

Legal Notice 368 of 2015 – Malta Government Gazette No. 19,503 – 20 November 2015  
Amended by:  
Legal Notice 319 of 2017 – Malta Government Gazette No. 19,904 – 21 November 2017  
Legal Notice 298 of 2020 – Malta Government Gazette No. 20,448 – 28 July 2020

**EDUCATION ACT  
(CAP. 327)**

**Bye-Laws of 2015 in terms of the  
General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2004  
for the Diploma in Dental Surgery Assistance – Dip. D.S.A. -  
under the auspices of the Faculty of Dental Surgery**

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred upon him by articles 74 (5) and 75 (6) of the Education Act (Cap. 327), the Chancellor of the University of Malta has promulgated the following bye-laws made by the Board of the Faculty of Dental Surgery in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by article 81 (1) (c) of the said Act and which have been approved by the Senate of the University of Malta as required by article 81 (2) of the said Act:

**Citation and Interpretation**

1. (1) These bye-laws may be cited as the Bye-Laws of 2015 in terms of the General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2004 for the Diploma in Dental Surgery Assistance – Dip. D.S.A. – under the auspices of the Faculty of Dental Surgery.

(2) In these bye-laws, unless the context otherwise requires –

“the Board” means the Board of the Faculty of Dental Surgery;

“the Course” means the programme of study leading to the Diploma in Dental Surgery Assistance - Dip. D.S.A.;

“the Diploma” means the Diploma in Dental Surgery Assistance - Dip. D.S.A.;

“the Faculty” means the Faculty of Dental Surgery; and

“the Principal Regulations” means the General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2004.

## **Applicability**

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable for courses commencing in October 2015 or later.

## **Special Course Requirements for Admission**

3. (1) To be registered as regular students in the Course, applicants must have obtained all the credits of the Preparatory Course as detailed in Appendix I to these bye-laws, immediately prior to the commencement of the Course.

(2) Applicants in possession of the MCAST Diploma for Dental Surgery Assistants or equivalent may be admitted directly into the Course. Prior to enrolling for the Course, such applicants shall be required to undergo an occupational health assessment as detailed in the Occupational Health Protocol approved by the Board, so as to ascertain that they are fit for the duties related to their proposed studies. Students who do not fulfil this requirement shall be barred from attending the clinical placements indicated in the programme of study.

4. The requirements for admission and successful completion of the Preparatory Course are listed in Appendix I to these bye-laws.

5. Senate, on the advice of the Board, may limit the number of applicants that may be admitted to the Course and shall approve bye-laws for the selection of applicants to the Course.

## **Course Duration**

6. The Course shall extend over two semesters of full-time study with the second semester extending over the summer period.

## **Course Programme**

7. The programme of study shall comprise study-units to which a total of 60 ECTS credits are assigned.

8. Subject to changes that the Board may, with the approval of Senate, be constrained to make, students are bound to follow the study-units and obtain the credits as indicated in the programme of study for the Course.

9. The programme of study shall be published after approval by Senate, normally not less than eight months prior to the commencement of the Course.

### **Classification of the Award**

10. (1) The overall evaluation of each student's performance in the Course for the purpose of the classification of the Diploma shall be based on the results obtained in the Course, all credits being weighted equally.

(2) The names of students who qualify for the award of the Diploma shall be published in a list in alphabetical order classified as follows:

Passed with Distinction

Passed with Merit

Passed.

## APPENDIX I

### The Preparatory Course

1. In order to be admitted into the Preparatory Course referred to in bye-law 3, applicants are required to be in possession of:

(a) passes in the Secondary Education Certificate Examination at Grade 5 or better in six subjects which shall include: English Language, Maltese, Mathematics, and Biology or Chemistry; or

(b) the MCAST Diploma in Applied Science; or

(c) the MCAST-BTEC Diploma in Health and Social Care.

2. (1) Applicants admitted in terms of paragraph (c) of regulation 6 of the Admissions Regulations must have a minimum of 4 years of clinical practice experience supported by appropriate documentation and must satisfy the Faculty Admissions Committee that they have reached the academic standard required to follow the Course with profit. Such applicants shall be required to submit with their application:

(i) a letter written in English giving their motivation for applying for the Course;

(ii) a copy of their *Curriculum Vitae* (C.V.);

(iii) a letter of recommendation from a registered dental surgeon in support of their application.

#### **Applicable for courses commencing in October 2020 or later:**

2. (1) Applicants considered as “Adult Learners” (mature applicants) in terms of paragraph (c) of regulation 6 of the Admissions Regulations must be in possession of those qualifications and/or experience that would satisfy the Board that they have reached the academic standard required to follow the Course with profit. Such applicants shall be required to submit with their application a letter written in English giving their motivation for applying for this Course together with a copy of their *Curriculum Vitae* (C.V.).

(2) The eligibility of applicants referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article shall be decided by the University Admissions Board, on the recommendation of the Faculty Admissions Committee, following an interview conducted by an interviewing board appointed for the purpose.

**Applicable for courses commencing in October 2020 or later:**

(2) The eligibility of applicants referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article shall be decided by the Board, following an interview conducted by a board appointed for the purpose.

(3) The interviewing board appointed by the Board shall be composed of at least three members.

3. Prior to enrolling for the Preparatory Course, accepted applicants are also required to undergo an occupational health assessment as detailed in the Occupational Health Protocol approved by the Board, so as to ascertain that they are fit for the duties related to their proposed studies. Students who do not fulfil this requirement shall be barred from attending the clinical placements indicated in the programme of study for the Preparatory Course.

4. The Preparatory Course shall consist of a number of study-units to which 60 ECTS credits shall be assigned and shall extend over two semesters of full-time study.

5. Subject to changes that the Board, with the approval of Senate, may be constrained to make, students are bound to follow the study-units and obtain the credits as indicated in the programme of study for the Preparatory Course.

6. Students who fail in study-units to which not more than 16 credits are assigned shall be entitled for re-assessment at the September supplementary session if eligible to do so in terms of the Principal Regulations.

7. Students shall be considered as having successfully completed the Preparatory Course if they obtain all the credits as outlined in the programme of study. Students who do not successfully complete the Preparatory Course shall not be entitled to progress to the Diploma Course.

8. The provisions for successful completion of the Preparatory Course, and any other provisions not outlined in this Appendix to these bye-laws shall be those stipulated in the Principal Regulations and shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.