

HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT 56 OF 1974

REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION OF INTERNS IN MEDICAL SCIENCE, 2009

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The Minister of Health has, after consultation with the Health Professions Council of South Africa, under [section 61](#)(1)(e) of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), made the regulations in the Schedule.

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-

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

“**board**” means the Medical and Dental Professions Board established in terms of [section 15](#) of the Act;

“**graduate**” means a person who has obtained a prescribed qualification in a discipline recognized by the board for registration as a medical scientist at an accredited educational institution, but who has not yet registered as a medical scientist under the Act;

“**medical scientist**” means a person registered as such under the Act;

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

2. Registration as an intern medical scientist

A graduate shall, before he or she can be entitled to registration as a medical scientist in any category of such registration, register as an intern and undertake internship training to the satisfaction of the board for a period and in the manner prescribed in [regulation 5](#), unless the board exempts him or her partially or in full from this requirement on submission of documentary proof to the satisfaction of the board of internship or equivalent training undergone or experience obtained elsewhere.

3. Requirements for registration

A graduate shall apply to the board for registration as an intern, and-

- (a) in the case of an intern medical scientist who commences training at an accredited training facility, within two months following the commencement of such training; or
- (b) in the case of an intern medical scientist who, on the date of publication of these regulations has already commenced training at an accredited training facility, within two months after the date of publication of these regulations.

4. Information to be submitted to board

A graduate shall-

- (a) submit his or her application for registration as an intern in medical science to the board on an application form supplied by the board, and duly completed;
- (b) submit proof of the prescribed qualification required for registration;
- (c) submit the name of the accredited training facility at which he or she was admitted to undergo internship training and shall notify the board in writing in advance if he or she intends to change from that training facility to another accredited training facility; and
- (d) pay the prescribed intern registration fee.

5. Conditions of internship training

The training undertaken by an intern medical scientist must meet the following conditions:

- (a) internship training must be for a period of twenty-four (24) months and where it is broken or interrupted it must consist of periods which, when added together, are not less than twenty-four (24) months in total, including vacation leave not exceeding one month per annum and sick leave not exceeding two months per annum;
- (b) no such break or interruption must exceed a period of one year, if the period of training prior to such break or interruption is to be recognized as part of completed internship training;
- (c) the period of twenty-four (24) months of internship training contemplated in paragraph (a) must be completed within a period of four (4) years from the initial date of registration as an intern medical scientist;
- (d) if an intern does not complete his or her internship training within a period of four (4) years, his or her registration in terms of the Act shall be cancelled, unless-
 - (i) he or she provides the board with satisfactory reasons as to why his or her registration should not be cancelled ; and
 - (ii) he or she complies with the conditions which the board may determine for completing his or her internship training in order for the board to recognise such training.

6. Duty certificate as proof of training

Upon completion of internship training, an intern must submit a duty certificate issued by an authorized official of an accredited training facility certifying, to the satisfaction of the board that he or she has satisfactorily undertaken internship training as required by the board and such certificate shall be one of the prerequisites for his or her registration as a medical scientist.

7. Penalty

Where an application for the registration of an intern medical scientist 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 penalty fee in respect of each month or part of a month by which the application is submitted after the due date.

8. Repeal

The regulations published as Government Notice No. R. 297 of 8 April 2005 are hereby repealed.

9. Short title and commencement

These Regulations are called Regulations relating to the Registration of Interns in Medical Science, 2009, made in terms of the Health Professions Act, 1974.