

HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT 56 OF 1974

REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION OF INTERN MEDICAL ORTHOTISTS AND PROSTHETISTS

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The Minister of Health has, in terms of [section 61\(1\)](#), read with [section 24](#) 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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1. Definitions

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

“approved training facility” means a hospital, clinic, laboratory, healthcare centre, or any other institution which is approved by the board for the purpose of internship training;

“**board**” means the Professional Board for Occupational Therapy, Medical Orthotics and Prosthetics and Arts Therapy established in terms of [section 15](#) of the Act;

“**qualification**” means a qualification as prescribed under [section 24](#) of the Act for registration of medical orthotists and prosthetists;

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

2. Registration as an intern medical orthotist and prosthetist

Any person who holds a qualification prescribed under [section 24](#) of the Act for registration of medical orthotists and prosthetists or who holds a qualification accepted by the board in terms of [section 25](#) of the Act shall, before he or she is entitled to registration as a medical orthotist and prosthetist, undertake internship training to the satisfaction of the board for a period and in the manner prescribed in [regulation 5](#), unless the board exempted such person partially or in full from this requirement on submission of documentary evidence to the satisfaction of the board of internship or equivalent training undergone or experience obtained elsewhere.

3. Requirements for registration

A person referred in to [regulation 2](#) shall apply to the board for registration as an intern, and -

- (a) in the case of a person who commences internship training at an approved training facility, within one month following the commencement of such training; or
- (b) in the case of a person who on the date of publication of these regulations has already commenced training at an approved training facility, within one month after the date of publication of these regulations.

4. Information to be submitted to the board

A person referred to in [regulation 2](#) shall -

- (a) submit his or her application for registration as an intern in medical orthotics and prosthetics to the board on an application form supplied by the board, and duly completed;
- (b) submit proof that he or she holds a qualification:
 - (i) prescribed in terms of [section 24](#) of the Act; or
 - (ii) accepted by the board in terms of [section 25](#) of the Act;

- (c) submit proof of admission to an approved training facility to which he or she was admitted to undergo training as an intern and shall notify the board in writing in advance if he or she intends to change from that facility to another approved facility; and
- (d) pay the prescribed registration fee.

Conditions of internship training

5. Internship training shall be of not less than twelve months' duration and, where it is broken or interrupted, it shall consist of periods which, when added together, are not less than twelve months in total, including vacation leave not exceeding one month's duration per annum, and sick leave not exceeding 12 working days per annum, and shall comply with criteria laid down by the board from time to time.
6. If a break or interruption in internship training, excluding leave referred to in [regulation 5](#) exceeds a period of three months, the period of internship training prior to such break or interruption shall not be recognized as part of completed internship training.
7. The period of twelve months of internship training referred to in [regulation 5](#) shall be completed within a period of two years from the date of registration as an intern medical orthotist and prosthetist.
8. If an intern does not complete his or her internship training within a period of two years, his or her registration in terms of the Act shall expire, unless he or she provides the board with satisfactory reasons as to why his or her registration should be extended.
9. The training shall be undertaken by an intern in a facility approved by the board.
10. If a facility referred to in [regulation 9](#) is not available, the board may, at its discretion, approve alternative training which in the board's opinion is equivalent to training at a facility approved by the board.
11. When approving alternative training in terms of [regulation 10](#), the board may stipulate that only a portion of an intern's training shall be undertaken at that facility, and that the remainder shall be undertaken at another approved facility.
12. If internship training at an approved training facility is considered by the board for any reason to be inadequate or unsatisfactory, the board may-
 - (a) withdraw its approval of the facility and inform any interns at that facility accordingly in writing and advise such interns to undertake internship training at another approved training facility for the remaining period; or
 - (b) in the case where an internship has already been completed by an intern, but considered inadequate or unsatisfactory by the board, extend the period of internship

for such intern and require them to complete the extended period at another approved training facility.

Duty certificate as proof of training

13. Upon completion of internship training, an intern shall submit an intern duty certificate to the satisfaction of the board to certify that he or she has satisfactorily undertaken internship training as required by the board and such certificate shall be a precondition for registration as a medical orthotist and prosthetist.
14. The intern duty certificate referred to in [regulation 13](#) shall be issued by the head of an approved training facility where an intern successfully undertook internship training.

16. Penalties for late registration

Where an application for registration of an intern medical orthotist and prosthetist together with documents and fees referred in [regulation 4](#) is submitted after the date specified in [regulation 3](#), such application shall be subject to the prescribed late registration fees in respect of each month or part of a month by which the application is submitted after the due date.

17. Commencement of regulations

These regulations come into operation on the date of publication.

(Signed)
DR A. MOTSOLEDI, MP
MINISTER OF HEALTH
DATE 7/4/2010