



# GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

## OF THE

# REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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### Government Notice

#### MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

No. 237

2000

#### REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION OF MEDICAL STUDENTS, INSPECTION, MINIMUM CURRICULA AND EXAMINATIONS IN MEDICINE: MEDICAL AND DENTAL PROFESSIONS ACT, 1993

The Minister of Health and Social Services has, on the recommendation of the Medical Board, under section 50 of the Medical and Dental Professions Act, 1993 (Act No. 21 of 1993) -

- (a) made the regulations as set out in the Schedule; and
- (b) repealed the regulations published under Government Notices R. 2269 and R. 2270 of 3 December 1976.

### SCHEDULE

#### Definitions

1. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise indicates, a word or expression defined in the Act has a corresponding meaning, and -

“inspector” means a person appointed by the Medical Board under section 23(5) of the Act;

“secretary” means the secretary of the Medical Board; and

“the Act” means the Medical and Dental Professions Act, 1993 (Act No. 21 of 1993)

“university” means the University of Namibia.

### **Application for registration or re-registration as a medical student**

2. (1) Every medical student at a university in Namibia enrolled for a degree which is prescribed in terms of section 18 of the Act shall submit an application for registration as a medical student -

- (a) in the case of students commencing attendance in the faculty of medicine in the first year of study, within two months of such commencement; or
- (b) in the case of students who have been exempted from the first, second or third year of study, within two months following their commencement of attendance in the second, third or fourth year of study respectively.

(2) An application for registration as a medical student shall be made on Form 1 and shall be accompanied by -

- (a) a certified copy of the identity document, or birth certificate of the student or such other proof of identity as the secretary may consider fit;
- (b) a certificate of commencement of study in the faculty of medicine of the university, which must indicate the year of study, the date on which the student enrolled and the subject(s) for which the student has enrolled; and
- (c) the prescribed registration fee.

(3) Upon registration the student shall be furnished with a certificate of registration in the form of Form 2.

(4) An application by a student who has been admitted to a faculty of medicine in Namibia for a period not exceeding one academic year for non-degree purposes, shall, in addition to the requirements of subregulation (2), be accompanied by proof of registration as a medical student by a recognised registering authority in a country other than Namibia.

(5) A medical student who resumes study after an interruption of studies of one year or longer must submit an application for re-registration within two months of resumption of studies and the application shall be accompanied by -

- (a) a certificate of resumption of study;
- (b) the original certificate of registration; and
- (c) the prescribed registration fee.

(6) If a medical student who interrupts his or her studies for a period longer than one year informs the secretary in writing annually during the period of interruption that he or she intends to resume his or her studies, his or her name shall not be removed from the register.

(7) A medical student who applies for re-registration in terms of subregulation (5) and who is unable to submit the original certificate of registration, shall, make application for the issue of a certified copy of the certificate at a prescribed fee.

(8) If an application in terms of subregulation (2), (4) or (5), is not properly submitted within the prescribed two month period, the applicant shall be liable to pay a penalty fee at the prescribed rate.

### **Inspection procedure for evaluation of education of medical students**

3. (1) The Board shall cause an inspection of the faculty of medicine of the university to be carried out annually and shall at the first meeting of the Board each year -

- (a) appoint one or more persons as inspectors under section 23(5) of the Act to carry out the inspection; and
- (b) determine the exact nature of the inspections to be carried out.

(2) The inspector or inspectors must furnish the Board with a written report and comments on -

- (a) whether or not the minimum requirements and the standard of education as laid down by the Board are being complied with;
- (b) the effectiveness of the process of evaluation of the competency of students; and
- (c) any other matter which should be brought to the attention of the Board.

(3) The inspection report referred to in subregulation (2) must be submitted to the secretary within two months of the inspection.

(4) The secretary shall submit the report to the chairperson of the medical education committee who may direct that a supplementary or amended report be given by the inspector or inspectors on any matter which the chairperson considers necessary.

(5) The Secretary shall transmit a copy of the final report to the university which must submit its comments on the report, if any, to the Secretary within two months of the receipt of the copy of that report.

(6) The report as well as any comments thereon, shall be referred to the medical education committee for discussion at its first meeting thereafter.

(7) In the event that the medical education committee is of the opinion that any deficiency exists in the evaluation of the competency of students or in the teaching methods used, it shall report accordingly to the Board, and the Board may take whatever action it considers necessary to rectify the deficiencies.

### **Minimum curriculum requirements in medicine**

4. (1) The period of study, from the date of commencement of study as stipulated on the certificate of registration as a medical student to the date of compliance with the requirements for registration as an intern, shall be one of certified study and experience of not less than six years.

(2) During at least the last three years of the study period of six years mentioned in subregulation (1), clinical subjects shall be studied and practised in a hospital or hospitals and other institutions and facilities attached to the university which have been approved by the Board.

(3) A university shall make adequate arrangements for the effective co-ordination of the various subjects of study throughout its curriculum.

(4) A university may allocate the different parts of subjects to different departments within the university.

(5) Instruction in the basic sciences of pathology and pharmacology should continue throughout the clinical years and be integrated with clinical teaching.

(6) The course of study shall consist of systematic instruction and practical work and cover a basic syllabus with the following fields of study which may be supplemented by such other optional subjects as the university may determine, and the approach shall always be the integration of the various fields of study, particularly in their clinical application:

- (a) Chemistry (including Organic Chemistry) with particular reference to human biology;
- (b) Physics with particular reference to human biology;
- (c) Biological sciences, alternatively Zoology and Botany may be taken as separate subjects;
- (d) Human anatomy, including Fundamentals of Human Embryology;
- (e) Human Physiology and Biochemistry;
- (f) Human Histology and Cell Biology;
- (g) Human genetics;
- (h) Principles of Human Behavioural Science, including Communication Skills, related to health;
- (i) Pharmacology in relation to humans, with attention to the correct approach in respect of the use and prescription of medicines;
- (j) Medical Ethics and Medical Jurisprudence, including the statutory obligations of interns and medical practitioners as required by the Medical board;

(2) The subjects mentioned in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) must include instruction on the basic principles which will subsequently be required for the study of all subjects of the medical curriculum, as well as practical instruction.

### **Pathology**

5. (1) The Pathology subjects must include the following:
- (a) Anatomical Pathology, including the principles of pathology;
  - (b) Medical Microbiology, Virology and Parasitology;
  - (c) Chemical Pathology;
  - (d) Principles of Forensic Medicine;
  - (e) Immunology; and
  - (f) Haematology.

### **Main clinical subjects**

6. (1) Clinical training shall be given in hospitals and the community with attention to preventive, promotive, curative and rehabilitative aspects of medicine.

(2) Clinical training shall extend over a minimum period of three consecutive years, which must include the year of student internship and shall consist of the following main clinical subjects:

- (a) Medicine, its principles and practice;
- (b) Surgery, its principles and practice;
- (c) Obstetrics and Gynaecology, its principles and practice, with emphasis on Obstetrics. All students shall be required to deliver an adequate number of babies;
- (d) Paediatrics and Child Health, its principles and practise with special emphasis on infants;
- (e) Psychiatry, its principles and practice.

#### **Ancillary subjects**

7. (1) In respect of ancillary subjects, it shall be the responsibility of the university to ensure that the training programme in the following subjects is co-ordinated with that of the main clinical subjects:

- (a) Family medicine;
- (b) Acute infectious diseases;
- (c) Sexually transmitted diseases and AIDS;
- (d) Dermatology;
- (e) Anaesthesiology;
- (f) Medical Imaging, Radiation Oncology, Radiation Protection and Nuclear Medicine;
- (g) Ophthalmology;
- (h) Urology;
- (i) Cardiothoracic Surgery;
- (j) Neurosurgery;
- (k) Orthopaedics;
- (l) Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery;
- (m) Community Health, its principles and practice;
- (n) Otorhinolaryngology;

#### **Examinations for Medical students**

8. (1) The examinations stipulated herein are essential but shall not be permitted to interfere with the intergration of pre-clinical and clinical subjects, and may take place partly by means of continuous evaluation.

(2) The examinations for a degree in medicine shall cover all of the subjects listed in regulations 4, 5, 6, and 7.

(3) The faculty concerned may determine the way in which examinations are to be conducted and external examiners shall be provided for.

(4) In the final evaluation of every subject, at least two examiners, shall take part, one of whom has not taken part in the teaching of the subjects to the candidates.

(5) An external examiner need not be present during the entire period of the examination, and need not mark every examination paper.

(6) A candidate shall not be considered to have passed an examination, unless he or she obtains at least 50% of the maximum marks obtainable in the examination or the equivalent thereof in the marking system of the university.

(7) In order to ensure continuous evaluation, examiners shall take into account the documented records of work done by a candidate throughout the course of study, including assessment in optional subjects.

(8) The prescribed subjects may be grouped or divided at the discretion of the university, provided the final examinations held at the end of the academic course over the main clinical subjects.

(9) Any candidate who fails the clinical component of these courses shall not be allowed to pass the final academic examinations.

#### **Registration of student interns**

9. (1) On application for registration as a student intern, the following documents shall be submitted to the secretary:

- (a) an application for registration made on Form 3;
- (b) proof that the applicant has completed and passed at least five years of study as a registered medical student;
- (c) the prescribed registration fee;

(2) Upon registration a student intern shall be issued with a certificate of registration in the form of Form 4.

(3) Training as a student intern shall extend over a period of at least one academic year and shall be in compliance with the criteria laid down by the Board from time to time.

(4) During the period of internship, and under the supervision of a medical practitioner, a student intern may -

- (a) physically examine any person or perform any other diagnostic act and issue any document which is required with regard to the performance of such act;
- (b) administer treatment to any person;
- (c) issue and sign a prescription with regard to any medicine listed in Schedules 1, 2, 3, and 4, of the Medicines and Related Substances Control Act, 1965 (Act No. 101 of 1965).

(5) Student interns shall be subject to the rules of professional conduct prescribed by the Board for medical practitioners.

(6) Regulation 3 relating to the inspection procedure for the evaluation of education of medical students shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the inspection of the evaluation and training of students interns.

**Completion of student internship**

**10.** The relative degree in medicine shall be conferred upon a student intern on the satisfactory completion of the student internship.

**ANNEXURE****INDEX TO FORMS**

1. Application for registration as a medical student
2. Certificate of registration as a medical student
3. Application for registration as a student intern
4. Certificate of registration as a student intern

## FORM 1

## REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

**MEDICAL AND DENTAL PROFESSIONS ACT, 1993**  
**APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AS A MEDICAL STUDENT**  
**(Regulation 2)**

The Secretary  
Medical Board of Namibia

.....  
.....  
.....

I, (full names and surname) .....  
of (full address) .....

born on ..... at .....  
hereby apply to be registered as a medical student and in support thereof submit herewith -

- (a) a birth certificate/identity card/other identity document;
- (b) a certificate of commencement of study for a degree in medicine, which indicates that I enrolled on ..... (date) in the ..... academic year.
- (c) the prescribed registration fee of N\$ .....

.....  
**APPLICANT**

Signed at ..... this ..... day of ..... 20 .....



## FORM 2

## REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

**MEDICAL AND DENTAL PROFESSIONS ACT, 1993**  
**CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION AS A MEDICAL STUDENT**  
**(Regulation 2)**

This is to certify that .....  
has complied with the requirements laid down in the Medical Boards Regulations relating  
to the registration of medical students and that he/she is a registered medical student at  
the University of ..... as from .....  
in the ..... year of study.

.....  
**SECRETARY OF THE MEDICAL BOARD**

Signed at ..... this ..... day of ..... 20 .....

## FORM 3

## REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

**MEDICAL AND DENTAL PROFESSIONS ACT, 1993**  
**APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AS A STUDENT INTERN**  
**(Regulation 11)**

The Secretary  
Medical Board of Namibia

.....  
.....  
.....

I, (full names and surname) .....  
of (full address) .....

born on ..... at .....  
hereby apply to be registered as a student intern and in support thereof submit herewith -

- (a) a certificate of registration together with a certificate of last or current attendance of medical study, as proof that I have completed and passed at least five years of study as a registered medical student; and
- (b) the prescribed registration fee of N\$ .....

.....  
**APPLICANT**

**Signed at ..... this ..... day of ..... 20 .....**

FORM 4

## REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

**MEDICAL AND DENTAL PROFESSIONS ACT, 1993**  
**CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION AS A STUDENT INTERN**  
**(Regulation 11)**

This is to certify that .....  
has complied with the requirements laid down in the Medical Boards Regulations relating  
to the registration of student interns and that he/she has completed and passed at least  
five years of study as a registered medical student at the University of .....  
as of the ..... academic year.

He/she has been registered as a student intern with effect from the ..... academic  
years

.....  
**SECRETARY OF THE MEDICAL BOARD**

**Signed at ..... this ..... day of ..... 20 .....**

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