

# GOVERNMENT NOTICES GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DEPARTEMENT VAN GESONDHEID

No. R. 139

19 January 2009

### HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA

#### REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS, UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULA AND PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS IN MEDICINE

The Minister of Health has, in terms of section 61(1) of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), and in consultation with the Health Professions Council of South Africa, made the regulations in the Schedule.

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## Definitions

1. In these regulations "the Act" means the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), and any expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall bear that meaning and, unless inconsistent with the context –

**"accreditation"** means the process to grant recognition and approval to the academic and training standards and the professional programme of studies of educational institutions or training facilities by an external and impartial body approved by the board;

**"approved"**, in relation to an educational institution or qualification, means recognition and approval granted to an institution, facility or qualification by the board following an evaluation process as prescribed by the board;

**"board"** means the Medical and Dental Professions Board established in terms of section 15 of the Act;

**"curricula"** means the academic programmes outlining the academic learning, clinical training and development of skills as well as the integration of the students' professional attitude and conduct;

**"degree"** means a university degree in medicine recognised by the board for registration as a medical practitioner or clinical associate in terms of section 24 of the Act;

**"graduate"** means a student in medicine who has successfully completed the curricula and obtained a qualification at an approved educational institution;

**"medical practitioner"** means a person registered as such with the council in terms of the Act;

**"student"** means a person registered as such with the council in terms of the Act.

## CHAPTER 1

### REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS IN MEDICINE

2. **Registration as a student in medicine**

- (1) A student at an approved educational institution shall submit to the registrar an application for registration as a student in medicine on a form provided by the board in accordance with the provisions of subregulation (2), and –
  - (a) in the case of a student enrolling at an approved educational institution in his or her first year of study, within four months of such enrolment; or
  - (b) in the case of a student who has been exempted from the first or second year of study, within four months of such enrolment in the second or third year of study, respectively.
- (2) An application by a student for registration as a student in medicine shall be accompanied by –
  - (a) such student's identity document or birth certificate or, if the student is unable to furnish either of these documents, such other proof of his or her age and correct names as may be acceptable to the registrar;
  - (b) a certificate to prove that such student has commenced study in a subject or subjects at an approved educational institution, which certificate shall specify the year of study and the date on which the student enrolled; and
  - (c) the prescribed registration fee.
- (3) An application for registration as a student in medicine by a visiting student from a country other than South Africa who has been admitted to an approved educational institution for non-degree purposes for a period not exceeding one academic year shall be accompanied by –
  - (a) a certificate to prove that such student has commenced such study;
  - (b) proof of registration as a student in medicine by a recognised registering authority in a country or state other than South Africa; and
  - (c) the prescribed registration fee.
- (4) A student in dentistry who wishes to be registered as a student in medicine shall submit an application for registration as such within four months of commencing study in medicine at an approved educational institution.
- (5) An application referred to in subregulation (4) shall be accompanied by –
  - (a) a certificate to prove that such student has commenced such study;
  - (b) the initial original registration certificate as a student in dentistry issued by the registrar; and
  - (c) the prescribed registration fee.

- (6) A student in medicine who resumes his or her studies after interrupting them for at least one year shall submit an application for re-registration within four months of resuming such study.
- (7) An application referred to in subregulation (6) shall be accompanied by –
  - (a) a certificate to prove that such student has resumed such study;
  - (b) the initial original certificate of registration issued by the registrar; and
  - (c) the prescribed registration fee.
- (8) Subject to the provisions of regulation 3(3), the name of a student in medicine who interrupted his or her studies for more than one year, but who indicates annually in writing his or her intention to continue with his or her studies, shall not be removed from the register.
- (9) A student registered with the council as a student in dentistry who discontinued his or her studies and whose name was consequently removed from the register of dental students and who applies for registration as a student in medicine, shall submit an application to be registered as such within four months of commencing his or her study in medicine.
- (10) An application referred to in subregulation (9) shall be accompanied by –
  - (a) a certificate to prove that such student has commenced such study;
  - (b) the initial original registration certificate as a student in dentistry issued by the registrar; and
  - (c) the prescribed registration fee.
- (11) A student who applies for registration in terms of subregulation (4), (6) or (9) and who is unable to submit the initial original registration certificate, shall apply for a certified extract from the register, for which the prescribed fee shall be payable.
- (12) An application, together with the applicable documents and fees referred to in subregulation (2), (3), (5), (7) or (9), submitted after the period of four months stated in subregulation (1), (4), (6) or (9), as the case may be, shall be subject to the prescribed penalty fee for late registration in respect of each month or portion of a month for which it is submitted after the due date.
- (13) No student shall be registered or re-registered as a student in medicine unless he or she has complied in all respects with the requirements of subregulation (2),

(3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9) or (10), as the case may be, and those of subregulation (12), where applicable.

- (14) The registrar shall, upon registration, furnish a student registered as a student in medicine with a registration certificate.
- (15) Should a student in medicine change from one educational institution to another during his or her course of study, the board shall be advised within four months of such change.

### **3. Information to be submitted to the board**

- (1) An approved educational institution in South Africa shall submit to the board within four months after registration of each year –
  - (a) a list of all students in medicine enrolled for that year; and
  - (b) a list of all students in medicine who discontinued their studies during the preceding year.
- (2) The lists referred to in subregulation (1) shall include students in medicine's full names, the year of study and, where applicable, the date of discontinuation of study.
- (3) Together with the lists referred to in subregulation (1), an approved educational institution shall submit –
  - (a) a list of students in medicine who discontinued their studies temporarily during the preceding twelve months, specifying the reasons for such discontinuation and the date on which the students concerned are expected to resume their studies; and
  - (b) a list of students in medicine who resumed their studies during the preceding twelve months after temporarily discontinuing such studies.
- (4) The name of a student in medicine shall be removed from the register as soon as he or she has been registered as an intern or as soon as the registrar receives proof that such student has discontinued his or her studies in South Africa.