



الهيئة السعودية للتخصصات الصحية
Saudi Commission for Health Specialties

General Assessment Bylaws



1439 AH



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Article (1):

The following terms shall have the meanings set forth below:

The Commission	Saudi Commission for Health Specialties.
Training Board	Consultants and specialists working in a training center who are qualified in accordance with the Commission's regulations to provide health training and education pertaining to their respective area of specialization.
Training Program	The training program of specialty approved by the Council of Education and Training.
Saudi Board Certificate	The highest professional certificate in general specialties awarded by the Commission.
Saudi Fellowship Certificate	The highest professional certificate in sub-specialties awarded by the Commission.

Scientific Council	The main reference of specialty. The Council of Education and Training approved its formation for the management of training affairs related to the general scientific specialty.
Scientific Committee	The main reference of specialty. The Council of Education and Training approved its formation for the management of training affairs related to the sub-specialty.
Program Director	The consultant supervising the training program in the training center and appointed by the Scientific Specialty Council.
General Specialty	The core specialty in a medical field or another health specialty.
Sub-Specialty	A branch of a general specialty that requires a qualification in the general specialty.
Central Assessment Committee	A committee represented by the Chairs of the scientific examination committees of general specialties for supervision and assurance of the quality of assessments.
Scientific Examination Committee	The main reference of specialty examinations approved by the Central Assessment Committee.
Examination Irregularities Committee	The main reference for consideration of examination irregularities.

Training Year	A twelve-month training period, the beginning of which shall be determined by the Council of Education and Training, including one month's annual leave and one of the Eid breaks.
Trainer	A health practitioner participating in the training process in one of the training programs approved by the Commission.
Trainee Examiner	A trained health practitioner to carry out the assessment process.
Trainee	The candidate who is accepted and enrolled in one of the training programs approved by the Commission.
Promotion	To pass the trainee from his/her training year to the next year in the training program.
Part I Examination	An examination that allows the promotion of the trainee from junior to senior level as determined by his/her specialty.
Final Examinations	The last examination to measure the level of knowledge and skills required to qualify for a Saudi Board/Fellowship Certificate.
Council of Education and Training	A council concerned with the executive decisions and rules related to accreditation, training and assessment in accordance with the Commission's regulations and rules approved by the Board of Trustees.
Council of Professional Practice	A council concerned with executive decisions and rules related to classification and registration, which are in conformity with the Commission's regulations and regulations approved by the Board of Trustees.

Article (2): General Provisions

1. Besides the specific details given for the Licensing Examinations, promotion, part one and final examinations, the following are general guidelines which apply to all aforementioned examinations:

- a) The Examination Committee shall use their exam blueprint to be aligned with a curriculum based on the CanMEDS framework of competencies, or any other accredited thereof.
- b) Negative marking is not allowed.
- c) All initial scores shall be subject to post-exam analysis before final approval.

2. In terms of examinations, the Commission shall not recognize the results of any other evaluation authorities.

3. The assessment conduct regulations approved by the Council of Education and Training shall comply with the rules of these bylaws.

Article (3):

1. Passing the Saudi licensure examinations (if any) shall enable the practitioner to register with the Commission, and the Council of Professional Practice shall issue the conduct regulations governing thereof.
2. Passing the Saudi licensure examination (if any) shall enable the graduates of health schools to apply for Commission postgraduate programs with any other admission requirements as approved by the Council of Education and Training.

Article (4):

The Saudi licensure examinations aim to:

1. Determine sufficient competencies to obtain a professional practice license after the internship year.
2. Determine that graduates of accredited health education establishments meet the minimum standards for professional practice.
3. Standardize the ranking criterion among candidates applying for postgraduate programs.

Article (5):

Eligible candidates to take the examination are:

1. Students of health schools in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia starting from their last academic year.
2. Holders of a bachelor's degree or its equivalent from a health school outside the Kingdom, recognized by the Ministry of Education.

Article (6):

Examination formats and the pass scores shall be determined in accordance with the conduct regulations for professional licensure examinations approved by the Council of Professional Practice.

Article (7):

The objective of the annual promotion examination is to evaluate the trainee and ensure that he/she has acquired the required knowledge and skills during the relevant year.

Article (8): General Provisions

1. The examination formats and the pass score shall be determined by the Scientific Council / Committee based on the standards approved by the Central Training Committee in accordance with the training conduct regulations approved by the Council of Education and Training.
2. Written promotion examination results (if any) shall be valid for the specific year in which they were conducted and shall not be considered in the following year (in case the trainee is not promoted).
3. The conduct regulations of the annual promotion examinations shall apply to the diplomas, Saudi fellowship for sub-specialties, and the agreement programs.

Article (9):

Part I Examination of Saudi Board Certificate shall cover applied basic health sciences related to the specialty. This examination is not applicable to other postgraduate training programs such as diplomas and fellowships.

Article (10):

Requirements to take the examination are as follows:

1. Completion of at least nine months training in any of the Saudi board certificate programs.
2. Valid registration in any of the Commission postgraduate programs.
3. Any other conditions approved by the Council of Education and Training.

Article (11): General Provisions

1. The examination formats and the pass score shall be determined in accordance with the assessment conduct regulations.
2. The trainee may not be promoted from junior to senior level (as determined by the relevant Scientific Council) unless he/she passes Part I examination of Saudi board certificate.
4. If the percentage of failures after final results approval in the examination is 50% of applicants or more (excluding year one trainees), the exam shall be repeated after 6 months for the candidates that failed.
5. If the percentage of failures in the examination after final results approval is more than 30% and less than 50% of applicants (excluding year one trainees), the examination may be repeated after 6 months for the candidates that failed.
6. Any exemption from the examination due to the completion of any Postgraduate studies/previous examination or others, must be approved by the Central Training Committee.

Article (12):

The Final Examination of Saudi board Certificate shall include the following:

- 1 .Final written examination.
- 2 . Final clinical/practical examination.

Section (1): Final Written Examination

Article (13): Objectives

- 1.Determine the trainee has sufficient competency related to the required specialty.
- 2.Determine the eligibility for entering the final clinical examination.

Article (14): General Provisions

1. The final written examination of Saudi Board Certificates/Diplomas/Fellowships will be held once each year.
2. The final written examination may not be repeated.
3. The eligibility of the candidate and the number of attempts to take the final written examination shall be determined in accordance with the assessment conduct regulations.
4. The candidate shall not be allowed to take the final written examination once all allowed attempts have been exhausted.
5. Examination formats and pass scores shall be determined in the assessment conduct regulations.

Section (2): Final Clinical/Practical Examination

Article (15):

The final clinical examination consists of the following components:

1. Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCE)
2. Structured Oral Examinations (SOE)

Article (16):

Objectives

1. Determine the ability of the trainee to practice the profession independently and safely.
2. Ensure that the trainee has the necessary clinical competencies relevant to his/her specialty.

Article (17):

Requirements to take the final clinical/practical examination:

1. Passing the final written examination of the Saudi Board Certificate / Fellowship / Diploma programs.
2. The eligibility of the candidate and the number of attempts to take the final clinical/practical examination shall be determined in accordance with the assessment conduct regulations.
3. The candidate shall not be allowed to take the final clinical/practical examination once all allowed attempts have been exhausted.

Article (18): General Provisions

1. The examination formats and the pass score shall be determined in accordance with the conduct regulations.
2. The final clinical/practical examination shall be held once each year.
3. If the failure rate is less than 50%, the examination shall not be repeated.
4. If the percentage of failures in the examination is 50% of applicants or more, the examination must be repeated for the candidates that failed after 6 months.



Article (19):

The Specialty Examination Committee is responsible for selecting and nominating examiners with experience for the application of the correct examinations standards.

The examiners shall meet the following criteria:

1. Examiner shall be of a minimum rank of Consultant, with at least three years of experience. Any exception has to be approved by the Central Assessment Committee.
2. Specialty program directors shall not be allowed to participate as examiners in the final clinical/practical specialty examination for trainees under the responsibility of their local supervisory committee.
3. The Specialty Examination Committee members are prohibited from conducting mock examinations and participating in paid or unpaid courses to prepare for the examination.
4. Consultants conducting preparation activities or preparatory courses within the specialty should not be nominated as potential examiners.

Section (4): Disciplinary Actions

Article (20):

1. The Examination Irregularities Committee shall be formed by a decision of the Secretary General, and consists of five members, including a representative from the Legal Department.
2. The Committee shall submit its decisions to the Central Assessment Committee for approval.

Article (21):

In the event of irregularities by the examinee to the Commission's regulations and its conduct regulations, and in a manner not inconsistent with the competences of other regulations in force in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, The Examination Irregularities Committee may impose one or more of the following penalties:

- a. Cancellation of the examination.
- b. Ban on examination for a period ranging from six months to three years.
- c. Permanent ban from taking the examination.