

# HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT 56 OF 1974

## REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS WHO QUALIFIED OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA AS INTERNS, MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS OR DENTISTS

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The Minister of Health has, in terms of [section 25](#) of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), in consultation with the Health Professions Council of South Africa, made the regulations in the Schedule.

### SCHEDULE

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#### Definitions

1. In these regulations any expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall bear such meaning and unless the context otherwise indicates -

**"board"** means the Medical and Dental Professional Board established by Government Notice No. R.75 of 16 January 1998;

**"public service"** means a service rendered by the State at the national, provincial and local level of government, and includes organisations which function under its auspices or are largely subsidised by the State or recognised by the board for the purpose of these regulations;

**"supernumerary"** in relation to a post, means a post which shall not be recognised for teaching or training purposes by the board;

**"the Act"** means the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974).

#### Categories of registration

2. Persons who obtained a qualification in medicine or dentistry outside South Africa may be registered in terms of [section 25](#) of the Act in any one of the following categories:
- (1) interns in medicine.
  - (2) Medical practitioners or dentists in the category public service (general practitioner) to be employed as such in the public service.
  - (3) Medical practitioners or dentists in the category education to be employed as such by higher education and/or research institutions approved by the board for teaching, training or research purposes.
  - (4) Medical practitioners or dentists in the category postgraduate study to engage in postgraduate study and/or research in medicine or dentistry in South Africa as the holders of appointments which are of a temporary and supernumerary nature.
  - (5) Medical practitioners or dentists in the category independent practice (general practitioner), provided that the requirements in terms of [section 24A](#) of the Act have been met.
  - (6) Medical practitioners or dentists in the category independent practice (specialist), provided the requirements prescribed in terms of [section 35](#) of the Act for registration as a specialist have been met.
  - (7) Medical practitioners or dentists in the category public service (specialist) to be employed as such in the public service, provided the requirements prescribed in terms of [section 35](#) of the Act for registration as a specialist have been met.
  - (8) Medical practitioners or dentists in the category independent practice (specialist) who have been registered under regulation 1(12) of the regulations published under Government Notice No. R.2274 of 3 December 1976: Provided that -
    - (a) such medical practitioners or dentists shall restrict their practice to the speciality in which they have been registered; and
    - (b) the requirements prescribed in terms of [section 35](#) of the Act for registration as a specialist shall be met.
  - (9) Medical practitioners registered in the category independent practice (family physician) under regulation 1(12) of the regulations published under Government Notice No. R.2274 of 3 December 1976.

- (10) Medical practitioners or dentists in the category military service to participate as such in South Africa in any military operation at the recommendation of the Surgeon General of the South African Defense Force.
- (11) Notwithstanding any other provisions contained in these regulations, the board shall have the discretion to register medical practitioners or dentists in the category volunteer services to participate as such in South Africa in health care relief or assistance programmes of a temporary nature at the recommendation and under the supervision of a South African health care provider agency recognised by the board.

### **Restrictions**

3. The registration of a person in a category referred to in regulation 2(1), (2), (3), (4), (10) or (11) shall be effective for such initial period as the board may determine and may be renewed thereafter for such further period or periods as the board may determine.
4. A person referred to in regulation 2(1) shall undergo training as an intern as prescribed in terms of the Regulations relating to the Registration and Training of Interns in Medicine.
5. A person referred to in regulation 2(2) may perform the functions pertaining to the profession of a medical practitioner or dentist in the public service specified by the board on his or her certificate of registration and determined by the conditions of his or her contract of employment with the relevant employing health authority.
6. A person referred to in regulation 2(3) may perform the teaching, training and research duties, including clinical duties, in medicine or dentistry specified by the board on his or her certificate of registration and determined by the conditions of his or her contract of employment with a higher education and/or research institution approved by the board.
7. A person referred to in regulation 2(4) may carry out postgraduate study or research in medicine or dentistry at an institution or facility in the public service as determined by the board.
8. The restrictions referred to in regulation 3, 4, 5, and 6 may be revoked by the board if a person registered in terms of regulations 2(1), (2), (3), (7), (8) or (9) has -
  - (i) passed an examination or other assessment as determined by the board for the relevant category; and
  - (ii) complied with the requirements for training as an intern in medicine as prescribed in the Regulations relating to the Registration and Training of Interns in Medicine,whereupon any such person may apply for registration as a medical practitioner in the category independent practice (general practitioner) referred to in regulation 2(5).

9. A person who wishes to register in any category referred to in regulation 2 shall -
- (a) submit his or her application for registration to the board on an application form supplied by the board and duly completed;
  - (b) pay the prescribed registration fee or fees; and
  - (c) in the case of a person wishing to obtain registration in a category referred to in regulation 2(5) or (6), submit documentary evidence to the board that he or she has completed community service as prescribed in terms of [section 24A](#) of the Act while registered as a medical practitioner in terms of [section 18](#) of the Act or that he or she has not been required to perform such community service.
10. A person who obtained qualifications outside the Republic as a result of an agreement between the Republic and any particular country may not be required to pass an evaluation in terms of [section 25](#) of the Act before he or she may be registered under regulation 2(1).

### **Application and repeal**

11. (1) The regulations published under Government Notice No. R.2274 of 3 December 1976, as amended by Government Notices Nos. R. 1828 of 16 September 1977, R.2163 of 17 October 1986 and R.870 of 5 May 1989, are hereby repealed.
- (2) Persons registered under the Act in terms of -
- (a) regulation 1(1), (4), (8), (9) or (10) of the regulations referred to in subregulation (1) shall be regarded as having been registered in terms of regulation 2(2) of these regulations;
  - (b) regulation 1(2) of the regulations referred to in subregulation (1) shall be regarded as having been registered in terms of regulation 2(3) of these regulations;
  - (c) regulation 1(4) of the regulations referred to in subregulation (1), by virtue of being South African citizens and having enrolled prior to 31 December 1992 for a qualification accepted by the board for such registration in terms of [section 25](#) of the Act and who completed one year's service to the satisfaction of the board, shall be regarded as having been registered in terms of regulation 2(5) of these regulations;
  - (d) regulation 1(6) of the regulations referred to in subregulation (1) shall be regarded as having been registered in terms of regulation 2(4) of these regulations: Provided that persons, who on the promulgation of these regulations were receiving education and training as registrars or were enrolled

for a course in family medicine with the approval of the board, may hold such registration in terms of these regulations until they have successfully complied with all the requirements for education and training in their speciality or in family medicine, whereupon, on passing the assessment required by the board -

- (i) specialists shall be registered in terms of regulation 2(8) of these regulations;
  - (ii) medical practitioners qualified in family medicine shall be registered in terms of regulation 2(9) of these regulations;
- (e) regulation 1(7) of the regulations referred to in subregulation (1) shall be regarded as having been registered in terms of regulation 2(1) of these regulations;
- (f) regulation 1(12) of the regulations referred to in subregulation (1) of these regulations -
- (i) as specialists shall be regarded as having been registered in terms of regulation 2(8) of these regulations; or
  - (ii) in the category family physicians shall be regarded as having been registered in terms of regulation 2(9) of these regulations.

**MINISTER OF HEALTH**  
**DATE: 18.10.2000**