Legal Notice 207 of 2018 - Malta Government Gazette No.20,019 – 28 June 2018
Amended by:
Legal Notice 310 of 2019 - Malta Government Gazette No.20,299 – 22 November 2019

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Bye-Laws of 2018 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the Degree of Master of Science in Diabetes Care - M.Sc. - under the auspices of the Faculty of Health Sciences and the Faculty of Medicine and 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 Boards of the Faculty of Health Sciences and the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery in virtue of the powers conferred upon them 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 2018 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the Degree of Master of Science in Diabetes Care - M.Sc. - under the auspices of the Faculty of Health Sciences and the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery.

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

"the Boards" means the Board of the Faculty of Health Sciences and the Board of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery;

"the Board of Studies" means the Board of Studies appointed by Senate for the Course on the recommendations of the Boards of the Faculty of Health Sciences and the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery;

"the Course" means the programme of study leading to the degree of Master of Science in Diabetes Care - M.Sc.;

"the Degree" means the degree of Master of Science in Diabetes Care - M.Sc. ;

"the Postgraduate Certificate" means the Postgraduate Certificate in Diabetes Care – P.G. Cert.;

"the Postgraduate Diploma" means the Postgraduate Diploma in Diabetes Care – P.G. Dip.; and

"the Principal Regulations" means the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008.

Applicability

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable for courses commencing in October 2018 or later.

Requirements for Admission

3. (1) The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of:

(a) the degree of Doctor of Medicine and Surgery; or

(b) the degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery; or

(c) the degree of Master of Dental Surgery awarded from July 2018 onwards; or

(d) the degree of Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours) with at least Second Class; or

(e) the degree of Master of Pharmacy; or

(f) the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) obtained with at least Second Class in an area of study deemed suitable by the Board of Studies; or

(g) a qualification deemed by Senate, on the recommendation of the Board of Studies, to be equivalent to the qualifications listed in (a) to (f) above.

(2) The Boards shall recommend to Senate the number of applicants that may be allowed to register for the Course, depending on the availability of resources. The Boards shall announce the number of available places at the time of the call for applications.

(3) When the number of places is so limited and the number of eligible applicants exceeds the number of places available, applicants shall be selected using the following criteria, the weighting of which shall be published at the time of the call for applications:

(a) degree class;
(b) experience in the area of the proposed study; and
(c) performance during an interview, if deemed necessary.

(4) Interviews, if necessary, shall be conducted by a board composed of at least three members appointed for the purpose by the Boards.

(5) For the purpose of selection, applicants who fully satisfy the entry requirements by 31st August preceding the commencement of the Course shall be considered first.

(6) During the first year of the Course, accepted students shall be required to undergo an occupational health assessment so as to ascertain that they are fit to undertake work related to clinical placements. Students who do not fulfil this requirement may be barred from progressing with their studies. Failure to disclose information about a physical or mental health problem that could affect patient safety is considered to be a serious breach of the University Suitability to Practise Regulations.

Course Duration

4. The Course shall extend over three years of part-time study.

Board of Studies

5. (1) The academic administration of the Course shall be entrusted to a Board of Studies appointed for the purpose.

(2) The Board of Studies, which shall be appointed for a period of two years, shall be composed as follows:

(a) the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences and the Dean of the faculty of Medicine and Surgery or their respective delegate, one of whom shall be appointed as Chairman on the joint recommendation of the two Faculties;
(b) at least two academic members of staff from each of the two faculties; and
(c) two students elected from amongst the students registered on the Course.

Programme of Study

6. The programme of study shall comprise study-units to which a total of 90 ECTS credits are assigned, of which 60 ECTS credits are assigned to taught study-units and 30 ECTS credits are assigned to a dissertation study-unit.

7. Students who obtain 30 ECTS credits assigned to taught study-units with an average mark of at least 50% and do not proceed with the Course, or having proceeded do not successfully complete the Course, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Certificate.

8. Students who obtain the 60 ECTS credits assigned to the taught study-units with an average mark of at least 50% and do not proceed with the Course, or having proceeded do not successfully complete the dissertation, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma.

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.

Assessment and Progress

10. (1) The assessment of each taught study-unit shall be completed by the end of the semester in which the teaching of the study-unit is held.

(2) Students who in any academic year fail in the assessment of not more than 10 ECTS credits shall be given the opportunity to re-sit the failed assessments during the September supplementary examination session.

(3) Students who fail in more than the number of credits permitted under paragraph (2) of this bye-law or students who after re-assessment fail to obtain credit for any study-unit shall be required to withdraw from the Course:

provided that students who fail in a study-unit involving a clinical placement that requires assessment over a period of time shall not have the right to a supplementary assessment and shall be required to withdraw from the Course.

Dissertation

11. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation of approximately 15,000 to 20,000 words in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board of Studies.

(2) Work on the dissertation shall be undertaken during the third year of the Course. Each student shall be assigned a supervisor who shall provide guidance and advice on a regular basis during the period of study.

(3) A provisional title for the dissertation and a detailed research proposal shall be submitted to the Board of Studies for approval by the end of third semester.

12. (1) Students shall be required to have regular contact with their supervisor.

(2) Supervisors shall submit to the Board of Studies progress reports for each student under their supervision at the end of each semester of studies. Such reports may include recommendations to either (a) extend the period of study in order to enable the student to complete the dissertation; or (b) terminate studies prematurely if the supervisor deems this to be proper in the circumstances, provided that:

(i) the extension of the study period referred to in (a) shall be in accordance with the provisions of Principal Regulations; and

(ii) the Board may not terminate studies prematurely according to (b) until it has first given the student a chance to be heard.

Classification of the Awards

13. The Final Weighted Average Mark for the purpose of the classification of the Postgraduate Diploma and of the Degree shall be based on the results obtained in all the components of the programme of study, all credits being weighted equally.