIBILITY CATEGORY (SEE ELIGIBILITY MAPS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T1  T2  T3  T4  G1  G2  G3  G4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ALL APPLICANTS:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relevant Application Form</td>
<td>● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriate Application Fee</td>
<td>● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notarised/attested copy current Passport / GNIB Card and travel document (Refugees)</td>
<td>● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Original Certificates of Current Professional Status / Good Standing sent directly from relevant competent authority/ies; and Sworn Declaration re Unregistered Practice (if applicable); or Statement re absence from clinical practice (if applicable)</td>
<td>● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notarised/attested copy basic (primary) medical degree (except Irish medical degrees)</td>
<td>● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU Certification (if bmq awarded prior to reference date)</td>
<td>● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notarised/attested copy Certificate of Experience / Internship Certificate</td>
<td>● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 x colour passport-sized photographs</td>
<td>● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass Level 2 Examination</td>
<td>● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass Level 3 Examination</td>
<td>● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass Level 4 Assessment</td>
<td>● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>IF DECLARED ELIGIBLE FOR REGISTRATION:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriate registration fee</td>
<td>● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form TSR1</td>
<td>● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

T1, 2, 3, 4 = Trainee 1, 2, 3, 4  
G1, 2, 3, 4 = General 1, 2, 3, 4
APPENDIX G – REQUIRED STANDARD DOCUMENTATION TO BE SUBMITTED WITH AN APPLICATION FOR SPECIALIST REGISTRATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOCUMENTATION (SEE GUIDE FOR REQUIRED FORMAT)</th>
<th>ELIGIBILITY CATEGORY (SEE ELIGIBILITY MAPS)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALL APPLICANTS:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relevant Application Form</td>
<td>●</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appropriate Application Fee</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notarised/attested copy current Passport / GNIB Card and travel document (Refugees)</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Original Certificates of Current Professional Status / Good Standing sent directly from relevant competent authority/ies; <strong>and</strong> Sworn Declaration re Unregistered Practice (if applicable); <strong>or</strong> Statement re absence from clinical practice (if applicable)</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notarised/attested copy basic (primary) medical degree (except Irish medical degrees)</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation Per Appendix H</td>
<td>●</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IF DECLARED ELIGIBLE FOR REGISTRATION:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appropriate registration fee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOR ALL APPLICANTS:

- Unbound copy up-to-date curriculum vitae, including full details of specialist training and experience.

FOR APPLICANTS UNDER CATEGORY SPECIALIST A:

- Notarised/attested copy Certificate of Completion of Specialist Training, where applicable.
- Notarised/attested copy Vocational Training Certificate plus MICGP Certificate for the specialty of General Practice, where applicable.

FOR APPLICANTS UNDER CATEGORY SPECIALIST B:


FOR APPLICANTS UNDER CATEGORY SPECIALIST C:

- Notarised/attested copy of Certificate of Acquired Rights issued by an EU Training Body stating that training meets with the relevant requirements of EU Directive 93/16/EEC or 2005/36/EC as amended.

FOR APPLICANTS UNDER CATEGORY SPECIALIST D:

- Notarised/attested evidence of first time establishment and recognition in an EU member state; treated as a specialist by that member state within the meaning of EU Directive 2005/36/EC; and evidence of three years professional experience in the profession concerned in the member state that first granted recognition.

63 Although EU Directive 86/457/EEC has been fully repealed under EU law the Medical Council will consider applications where these certificates are presented as evidence of completion of specialist training in General Practice.
APPENDIX G – REQUIRED STANDARD DOCUMENTATION TO BE SUBMITTED WITH AN APPLICATION FOR SPECIALIST REGISTRATION (CONTINUED)

FOR APPLICANTS UNDER CATEGORY SPECIALIST E:

Note: - the documentation outlined below is not exhaustive and should be provided to the best of each applicant’s ability with reference to the competencies required. It would be expected that at least some evidence is provided under each grouping.

ALL APPLICANTS UNDER CATEGORY SPECIALIST E:
- **Evidence Medical Skills and Experience**
  - Evidence of possession of a required exit exam and / or fellowship (i.e. Intercollegiate exam or equivalent for surgical specialties)
  - Record of In-Service Training Assessments (RITA) forms from the United Kingdom or alternative training assessments.
  - Certified copy of current Log Books or other training records. These must detail the type of procedures and case mix carried out by the applicant.
  - Appraisals / assessments from trainers and colleagues.
  - Validated information on specialty and sub-specialty caseload.
  - Validated copies of on-call rotas and work programme.

- **Evidence of Further Education and Research**
  - Attested copies of relevant postgraduate diplomas.
  - Validated evidence of CME/CPD activities including communication skills.
  - List of publications (may be provided in CV).

- **Evidence of Management and Communication Skills**
  - Validated evidence of participation in lecturing, teaching and management.

- **Evidence of Third Party Performance Feedback**
  - Results of multi source feedback including 360º feedback.
  - Evidence of Peer Review.
  - Validated evidence of clinical audit.

ONLY WHERE APPLICABLE FOR APPLICANTS UNDER CATEGORY SPECIALIST E:
- **Evidence of Completion of a Structured Training Programme**
  - Documentary evidence of completion of a structured higher specialist training programme in a specialty recognised by the Medical Council. Applicants will be measured against the standards of those who have successfully gained a Certificate of Satisfactory Completion of Specialist Training (CSCST) from the relevant approved postgraduate training body in Ireland. Further details of core competencies are available from the relevant training body. See Appendix E.
  - An English language copy of the higher specialist training curriculum undertaken.
  - Certified evidence of the programmes’ accreditation from the training programme supervising institution(s).
  - Clinical content of the training programme.

OR
- **Evidence of Completion of a Self Structured Training**
  - Documentary evidence confirming that the applicant has completed self structured training that satisfies the required core competencies for the specialties that they are applying for. Applicants will be measured against the standards of those who have successfully gained a Certificate of Satisfactory Completion of Specialist Training (CSCST) from the relevant approved postgraduate training body in Ireland. Further details of core competencies are available from the relevant training body. See Appendix E.
  - Supporting information which sets out the self-structured training attained over the course of the candidates career.
  - Validated evidence of competencies attained during self-structured training.
APPLICANTS FOR SPECIALIST REGISTRATION SHOULD NOTE:

- Documentation should be submitted **unbound** on A4 size paper, photocopied **single-sided** only and **should not be stapled**.

- Documentation should be structured into the following format:
  - Application form + supporting documentation for all applicants, **and**
  - Supporting documentation for Appendix G Categories A – D, **or**
  - Supporting documentation for Appendix G Category Specialist E

- All copy documents must be **notarised** by a Notary Public **or attested** by a Justice of the Peace/Commissioner for Oaths/Member of An Garda Síochána (documents signed by a Police Officer from outside the State are not acceptable). They should confirm that the copy is a **true** copy of the original document, provide their full name and sign, date and officially stamp each copy document. Documents which are not stamped clearly or have not been properly notarised/attested cannot be accepted and will result in a delay in the processing of an application. **Original documentation should not be submitted with an application.** The Medical Council will not be responsible for original documentation lost or mislaid in transit or at the Medical Council’s offices. The Medical Council reserves the right to verify any documentation submitted in support of an application for registration.

- All documents which are not in the English language must be attached to an English language **translation** issued and officially stamped by an **official translator**.
### APPENDIX H – REQUIRED EVIDENCE OF FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS IN HIGHER MEDICAL TRAINING IN THE MEDICAL SPECIALTIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANNEX V, PARAGRAPHS 5.1.2 AND 5.1.3 OF EU DIRECTIVE 2005/36/EC

(see overleaf for General Practice)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBER STATE</th>
<th>EVIDENCE OF FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS</th>
<th>BODY AWARDING THE QUALIFICATIONS</th>
<th>REFERENCE DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Bijzondere beroepstitel van geneesheer-specialist/Titre professional particulier de médecin spécialiste</td>
<td>Minister bevoegd voor Volksgezondheid/Ministre de la Santé publique</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>Свидетельство за призната специалност</td>
<td>Медицински университет, Висш медицински институт или Военномедицинска академия</td>
<td>01 January 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>Diplom o specializaci</td>
<td>Ministerstvo zdravotnictví</td>
<td>01 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Bavis for tilladelse til at betegne sig som speciallæge</td>
<td>Sundhedsstyrelsen</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Fachärztliche Anerkennung</td>
<td>Landesärztekammer</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>Residentuuri õputunnistus eriarstiani erialal</td>
<td>Tartu Ülikool</td>
<td>01 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>Τίτλος Ιατρικής Ειδικότητας</td>
<td>1. Νομαρχιακή Αυτοδιοίκηση 2. Νομαρχία</td>
<td>01 January 1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Título de Especialista</td>
<td>Ministerio de Educación y Cultura</td>
<td>01 January 1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Certificate of Specialist Doctor</td>
<td>Competent Authority</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Diploma di medico specialista</td>
<td>Università</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>Πιστοποιητικό Αναγνώρισης Ειδικότητας</td>
<td>Ιατρικό Συμβούλιο</td>
<td>01 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>Sertifikāts’- kompetentu iestāžu izniegts dokuments, kas apliecina, ka persona ir nokārtojusi sertifikācijas eksāmenu specialitātē</td>
<td>Latvijas Ārstu biedriba Latvijas Ārstniecības personu profesionālo organizāciju savieniba</td>
<td>01 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>Rezidentūros pažymėjimas, nurodantis suteiktą gydytojo specialisto profesinę kvalifikaciją</td>
<td>Universitetas</td>
<td>01 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>Certificat de médecin spécialiste</td>
<td>Ministre de la Santé publique</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>Szakorvosi bizonyítvány</td>
<td>Az Egészségügyi, Szociális és Családúgyi Minisztérium illetékes testülete</td>
<td>01 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malta</td>
<td>Ĉertificat ta’ Speċjalista Mediku</td>
<td>Kumitat ta’ Approvazzjoni dwar Ħaspjali</td>
<td>01 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>Bewijs van inschrijving in een Specialistenregister</td>
<td>Kumitat ta’ Approvazzjoni dwar Ħaspjali</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Facharztdiplom</td>
<td>Österreichische Ärstekammer</td>
<td>01 January 1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>Dyplom uzyskania tytułu specjalisty</td>
<td>Centrum Egzaminów Medycznych</td>
<td>01 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>Certificat de medic specialist</td>
<td>Ministerul Sănătății Publici</td>
<td>01 January 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Potrdilo o opravljenem specialističnem izpitu</td>
<td>1. Ministrstvo za zdravje 2. Zdravniška zbornica Slovenije</td>
<td>01 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Bevis om specialkompetens som läkare, utfärdad av Socialstyrelsen</td>
<td>Socialstyrelsen</td>
<td>01 January 1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.K</td>
<td>Certificate of Completion of specialist training</td>
<td>Competent Authority</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Qualifications must be accompanied by an appropriate attestation from the Competent Authority under circumstances where the relevant articles and annexes of EU Directive are not cited on the qualification. NOTE: See overleaf for General Practice.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBER STATE</th>
<th>EVIDENCE OF FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS</th>
<th>PROFESSIONAL TITLE</th>
<th>REFERENCE DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Ministerieel Erkenningsbesluit van huisarts / Arrêté ministerial d’agrément de médecin généraliste’</td>
<td>Huisarts/Médecin généraliste</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>Свидетельство за признатата специалност по Обща медицина’</td>
<td>Лекар-специалист по Обща медицина</td>
<td>01 January 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>Diplom o specializaci ‘všeobecné lékařství’</td>
<td>Všeobecný lékař</td>
<td>01 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Tilladelse til at anvende betegnelsen alment praktiserende læge / Speciallæge i almen medicin’</td>
<td>Almen praktiserende læge/Speciallæge I almen medicin</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Zeugnis über die spezifische Ausbildung in der Allgemeinmedizin</td>
<td>Facharzt/Fachärztin für Allgemeinmedizin</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
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<td>Perearst</td>
<td>01 May 2004</td>
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<td>Ιατρός ε έιδικότητας γενικής ιατρικής</td>
<td>01 January 1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Título de Especialista en Medicina Familiar y Comunitaria</td>
<td>Medico de familia</td>
<td>31st December 1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Diplôme d’État de Docteur en Medicine (avec document annexé attestant la formation spécifique en medicine générale)</td>
<td>Médecin qualifié en médecine générale</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Attestato di formazione specifica in medicina generale</td>
<td>Medici di medicina generale</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>Τίτλος Ειδικότητας Γενικής Ιατρικής</td>
<td>Ιατρός Γενικής Ιατρικής</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>Ģimenes ārsta Sertifikāts</td>
<td>Ģimenes (vispārējās prakses) ārsts</td>
<td>01 May 2004</td>
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<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>Seimos gydymojo rezidentūros pažymėjimas</td>
<td>Seimos medicinos gydytojas</td>
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<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>Diplôme de Formation Spécifique en Medicine Générale</td>
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<td>01 May 2004</td>
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<td>Austria</td>
<td>Arzt für Allgemeinmedizin</td>
<td>Arzt für Allgemeinmedizin</td>
<td>20 December 1976</td>
</tr>
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<td>Poland</td>
<td>Dyplôme: Dyplom uzyskania tytułu specjalisty w dziedzinie medycyny rodzinnej</td>
<td>Specjalista w dziedzinie medycyny rodzinnej</td>
<td>01 January 1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Diploma do Internato Complementar de Clínica Geral</td>
<td>Assistente de clínica geral</td>
<td>01 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>Certificat de Medic Specialist Medicină de Familie</td>
<td>Medic specialist Medicină de Familie</td>
<td>01 January 1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Potrdilo o Opravljeni Specializaciji iz Družinske Medicine</td>
<td>Specialist družinske medicice/Specialistka družinske medicice</td>
<td>01 January 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>Diplom o špecializácii v Odbore &quot;Všeobecné Lekárstvo&quot;</td>
<td>Všeobecný lékař</td>
<td>01 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Bevis om kompetens som allmän-praktiserande läkare (Europaläkare) ufaradat av Socialstyrelson</td>
<td>Allmänpraktiserande läkare (Europaläkare)</td>
<td>01 January 1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.K</td>
<td>Certificate of Prescribed / Equivalent Experience</td>
<td>General Medical Practitioner</td>
<td>01 January 1994</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Qualifications must be accompanied by an appropriate attestation from the Competent Authority under circumstances where the relevant articles and annexes of EU Directive are not cited on the qualification.
APPENDIX H (CONTINUED) - REQUIRED EVIDENCE OF QUALIFICATIONS IN HIGHER MEDICAL TRAINING IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACQUIRED RIGHTS GRANTED UNDER EU DIRECTIVE 2005/36/EC

Acquired Rights for the above EU/EEA member states must be certified by the appropriate competent authority. The attestation from the competent authority must state that the medical practitioner has acquired rights in accordance with Article 23 and/or Article 27 for specialised medicine or Article 30 for General Practice.

APPENDIX H (CONTINUED) - REQUIRED EVIDENCE OF ESTABLISHMENT AS A SPECIALIST OR IN GENERAL PRACTICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3.3 OF EU DIRECTIVE 2005/36/EC

Evidence of mutual recognition of qualifications for first-time establishment in the above EU/EEA member states, following recognition of training undertaken in a 3rd country, must be certified by the appropriate competent authority. The attestation must state that the applicant is recognised / established as a Specialist or in General Practice in the home member state (the member state of origin) in accordance with Article 3.3 of EU Directive 2005/36/EC.
## APPENDIX I – HIGHER QUALIFICATIONS RECOGNISED FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXEMPTION FROM THE PRES (TRAINEE SPECIALIST DIVISION AND GENERAL DIVISION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialty</th>
<th>Higher Qualifications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Anaesthesia</strong></td>
<td>• Fellow of the College of Anaesthetists RCSI (FCA RCS (formerly FFARCSI))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Primary Examination of the College of Anaesthetists of Ireland (OQE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fellow of the Royal College of Anaesthetists (UK)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fellow of the Faculty of Anaesthetists of South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fellow of the Australian &amp; New Zealand College of Anaesthetists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fellow of the Canadian College of Anaesthetists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• American Boards in Anesthesiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• American Boards in Critical Care Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fellow of the College of Intensive Care Medicine of Australia and New Zealand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Overseas Qualifying Examination in Anaesthesia of the College of Anaesthetists of Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Primary Examination of the Royal College of Anaesthetists (UK)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fellow of the College of Physicians &amp; Surgeons of Pakistan (taken after 1998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The UK Diploma in Intensive Care Medicine (DICM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The European Diploma in Intensive Care Medicine Part 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Occupational Medicine</strong></td>
<td>• Member of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (MFOM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fellow of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (FFOM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Licentiateship of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (LFOM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Membership of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine, Royal College of Physicians (London)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• American Board Certification in Occupational Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• American Board of Preventive Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Certificate of the Canadian Board of Occupational Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fellow of the Australasian College of Occupational &amp; Environmental Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pathology</strong></td>
<td>• Fellow of the Faculty of Pathology Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (FFPath RCPI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• MRCPath (UK)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (FRCPA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• American Board Certification in Pathology (ASCP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists (UK) (FRCPath)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Obstetrics &amp; Gynaecology</strong></td>
<td>• Member of the Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (MRCPI Ob&amp;Gyn)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Membership of the Royal College of Obstetricians &amp; Gynaecologists (MRCOG) (UK)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Membership of the Royal Australian and/or New Zealand College(s) of Obstetricians &amp; Gynaecologists (MRACOG / MRNZCOG / MRANZCOG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada (O&amp;G)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fellowship of the College of Obstetricians &amp; Gynaecologists of South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa (FCOG (SA))</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Current Certification by the American Board of Obstetrics &amp; Gynaecology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Paediatrics

| • Member of the Faculty of Paediatrics of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (MRCPI Medicine of Childhood) |
| • Membership of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (MRCPCH) |
| • American Board in Paediatrics |

### Medicine

| • Member of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (MRCPI) |
| • Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (FRCPI) |
| MRCP (London) |
| MRCP (Glasgow) |
| MRCP (Edinburgh) |
| MRACP (Australia) |
| FRCP(C) (Canada) |
| FCP(SA) (South Africa) |
| American Board in General (Internal) Medicine |

### Surgery

| • Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (FRCSI) |
| • Collegiate Member of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (MRCSI(C)) |
| • Intercollegiate Member of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (IMRCSI) (must be accompanied by an original/certified copy Certificate of Completion of Basic Surgical Training (CCBST)). |
| • Member of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (MRCSI) |
| • Associate Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (AFRCSI) |
| • Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh |
| • Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons & Physicians of Glasgow |
| • Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England (London) |
| • Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh |
| • Member of the Royal College of Surgeons & Physicians of Glasgow |
| • Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England (London) |
| • Fellow of the Royal College of Medicine of South Africa |
| • Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons |
| • Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada (Surgery) |
| • American Board Certification |

### Emergency Medicine

| • Membership/Fellowship of the College of Emergency Medicine (MCEM/FCEM) (UK) [Irish trainees are required to sit these BST/HSE exit exams] |
| • Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (in Accident and Emergency Medicine and Surgery) (FRCSEd (A&E)) |
| • Fellowship of the Australasian College of Emergency Medicine (FACEM) |
| • Diplomate of the American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) |
| • Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (FRCPC) |
| • Exit examination in Emergency Medicine of the Hong Kong College of Emergency Medicine |
**Radiology**
- Fellow of the Faculty of Radiologists Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (FFR RCSI)
- Fellow of the Royal College of Radiologists (FRCR) (UK)
- American Board of Radiology
- Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (FRCPC) - Division of Radiology or Radiation Oncology

**General Practice**
- Membership of the Irish College of General Practitioners (MICGP)
- Fellow of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (FRACGP)
- Member of the Royal College of General Practitioners (MRCGP)

**Psychiatry**
- Member of the Royal College of Psychiatry (UK) (MRCPsych)
- The American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology
- Fellowship of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatry

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**A LIST OF EQUIVALENT QUALIFICATIONS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THIS GUIDE AND UPDATED REGULARLY, WHEN APPROVED BY THE MEDICAL COUNCIL.**
APPENDIX J - HIGHER SPECIALIST TRAINING PROGRAMMES RECOGNISED FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXEMPTION FROM THE PRES (TRAINEE SPECIALIST DIVISION ONLY)

Participants in the following Six-month Rotation Residency Programmes are recognised for exemption from the PRES in accordance with the Rules Specifying Pre-Registration Examinations and Exemptions:

1. George Washington University School of Medicine, St Louis, Missouri -and-
2. Dept of Neurosurgery, Beaumont Hospital/RCSI, Dublin

Specialty: Neurosurgery
Programme Content: Senior Registrar in Neurosurgery at level 5/6 on an accredited Neurosurgery Programme
Duration: Six months
Applicants must be on the residency staff of the Dept of Neurosurgery, Washington UH.

3. Department of Surgery, Johns Hopkins University Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland -and-
4. Department of Surgery, Beaumont Hospital/RCSI, Dublin

Specialty: General Surgery
Programme Content: Appointed as an equivalent Senior Registrar (SpR) under the tutelage of a Consultant Surgeon, Beaumont Hospital
Duration: Six months
Applicants must be on the residency staff of the General Surgical Programme at Johns Hopkins UH.

5. GP Exchange Programme with GP Registrars in the Southern GP Training scheme in Australia

Exchange programme for GP Registrars in the Southern GP Training scheme in Australia.

Specialty: General Practice
Programme Content: Specialist training in General Practice primary care in accredited training practices in Ireland, overseen at all times by Irish trainers.
Duration: 2-3 months
Applicants must be on the Southern GP Training scheme in Australia.

NO OTHER HIGHER SPECIALIST TRAINING PROGRAMMES ARE CURRENTLY RECOGNISED FOR EXEMPTION FROM THE PRES