

Criteria for Registration in Psychiatry

Any doctor can request to be registered in Psychiatry if he/she fulfils ALL the following requirements:

1. Fully registered with the Malaysian Medical Council (MMC) and hold a current Annual Practicing Certificate (APC).
2. Holds a recognised postgraduate qualification
 - 2.1 Master of Medicine (Psychiatry) , UKM
 - 2.2 Doctor of Psychiatry, UKM (starting from June 2013)
 - 2.3 Master of Psychological Medicine, UM
 - 2.4 Master of Medicine (Psychiatry) , USM
 - 2.5 Master of Medicine (Psychiatry) , UiTM
 - 2.6 Master of Psychiatry, UPM
 - 2.7 Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists
(Note: Must have at least 4 years experience in Psychiatry of which 1 year is after qualification in specified areas of Psychiatry before commencing pre-gazettement)
 - 2.8 Member/Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, United Kingdom

It is to be noted that possession of a recognized qualification does not automatically qualify the applicant to be registered as a Specialist.

- 2.2 Equivalent degrees from other recognized universities. These will be given consideration on case to case basis. The following will be considered:
 - i. The total period of training in Psychiatry is not less than 4 year and should have equivalent to item 2 as above.
 - ii. Evidence of satisfactory training supported by:
 - a) Curriculum of the training programme
 - b) Supervisor's Report
 - c) Log book

3. Possess skills in core procedures(refer appendix).

4. Gazetted as a specialist in the Ministry of Health

OR

have undergone a period of not less than six (6) months of supervised clinical practice as a junior psychiatrist in a university department or equivalent setting for the local qualification holder

OR

have at least 18 month of working experience after postgraduate qualification for the Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists, Member/Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, United Kingdom and other overseas qualification

AND

Satisfy the SSC (as judged from referees' reports) that he/she is able to practice independently as a Psychiatrist.

5. Notwithstanding the above, the SSC may consider applications from applicants who, while not possessing any of the above qualifications, have undergone recognized training before 24th August, 2006, subject to satisfactory referees' reports.

*Last updated:
21st September, 2015
Specialty Subcommittee of Psychiatry and its subspecialties*

Appendix

The following are the criteria for registration as a specialist in the National Specialist Register (NSR). Applicants wishing to be registered as sub-specialists should also see the relevant section/s:

1. General requirements and application process

1. The applicant shall apply to be registered as a specialist in the prescribed form which may be downloaded from the NSR website.
2. The application form shall be signed by the applicant him/herself.
3. All required documentations must be provided. Do not send originals. Copies should be certified true by an acceptable authority.
4. Applicants must provide two (2) referees who must be their peers from the same specialty or subspecialty. Except in unavoidable circumstances, referees should not be the applicant's subordinates. Referees should not be relatives of the applicant.
5. All applications must be accompanied by the prescribed fee.
6. The Specialty Subcommittee (SSC) for Psychiatry may request for clarifications or further information (e.g. details of course curriculum or proof of training in special skills/core procedures) before making a recommendation to the National Credentialing Committee (NCC).
7. The SSC may, if the circumstances warrant, require applicants to undergo further supervised training under a consultant or sit for an examination if necessary.
8. The SSC may require proof of participation in continuing medical education or continuous professional development to ascertain that the applicant has kept up-to-date in the relevant area of practice.
9. The SSC may require referees to provide confidential reports to ascertain the suitability of the candidate to be registered as a Specialist. In special circumstances the SSC may select a referee other than those provided by the applicant, who, in the opinion of the SSC, may provide information that might assist the SSC in making a recommendation.
10. Since psychiatry involves close interaction with a vulnerable group of patients, and since specialists work independently, the applicant must meet the general requirements of a character which is consistent with the MMC code of conduct.
11. The SSC may add or change requirements according to the developments in the field of psychiatry, and these changes shall be posted on the NSR website.
12. Applicants are also requested to come for an interview, if deemed necessary.

2. Core procedures:

- i. Interviewing skills including a. communication skills b. skills in history-taking and mental state examination.
- ii. Basic Psychotherapy skills.
- iii. Electroconvulsive therapy.
- iv. Psychopharmacological therapy.
- v. Psychoeducation.

3. Miscellaneous

2.1. The Specialty Subcommittee (SSC) may set CME/CPD criteria for applicants before renewing their specialist registration after a specified period.

2.2. The SSC may also adopt additional rules that may be set by the National Credentialing Committee with regard to eligibility for registration as a specialist/subspecialist in the future.

2.3. Any changes to registration criteria, CME /CPD requirements or rules and regulations shall be posted on the NSR website.