



**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT AND THE RULES GOVERNING  
ADMISSION  
IN AN UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL PROGRAMME**



*Document no: MMDC/DOC/2023/01 –V5*

**MALDIVIES MEDICAL AND DENTAL COUNCIL**

**Endorsed Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2023**

## MALDIVES MEDICAL AND DENTAL COUNCIL

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT AND THE RULES GOVERNING ADMISSION IN AN UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL PROGRAMME

#### 1. Authority

This guideline is developed and approved by the Maldives Medical and Dental Council (MMDC) on 23 August 2023 pursuant to the mandate and authority given to the MMDC by the Health Professionals Act, 13/2015.

#### 2. Purpose

The purpose of this guideline is to enable prospective medical practitioners to be capable professionals as they embark on their journey of the medical profession. The principles governing this guideline are:

- i. The selection for admission to a medical programme implies selection for the medical profession
- ii. The practice of medicine requires the highest standards of professional and personal conduct as well as professional competence.
- iii. A high level of academic attainment is expected

This guideline provides the eligibility requirement and the rules governing admission into a medical programme recognized by the MMDC. All decision makers of medical schools and institutions offering pre-medicine foundation programmes are advised to study this guideline and the Good Medical Practice guideline of MMDC. It is also recommended that aspiring students enrolling to any pre-medicine or university medical/dental program validate with MMDC that the enrolling programme is in conformity with the minimum requirements set out in the guideline.

#### 3. Minimum Requirements for Entry into a Basic Medical/Dental Programme

A thorough understanding of science, in particular Biology, Chemistry and Physics is essential to pursue a medical education programme. However academic excellence alone is not sufficient for a carrier in medical profession as honesty, integrity and good health are also essential attributes of a good medical

professional. Hence Maldives Medical and Dental Council identifies the following as the minimum requirement for enrolling in a Basic Medical/Dental Education programme:

### **3.1. Professional and Personal Conduct**

- i. He/she shall complete the age of 17 years on or before 31st December, of the year of admission to the MBBS course;
- ii. Should have no record of offence(s) affecting the human body;
- iii. Should have no record of serious dishonesty (e.g. cheating at examinations, falsification of documents, plagiarism etc);
- iv. Should have no history of serious physical or mental illness; and/or
- v. He/she should have the following educational qualifications:

All decision makers of medical schools are advised to conduct study this guideline and the Good Medical Practice guideline of MMDC. Although some students have attained the academic standards required, they may not be suitable to a career in Medicine.

It is the responsibility of the medical school to ensure that there are no particular circumstances that will impact upon an applicant's fitness to practice upon graduation. As such, medical schools should implement procedures relating to the following:

- a) All applicants shall declare if they have:
  - been found guilty of any criminal offence(s);
  - physical or mental illness;which may impact upon their future practice.
  
- b) A person with any of the following shall be disqualified from entry into a medical programme:
  - found guilty of offence(s) affecting the human body; and/or
  - recent or serious dishonesty e.g. cheating at examinations, falsification of documents, plagiarism; and/or
  - physical or mental illness;which may impact upon their future practice.
  
- c) Any failure to declare information that has a material influence on a student's fitness to practice shall lead to the termination of their medical course, as honesty, integrity and good health are essential attributes of a doctor and by extension, the medical student.

### 3.2. Academic qualification

- i. Any applicant with General Certificate of Education Advanced Level (UK) or its equivalent, shall have passed and attained a minimum of the following at Secondary Certificate level.

Examination	Requirement
GCE O Level (UK)	C grade or higher each in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, English <b>and</b> C grade or higher grade in two other subjects.
Any other qualification validated by Maldives Qualification Authority as Equivalent to GCE O Level (UK)	C grade equivalent or higher each in Biology, Chemistry, Physics <b>and</b> C grade equivalent or higher in English or IELTS overall score 5 or higher <b>and</b> C grade equivalent or higher grade in two other subjects.

**AND**


- ii. the applicant should have passed and attained a minimum of the following:

Examination	Requirement
General Certificate of Education Advanced Level (UK)	C grade or higher in any three subjects out of the following four: Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics
Any other qualification validated by Maldives Qualification Authority as Equivalent to General Certificate of Education Advanced Level (UK)	C grade and above or equivalent in any three subjects out of the following four: Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics



**OR**

iii. the applicant should have passed and attained a minimum of the following:

Examination	Requirement
<p>Qualification from pre-medicine or university foundation program meeting the following criteria approve by MMDC.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1- Programme is minimum of one (01) academic year (or 32 academic weeks).</li> <li>2- Programme has a minimum of 610 learning hours (150 contact hours and 460 non-contact hours).</li> <li>3- Programme shall include Biology, Chemistry and Physics as core subjects</li> <li>4- Credits for core subjects shall have a minimum of 8 credits in Chemistry; 8 credits in Biology; and 6 credits in Physics (1 credit = 20 learning hours or more).</li> </ol> <p>Programme may include optional subjects such as mathematics, biomedical science, bioinformatics, communication and linguistics, critical thinking.</p>	<p>A minimum of CGPA 3.0 (out of 4.0) in the three core subjects (i.e. Biology; and Chemistry; and Physics) provided no score for any of these three subject is less than (GPA 2.0);</p> <p><b>and</b></p> <p>C or higher each in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and C or higher grade in two other subjects (GCE O level or equivalent validated by the Maldives Qualification Authority) at entry to the programme.</p>
<p>Health Science or Pure/Applied Science Diploma in any subject, provided the course is not less than 4 semesters or 2 years (64 academic weeks);</p> 	<p>Students completing graduate programme in health science or pure applied sciences with CGPA 3.0 (out of 4.0);</p> <p><b>and</b></p> <p>Cs or higher each in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and C or higher grade in two other subjects (GCE A level or equivalent validated by the Maldives Qualification Authority) at entry to the programme</p> <p><b>or</b></p> <p>A minimum of CGPA 3.0 (out of 4.0) in the three core subjects (i.e. Biology; and Chemistry; and</p>

	Physics) provided no score for any of these three subject is less than (GPA 2.0) in a university foundation programme at entry to the programme.
Health Science or Pure/Applied Science Degree (BSC) in any subject, provided the course is not less than 6 semesters or 3 years;	Students completing graduate programme in health science or pure applied sciences with CGPA 3.0 (out of 4.0); <b>and</b> Cs or higher each in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and C or higher grade in two other subjects (GCE A level or equivalent validated by the Maldives Qualification Authority) <b>or</b> A minimum of CGPA 3.0 (out of 4.0) in the three core subjects (i.e. Biology; and Chemistry; and Physics) provided no score for any of these three subject is less than (GPA 2.0) in a university foundation programme;

#### 4. Rules governing undergraduate Medical Study

- i. A Maldivian citizen, who has passed the qualifying examination recognized by the Maldives Medical and Dental Council and is desirous of joining an undergraduate Medical/Dental course in any foreign Medical/Dental institution on or after 1<sup>st</sup> December 2012 shall approach the Council for issue of an Eligibility Certificate for that purpose.
- ii. The request for issue of Eligibility Certificate shall be made by the candidate in the format prescribed by the Council and shall be accompanied by the original certificate/mark-sheet (together with Photostat copy) of the qualifying examination. The original certificate shall be returned to the candidate following verification. There shall be a fee for processing of eligibility certificate. The fee shall be fixed by the Council.
- iii. The Council shall consider the application for Eligibility Certificate and verify the following details as per the Regulations of the Council –
  - a. Whether the candidate fulfills the age criterion prescribed by the Council.

- b. Whether the candidate fulfills the eligibility criteria for admission to MBBS or Equivalent course as prescribed by the Maldives Medical and Dental Council.
  - c. Whether the pre-medicine foundation programme the candidate is proposing to join to pursue is recognized by the Council.
  - d. Whether the Medical/Dental College, Medical/Dental School the candidate is proposing to join to pursue Medical/Dental Education is recognized by the Council.
- iv. After verification as required, if the candidate is found to fulfill criteria for admission and the course and standard of institution is acceptable to the Council, the candidate shall be issued a no objection certificate on a prescribed format certifying that he or she is eligible to join a medical institution to obtain the primary medical or dental qualification. This certificate will have to be surrendered to the Council together with the application for Maldives Medical Dental Council Registration.
- v. The issuance of a no objection certificate by the Council to a candidate shall not entitle him or her to any right whatsoever, other than to take admission in an undergraduate medical course in a medical institute recognized by the Maldives Medical and Dental Council for the purpose.
- vi. In case the candidate does not fulfill any of the qualifying criteria the Council shall reject his application for issue of Eligibility Certificate giving the reasons thereof.
- vii. The Registrar of Medical and Dental Council may refuse to register any applicant who has completed Primary Medical Degree (MBBS or Equivalent) if he or she does not meet the admission eligibility criteria of the Council and completed a program from an institute recognized by the Medical and Dental Council. The registrar may mandate such applicants to undertake the following to consider their registration.
- a. If the applicant has not completed a one year (52 weeks) internship from a MMDC recognized institute, complete 2 years of internship (104 weeks)
  - b. If the applicant has completed one year (52 weeks) internship from a MMDC recognized institute, complete another 1 year of internship (52 weeks)
- viii. The Council may call to investigate on its own into the validity of information furnished by the candidate in his/her application and/or call for any further information in this regard from the candidate and in the event of any information furnished by the candidate being found to be incorrect or false following such an investigation or at any subsequent stage, the Council may refuse to issue the eligibility certificate or if already issued may cancel the same and the Council



shall initiate appropriate disciplinary proceedings against the offender. The decision of the Council in this regard shall be final.

NOTE: The Guideline “Minimum Requirements for Entry into a Basic Medical/Dental Programme” published on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019 shall be inclusive of aforementioned amendments and shall be put into effect from 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2023.



*23/08/2023*