

Legal Notice 397 of 2012 – Malta Government Gazette 18,987 – 13 November 2012  
Amended by:  
Legal Notice 229 of 2013 – Malta Government Gazette 19,114 – 26 July 2013  
Legal Notice 312 of 2019 – Malta Government Gazette 20,299 – 22 November 2019  
Legal Notice 265 of 2020 – Malta Government Gazette 20,428 – 26 June 2020  
Legal Notice 350 of 2022 – Malta Government Gazette 20,976 – 16 December 2022  
Legal Notice 177 of 2023 – Malta Government Gazette 21,088 – 19 July 2023

**EDUCATION ACT  
(CAP. 327)**

**Bye-Laws of 2012 in terms of the  
General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008  
for the Degree of Master of Science in Medical Physics  
under the auspices of the Faculty of Health Sciences**

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 Health Sciences 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 2012 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the Degree of Master of Science in Medical Physics under the auspices of the Faculty of Health Sciences.

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

"the Board" means the Board of the Faculty of Health Sciences;

"the Course" means the programme of study leading to the degree of Master of Science in Medical Physics;

"the Degree" means the degree of Master of Science in Medical Physics;

"the Postgraduate Diploma" means the Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Physics; 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 2012 or later.

## **Requirements for Admission**

3. (1) The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of a Bachelor degree comprising 240 ECTS credits obtained with at least Second Class Honours in one of the following areas of study:

- (a) Science with Physics as a main area of study; or
- (b) Physics, Medical Physics and Radiation Protection; or
- (c) Electrical and Electronic Engineering; or
- (d) Mechanical Engineering.

### **Applicable for courses commencing in October 2023 or later:**

3. (1) The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of a Bachelor degree comprising 240 ECTS credits obtained with at least Second Class Honours in one of the following areas of study:

- (a) Science with Physics as a main area of study; or
- (b) Physics, Medical Physics and Radiation Protection; or
- (c) Radiography; or
- (d) Electrical and Electronic Engineering; or
- (e) Mechanical Engineering.

(2) The Board shall recommend to Senate the number of applicants that may be allowed to register for the Course, depending on the availability of resources. The Board 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 will be selected using the following criteria, the weighting of which shall be published at the time of the call for applications:

- (a) degree type and 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.

(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 may be required to undergo an occupational health assessment so as to ascertain that they are fit for work which brings students in contact with the clinical environment. 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 semesters of full-time study or the equivalent in part-time study.

### **Programme of Study**

5. 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.

#### **Applicable for courses commencing in October 2023 or later:**

5. (1) 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.

(2) In cases where students lack essential knowledge in the area of research methodology, the Board may require students admitted to the Course to follow and pass supplementary study-unit/s in the said area to which a maximum of 10 ECTS credits are assigned in addition to the programme of study specified in paragraph (1) of this bye-law.”

6. Students who obtain 60 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 dissertation, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma.

7. 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**

8. (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 20 ECTS credits for taught study-units, if following the full-time Course, or not more than 10 ECTS credits if following the part-time Course, 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 the credits for any study-unit, shall be required to withdraw from the Course.

## **Dissertation**

9. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation of approximately 25,000 words in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board.

(2) Work on the dissertation shall be undertaken during the last semester 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 for approval by the beginning of the second semester.

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

(2) Supervisors shall submit to the Board progress reports for each student under their supervision at the end of each semester of study, whether the student is following the Course on a full-time or a part-time basis. 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 the 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**

11. 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.

### **Special Provisions for Part-Time Courses**

12. The provisions of the foregoing bye-laws shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to courses followed on a part-time basis, and subject to such changes as may reasonably be deemed by the Board as necessary due to the part-time nature of the Course.