



UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, LAHORE

NOTIFICATION

Board of Governors, in its 59th meeting, held on 17th June 2025, on the recommendation of the Syndicate and in exercise of its powers under Sections 24.(1)(ii) and 35.(3) of UHS Ordinance 2002, approved the 'Regulations for Level-IV MS/MD/MDS Courses (Amended Regulations 2024)'.

Encl: 'Regulations for Level-IV MS/MD/MDS Courses (Amended Regulations 2024)'

REGISTRAR

Dated: 30-06-2025

No: UHS/REG-25/1438

Copy forwarded for information to the:

1. Controller of Examinations, UHS
2. All the Heads/Principals of affiliated/constituent postgraduate colleges/institutions of UHS
3. Additional Registrar (Registration), UHS
4. Director Medical Education, UHS
5. Director, Directorate of Postgraduate Studies, UHS
6. Director, Student's Affairs, UHS
7. Director Research & Development, UHS
8. P.S.O to Vice Chancellor, UHS
9. PS to Pro-Vice Chancellor, UHS

REGISTRAR

UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, LAHORE



REGULATIONS LEVEL-IV MS/MD/MDS COURSES (Amended Regulations 2024)

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1. SHORT TITLE, COMMENCEMENT, AND APPLICATION:

These regulations may be called the Supra-Specialty MS/MD/MDS Regulations (Amended Regulations 2024). These shall come into force at once and shall apply to all students/candidates who are registered with UHS for MS /MD/ MDS Level-IV courses.

2. DEFINITION:

In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expression shall have the meaning hereby respectively assigned to them that is to say:

- i. **Applicant** means a person who applies for admission into MS or MD or MDS Level-IV program.
- ii. **Assessment** means a formally defined process within the curriculum in which the candidates' progress in the training program is assessed and measured using a range of defined and validated and reliable assessment tools.
- iii. **Availed Attempt** means the candidate appeared in person in whole or part of the examination during the permissible attempts.
- iv. **Board of Governors** means Board of Governors of the University.
- v. **Candidate** means a person who will be selected for training in MS or MD or MDS Level-IV Program.
- vi. **Candidates' Training Portfolio** means a professional development portfolio to track progress in the training program. It shall consist of a record of the acquisition of knowledge, skills, and attitudes.
- vii. **Continuous Internal Assessments (CIA)** mean the candidate's training portfolio assessment and the supervisor's annual review report on these assessments.
- viii. **Curriculum** means the courses of study.
- ix. **Examiner** means examiner of written and clinical examinations of MS/MD/MDS Level-IV Programs.
- x. **Government** means the Government of Punjab.
- xi. **Institute** means the constituent and affiliated medical and dental colleges and hospitals in which MS/MD/MDS Level-IV training is being done.
- xii. **MD** means Doctor of Medicine (Level-IV)



- xiii. **MS** means Master of Surgery (Level-IV)
- xiv. **MDS** means Master of Dental Surgery (Level-IV)
- xv. **Ordinance** means University of Health Sciences ordinance, 2002.
- xvi. **Program** means each and every component of training for the University of Health Sciences University's degrees of MS/MD/MDS Level-IV.
- xvii. **Program Format** means the whole plan of training and assessment for MS/MD/MDS Level-IV Degrees and this shall be referred to as Program Format.
- xviii. **Supervisor** means a person who supervises MS or MD or MDS Level-IV candidates during training.
- xix. **Supra-specialty program** means post-MS/MD/MDS/FCPS/Equivalent foreign qualification acquired in any discipline where the candidate has already achieved Level-III specialization.
- xx. **Trainee** means the candidate who has been selected in a program of study and registered with the relevant department.
- xxi. **Training Program** means training of medical and dental graduates in achieving generic and specialty specific competencies of their chosen discipline, leading to Level-IV degree of MS or MD or MDS.
- xxii. **University** means the University of Health Sciences, Lahore.
- xxiii. **Un-availed Attempt** means an attempt in which the candidate did not appear in person for any reason subsequent to becoming eligible for the same. The said attempt shall be counted towards the number of permissible attempts.
- xxiv. **Workplace Based Assessments** mean assessment of generic and specialty specific competencies at the workplace like multisource feedback evaluation and assessment of candidates' training portfolio.

3. NAMES & DURATION OF PROGRAMS

- i. Level-IV MS/MD/MDS courses shall not be less than of 2 years duration but not more than of 3 years duration.
- ii. Level-IV courses shall be offered in supra-specialties approved by Board of Governors from time to time.

4. ADMISSIONS

- i. **Eligibility:** The applicant on the last date of submission of applications for admission must possess the:

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- a) MS/MD/MDS/FCPS/MRCP/FRCS/American Board/ OR any other equivalent degree recognized by PMC as a level-III qualification.
 - b) Two research papers published in Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC)/ Higher Education Commission(HEC)/Journal Citation Reports (JCR) recognized journals in the relevant specialty.
 - c) Valid certificate of permanent or provisional registration with Pakistan Medical & Dental Council/ Pakistan Medical Commission.
- ii. Following pre-requisites shall be strictly followed before admission of any candidate through any induction program/policy:
- a) Recognition of relevant training program and site by Pakistan Medical & Dental Council (PM&DC)
 - b) Affiliation of the admitting institute with University of Health Sciences (UHS) in relevant specialty/program
 - c) Payment of substantial stipend to postgraduate trainees (As per Part-IV, para 11c of Postgraduate Medical/Dental Education Standards and Regulations 2023 of PM&DC)
- iii. The admission process in public sector institutions shall be central and in accordance with the policies of the Government. For institutes under Central Induction Policy (CIP), admissions shall be advertised by Government of Punjab through Specialized Healthcare and Medical Education Department/Authorized body in the print and electronic media in accordance with governing policies.
- iv. The institutes other than those under Central Induction Policy (CIP) shall advertise the admission notice through Major Urdu and English dailies along with number of seats and stipend mentioned against each specialty. Policy/criteria of admission shall also be given wide publicity. UHS shall have the right to acquire audit of admission process at any moment. University shall regulate the admission of private sector institutions in accordance with the regulations of PM&DC.
- v. The intake into any program shall not be inconsistent with the regulations of PM&DC and policies of the Government as the case may be.
- vi. Admission process shall be completed within 45 days of publishing the advertisement.

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- vii. The institute shall forward list of admitted students to Directorate of Postgraduate Studies (DPS), UHS within 15 days of induction with documentary evidence of fulfillment of pre-requisites along with proposed supervisors.
- viii. The institute shall forward list of available supervisors having UHS supervisory certificate and number of their presently enrolled/registered trainees in each specialty within 15 days of induction as per format attached as annexure "I".
- ix. Allocation of the supervisor shall be done through the University Supervisory Allocation Committee (USAC), UHS. The combined workflow for allocation of supervisor and synopsis approval, to be followed is attached as annexure "II". The list of proposed supervisors as per format attached as annexure "III" shall be presented by DPS, UHS to University Supervisory Allocation Committee (USAC) for recommendation of allocation. Final approval of allocation shall be granted by Competent Authority.
- x. Any change in the institute of already registered candidates shall be dealt as per migration regulations of UHS (available on website) and prevailing policy of Government of the Punjab.

5. REGISTRATION

- i. Registration returns shall only be accepted via online registration portal from the institutes who remained compliant to the prescribed admission/induction criteria.
- ii. Registration returns shall be submitted to the Directorate of Postgraduate Studies, UHS within 30 days of admission.
- iii. Institute shall be responsible for forwarding the registration returns. No returns shall be accepted after due date.
- iv. Each candidate should be registered within 30 working days after due date of registration. Allowed time duration for removing objections (s) (if any) shall be 15 days from the date on which objection (s) is/are raised. Candidates are hereby advised to review their eligibility (renewal of documents, validity of entrance exam, etc.) well-before time in their own interest (Workflow for registration of postgraduate students is annexed as IV).

6. FORMAT

- i. In terms of section 3 of the regulations, the course shall consist of 2 or 3 years duration.

- ii. The Exit Examination shall be held only after completion of the prescribed training period of 2 or 3 years as the case may be.
- iii. MS/MD/MDS-Level IV degrees shall be research-intensive degrees. A candidate shall be awarded degree only after one research publication in a PMDC/ HEC recognized journal apart from undergoing prescribed clinical training.

7. MANDATORY WORKSHOPS

- i. All postgraduate trainees will be required to undergo Mandatory Workshops for Postgraduate trainees Level IV/Supervisors (To be conducted by Department of Medical Education (DME), UHS within two months of registration of the candidates).

8. CONTINUOUS INTERNAL ASSESSMENT

- a. The cumulative score of all training years will be added together to provide a final cumulative score of Continuous Internal Assessments of all the trainees by the Head of the department(s) to the Principal for forwarding it to the Examination Department.
- b. An Internal assessment score of 75% shall be required to appear in Exit Examination.
- c. Continuous Internal Workplace Based Assessments will be done by the supervisors, that may be based on:
 - i. Log Book
 - ii. Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS) Proforma
 - iii. Mini Clinical Evaluation Exercise (CEX) Proforma
 - iv. Case based Discussion (CbD) Proforma
 - v. Attendance
- d. Institutions shall send internal assessment and attendance three monthly to Directorate of Post Graduate Studies, UHS.

9. EXIT EXAMINATION

Exit examination shall be conducted for the candidates getting training in all MD/MS/MDS Level-IV courses at the end of course.

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- i. To appear in Level-IV Exit Examination, a candidate shall be required to submit following through his/her head of institution:
 - a. Certificate of achieving 85% attendance in the training program.
 - b. Certificate of achieving 75% Internal Assessment score. The score once submitted can neither be revoked nor revised.
 - c. Candidate remained on institution roll during the period approved for appearing in examination.
 - d. Certificate of completion of mandatory workshops.
 - e. Certificate of completion of 2- or 3-year training programs signed by Supervisor, Head(s) of parent department and that department where rotations were done (if prescribed in the curriculum).
 - f. Evidence of payment of examination fees as prescribed by the University from time to time.
 - g. Certificates submitted through Principal/Dean/Head of academic institution shall be accepted as valid towards the candidature of an applicant.
- ii. The examination fee once deposited cannot be refunded / carried over to the next examination under any circumstances.
- iii. Exit Examination will be held twice a year i.e. at least six months apart.
- iv. There will be a minimum period of 30 days between last date for submission of application for the examination and the conduct of examination.
- v. The total marks of Exit Examination shall be 260.

S#	Examination	Maximum Marks
1	Written Examination	100
2	Clinical Examination	100
3	Internal Assessment	60
	Total	260

10. WRITTEN EXAMINATION (100 Marks)

Written examination shall be based on prescribed curriculum

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- a. The written examination will consist of 100 "single best answer" type Multiple Choice Questions, each carrying 01 mark.
- b. The candidates scoring 60% marks shall be declared pass and shall be eligible to appear in the clinical examination.
- c. Candidates who pass the written examination shall be allowed a maximum of four consecutive attempts whether availed or unavailed to pass the Clinical examination. However, in case of failure to pass the Clinical examination within stipulated attempts the credit of passing the written examination shall stand withdrawn and the candidate shall have to take the entire examination including written examination, afresh.

11. CLINICAL EXAMINATION (100 Marks)

- i. The Clinical Examination will evaluate patient care competencies in detail. A panel of examiners will be appointed by the Vice Chancellor. The examination will be based on
 - a. One Long Case of 50 marks Total = 50 Marks
 - b. Two Short Cases of 25 marks each Total = 50 Marks
- ii. The candidates scoring 60% marks in aggregate of Long Case / Short Case will be declared pass in the clinical examination.
- iii. Each long case shall be examined by at least two examiners.

12. SUPERVISOR AND EXAMINER

- a. Only those faculty members shall be eligible to supervise a candidate who:
 - a. Hold Level IV Qualification i.e. FCPS, MS/MD/MDS or equivalent qualification as determined by PM&DC/Relevant Authority.
 - Or
 - Level III Qualification like MS/MD/MDS, FCPS or equivalent qualification as determined by PM&DC/Relevant Authority
- b. For individuals holding a Level IV qualification, a minimum of three years of post-qualification teaching experience in the relevant specialty is required. For individuals holding a Level III qualification, a minimum of five years of post-qualification teaching experience in the relevant specialty is required.
- c. Have successfully attended the prescribed workshops as notified from time to time by the University

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- d. Have submitted required number of quality evaluation items as notified from time to time by the University (currently 25 MCQs and 10 TOACS station)
- ii. A pool of examiners shall be developed on the recommendation of Specialty Advisory Committee of each specialty as specified in TORs of the Specialty Advisory Committee issued vide Section I(iii), UHS/DPS-24/SAC/2227. Preference shall be given to faculty members who are registered with University as Clinical Postgraduate Supervisor as per criteria mentioned at Section 13(i). For each exam, a panel of examiners shall be appointed from the respective pool by Competent Authority.
- iii. The pool of the examiners shall be a dynamic body and shall be revised as and when needed by Competent Authority/Relevant Statutory Authority based on feedback of Controller of Examination, Chief Examiner/Convener, examiners and examinees.
- iv. All the appointments of examiners shall be confidential, and examiners shall be bound to keep it confidential.
- v. In the case of discrepancy of more than 50% among the awards by two independent examiners, an additional / third examiner appointed by the Competent Authority will assess the candidate and the result shall be considered as mean of awards by all three examiners.
- vi. No examiner shall be allowed to examine the trainee who is working/have worked under his supervision. It includes but is not limited to Clinical examinations, Thesis examination, etc. In such cases, the examiner/supervisor shall immediately declare the matter in writing to Convener in order to have alternate assessors for his/her trainee(s).

13.MONITORING

- i. Academic and clinical domains of the training programs shall be monitored through DPS, UHS.
- ii. Logbook shall be mandatory and it should be maintained throughout the training (to be evaluated as part of Exit Examination). It should be made as per academic roster according to para 3 (Section-VI). Patients/Cases seen/examined/operated/managed in ER, OPD and IPD according to allocated module should be mentioned in logbook with hospital slip and registration number.
- iii. Rotation schedule of every postgraduate trainee should be made on an annual basis and shared with DPS, UHS till 15th January of each year for approval. Status of elective and mandatory rotations should be notified to DPS, UHS by Head of Department through Head of Institute at the end of three months.

- iv. Skill set targets for each rotation should be defined, assessed, and mentioned in the above-mentioned report to be submitted to the DPS, UHS.
- v. Any leave requests, disciplinary issues, grievances, or requests to freeze training shall be handled according to UHS regulations and prevailing Government Policy from time to time.

14. DECLARATION OF RESULT & AWARD OF DEGREE

- i. A candidate passing all the components of examination i.e. Written, and Clinical shall be declared successful.
- ii. Issuance of degree in prescribed manner is subjected to submission of evidence regarding acceptance of a research paper as first author in a PMDC/HEC recognized journal of the specialty.

15. IMPLEMENTATION

- i. These regulations shall come into force immediately.
- ii. All the regulations notified/adopted previously shall stand repealed and the students registered under the said schemes shall be dealt under MD/MS/MDS Level-IV Regulations 2024 (Amended Regulations).

