



**UGANDA MEDICAL AND DENTAL  
PRACTITIONERS COUNCIL**

**MEDICAL LICENSURE  
EXAMINATIONS BOARD (MLEB)**

**GUIDELINES**

**REVISED 2019**

# **MEDICAL LICENSURE EXAMINATION BOARD GUIDELINES**

## **PRE-AMBLE**

Section 20 of the Medical and Dental Practitioners Act states that where a person holds a qualification which is not recognized by the Council or which is not awarded by a university established in Uganda by law, he/she may apply to the Council and Council may make arrangements for that person to attend an interview and sit for an oral or written examination or both, for the purpose of having his/her qualification recognized by the Council.

The Council may, after interviewing or examining a person under subsection (1), direct that person to undergo a period of training or undertake further examination as it may specify.

The Council shall authorize the registration of a person if it is satisfied with the results of an interview or examination under subsection (1) or when the conditions given under subsection (2) are fulfilled to its satisfaction.

The Council may appoint a committee from among its members or some other registered persons to assess the suitability for registration of a person under this section, and the committee shall submit its findings and recommendations to the Council for the Council's decision.

Under the East African Community (EAC) protocol, the Council recognizes qualifications obtained from Universities within East Africa, which are also recognized by the joint EAC Medical and Dental Councils/Boards.

## **JUSTIFICATION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF MLEB**

Medical Licensing and Examination Board (MLEB) was established to ensure that persons who register with the Medical and Dental Practitioners' Council to practice Medicine and Dentistry in Uganda meet minimum standards of training and acceptable level of competence.

## **SCOPE**

- All Ugandan graduates who have obtained MBChB, BDS or its equivalent from universities outside East Africa, who apply for registration to practice Medicine or Dentistry in Uganda. Recognition of medical schools is discretionary for the Council.
- All non- Ugandan graduates who have obtained MBChB, BDS or its equivalent from universities outside East Africa, who apply for registration to practice Medicine or Dentistry in Uganda. Recognition of medical schools is discretionary for the Council.
- All non-Ugandan practitioners who apply for temporary registration to practice Medicine or Dentistry in Uganda for at least four Months.
- Registered practitioners whose proficiency to perform is in doubt, either through reports from colleagues or complaints from patients and/or caretakers or the general public

### **1. FUNCTIONS OF MLEB**

- i) To set, administer and mark theory examinations for the eligible candidates
- ii) To organize and conduct clinical assessment examinations for the candidates who qualify from theory examination
- iii) To discuss and approve examination results
- iv) To develop and review guidelines and make recommendations to Council.
- v) To conduct peer review assessment exams for eligible candidates who wish to practice in Uganda. (See peer review tool)

## **2. COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD**

- a) Members of the Medical Licensing and Examination Board are appointed by the Council and reports to the Council
- b) The members of the Board are constituted by Senior Medical and Dental Practitioners at the minimum level of a specialist.
- c) The members of the board shall serve 3 year term of office, which is renewable.
- d) The Board shall have 11 regular members composed of two people from each of the four major medical disciplines, and two from dentistry and one from Public Health. Other persons shall be co-opted whenever necessary.

## **3. EXAMINATION PROCESS**

- 1) Candidates shall make application to National Council for Higher Education (NCHE), for verification of their academic documents.
- 2) Secretariat will then short-list candidates for the interview (assessment) and short-listed candidates will be informed about the examination.
- 3) Prescribed fees shall be paid for every round of examinations, and evidence of payment is required.
- 4) Candidates will be expected to sit MLEB examination when their qualification has been reviewed by the Secretariat.
- 5) Secretariat shall brief the candidates and clear them before the exams, and information will also be available online.
- 6) There shall be theory examination followed by clinical assessment examination.

- 7) Examination results will be discussed by the Board which will submit its report to the Registrar who will in turn present it to the Council for final approval.
- 8) Candidates will be expected to pass theory and clinical examinations for each discipline independently. The pass mark is 50%.
- 9) Each applicant will be allowed a maximum of four attempts

Where a person has passed seven (7) of the eight (8) exams, and for the failed exam has marks of 45% and above they may be considered for a condonable pass.

**Note:** Certificate of proficiency in English is a requirement, where applicable.

#### **4. THE EXAMINATION FORMAT**

- a) Candidates will be given information regarding the format and venue and date of the examination.
- b) The examination format shall be in the form of theory and clinical /practical examination in all the major clinical disciplines (Medical, Surgery, Paediatrics and Obgyn); and Dentistry shall comprise examination questions in Oral and maxillofacial surgery, Periodontology, Conservative and Prosthetic dentistry, Paediatric dentistry and orthodontics.
- c) Theory examination will comprise 50 MCQ per discipline. There shall be a comprehensive theory paper addressing the area of basic sciences as well as clinical discipline and public health.
- d) Clinical examinations shall comprise at least three short cases per discipline and there shall be two examiners per candidate
- e) Examination will be marked out of 100%.
- f) Pass mark shall be 50 % passed separately for each examination.

The format for clinical examination is attached as appendix 2

**5. EXAMINATION APPEAL:**

In case the candidate is dissatisfied with the examination outcome and wishes to appeal, an appeal should be made in writing to the Council, addressed to the Registrar, UMDPC within two weeks of release of examination results.

# APPENDIX 1: CLINICAL EXAMINATION FORMAT

## UGANDA MEDICAL AND DENTAL PRACTITIONERS COUNCIL

### MEDICAL LICENSURE EXAMINATION BOARD

#### TEMPLATE FOR CLINICAL ASSESSMENT EXAMINATION

**Date**-----

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**Candidate's Name**-----

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**Title for case discussion**-----

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DESCRIPTION	TOTAL SCORE	ACTUAL SCORE
<b>History Taking</b>	<b>25</b>	
Establishes rapport, introduces himself, elicits relevant and focused history in a systematic manner		
<b>Physical examination</b>	<b>35</b>	
Performs systematic examination; inspection, palpation and auscultation. Demonstrates relevant signs		
<b>Diagnosis + differentials</b>	<b>10</b>	
Logically arrives at provisional and differential diagnosis		
<b>Investigations</b>	<b>10</b>	
Suggests relevant investigations and correctly interprets the results		
<b>Treatment, prevention &amp; prognosis</b>	<b>20</b>	

Appropriate treatment in line with the diagnosis		
<b>Total score</b>	<b>100</b>	

Assessment comments:-----

Examiner's name-----

Sign-----Date-----