

UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, LAHORE

UHS Level- III MD/MS/MDS REGULATIONS 2024



MD : DOCTOR OF MEDICINE

MS : MASTER OF SURGERY

MDS : MASTER OF DENTAL SURGERY

AMENDED REGULATIONS (2024)

Handwritten signatures in blue ink:
A signature that appears to be "Dr. S. P. Lania" and another signature below it.

1. Short title, Commencement and Application:

- i. These regulations may be called the UHS Level-III MD/MS/MDS Regulations 2024 (Amended Regulations).
- ii. These shall come into force at once and shall apply to all current and future students/candidates.

2. Definition:

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

- i. **Ordinance** means University of Health Sciences Ordinance, 2002.
- ii. **Applicant** means a person who applies for admission into MD, MS or MDS program.
- iii. **Assessment** means a formally defined process in which the candidates' learning and progress in the training program is assessed and measured using a range of predefined, validated and reliable assessment tools.
- iv. **Availed Attempt** means the candidate appeared in person in whole or part of the examination during the permissible attempts.
- v. **Candidate** means a person who will be selected for training in MD, MS or MDS program.
- vi. **Candidates' Training Portfolio** means a professional development portfolio to track progress in the respective training program. It shall consist of a record of acquisition of knowledge, skills and attitudes.
- vii. **Continuous Internal Assessments (CIA)** means a regular and ongoing assessment of candidate's performance throughout the year and submitted to the university at the end of each year
- viii. **Supervisor** means a person who supervises the clinical training and research during MD, MS or MDS course..
- ix. **Curriculum** means the courses of study and its components approved by Board of Governors.
- x. **Examiner** means examiner of written, thesis and clinical examinations of MD, MS or MDS programs.
- xi. **Government** means the Government of Punjab.



- xii. **Institute** means the constituent and/or affiliated medical and dental college and hospital approved by university for MD, MS or MDS training.
- xiii. **MD** means Doctor of Medicine.
- xiv. **MS** means Master of Surgery.
- xv. **MDS means Master of Dental Surgery**
- xvi. **Program** means integrated course of study approved by the university leading to award of degree
- xvii. **Program Format** means the plan and structure of teaching, training and research including methods of assessment as notified by the university.
- xviii. **Thesis** means MD, MS or MDS thesis written as long essay or dissertation based on the original research as approved by the university.
- xix. **Postgraduate Trainee** means the candidate who has been registered with the university in a specific specialty.
- xx. **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.
- xxi. **University** means the University of Health Sciences, Lahore.
- xxii. **Workplace Based Assessments** mean assessment of generic and specialty specific competencies at the workplace.

3. Names & Duration of Programs

Title of Program	Four Year Duration	Five Year Duration
MD (Doctor of Medicine)	Internal Medicine	Cardiology
	Pediatrics	Dermatology
	Psychiatry	Nephrology
	Radiology	Neurology
	Family Medicine	Oncology

		Nephrology
		Pulmonology
MS (Master of Surgery)	Anesthesia	Cardiac Surgery
	General Surgery	Neurosurgery
	Obstetrics & Gynecology	Orthopaedics
	Ophthalmology	Pediatric Surgery
	Otorhinolaryngology(ENT)	Plastic Surgery
		Thoracic Surgery
		Urology
MDS (Master of Dental Surgery)	Operative Dentistry Oral & Surgery Orthodontics Prosthodontic	
Any other Specialty in the MD, MS or MDS and as approved by the relevant authority of the University.		

4. Admissions

- i. **Eligibility:** The applicant on the last date of submission of applications for admission must possess the:
 - a. Basic Medical Qualification, MBBS (for MD and MS) /Basic Dental Qualification (MDS), or an equivalent medical qualification recognized by Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PM&DC) and Higher Education Commission (HEC).
 - b. Certificate of one year's House Job experience is essential. In case of incomplete house job, the applicant is required to submit Hope Certificate from the concerned Medical Superintendent that the House Job shall be completed before the closing date for submission of application.
 - c. Valid certificate of permanent or provisional registration with PM&DC.

- 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 the PM&DC
 - b) Affiliation of the admitting institute with University of Health Sciences (UHS) in relevant specialty/program
 - c) For private institutions, an undertaking to be submitted by the institute regarding methods and procedures in place for payment of substantial stipend to the 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 of Punjab. 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. Institutions not governed by the Central Induction Policy (CIP) are required to submit a written request to the university regarding vacancy positions and potential supervisors in the respective specialties. The University shall constitute a committee comprising of representative(s) from the requesting institution(s), relevant officials of the university and experts from the affiliated institutes who shall examine the requests and submit their recommendations to the competent authority in accordance with the standards outlined in the Punjab Residency Program. In the event of any ambiguity or dispute, the matter shall be referred to the University Syndicate for final adjudication.
- v. Once approved, the requesting institution shall pay the prescribed advertisement fee to the university.
- vi. The intake into any program shall be consistent with the regulations of PM&DC and policies of the Government as the case may be.
- vii. Admission process shall be completed within 45 days of publishing the advertisement.
- viii. 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 the list of proposed eligible supervisors in each specialty.



- ix. The institute shall forward list of eligible 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".
- x. 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 the Competent Authority.
- xi. Any change in the institute of already registered candidates shall be dealt under regulations of UHS (available on website) and/or prevailing policy of Government of the Punjab.

5. Entry Examination

- i. The candidate securing admission into MS/MD/MDS programs shall be required to pass the entry test conducted under any name by Government of Punjab through authorized body/university (i.e. currently Specialty Specific JCAT).
- ii. The regulations notified by the Government or University from time to time shall govern the conduct of entrance examination in institutes under Punjab Residency Program and institutes not under Punjab Residency Program, respectively.

6. Registration

- i. Registration returns shall only be accepted via online registration portal of UHS from the institutes fulfilling 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 timely forwarding the registration returns. No returns shall be accepted after due date.
- iv. Each candidate should be registered by the university 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 notified on the registration portal by the university. Candidates are hereby advised to regularly review the portal and appraise 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).

7. Program Format

- i. In terms of section 3 of the instant regulations, the programs shall either consist of 4 or 5 years duration.
- ii. During the course of study, each candidate shall be required to undertake an intermediate examination and final examination. The intermediate examination shall be held after two years following admission.
- iii. The Final/Exit examination shall be held only after completion of the prescribed training period of 4/5 years, as the case may be.
- iv. MS/MD/MDS degrees shall be research-oriented degrees and a candidate shall be required to write a research thesis apart from undergoing a clinical training program.

8. Mandatory Workshops

- i. All postgraduate trainees will be required to register for Mandatory Workshops of Postgraduate Trainees within two months of induction.

9. Research:

- i. As per section 7(iv) of the instant regulations, MS/MD/MDS degrees shall be research-oriented degrees. The proceedings for research project shall be commenced right after start of the program.
- ii. Submission of the synopsis to the university shall be done within six months of the induction.
- iii. The postgraduate trainee, having submitted synopsis through proper channel and as per guidelines notified by the university from time to time, shall defend the synopsis in the presence of supervisor before respective Specialty Advisory Committee consisting of eminent subject specialist, a Ph.D research expert and a Biostatistician. The first point of contact for synopsis defense/review shall be respective Specialty Advisory Committee, which shall have the authority to recommend the synopses to be presented in AS&RB, if found appropriate. Final approval shall be granted by Advanced Studies and Research Board (AS&RB).
- iv. Synopses submitted with plagiarized/copied/AI generated content shall be referred to university plagiarism committee and recommendations for appropriate disciplinary action



shall be sought. The disciplinary action shall be implemented after approval from Advanced Studies and Research Board (AS&RB).

- v. Endorsement of a proposal with poor scientific content or an unjustified rationale or in deviation with the prescribed format of UHS may lead to issuance of letter of caution to supervisor, which may impact the future to such supervisors for allocation of trainees. This shall be determined by AS&RB.
- vi. The Ethical Committees or Institutional Review Boards shall be bound to monitor the submitted research of MD/MS/MDS candidates in terms of practicability, ethical considerations including conflict of interests, adverse outcomes of drugs/ interventions of studies etc.
- vii. A novel and clinically meaningful idea having interventional and/or experimental aspect shall be acceptable in all synopses. Duplication of studies without significant research gap and potential theft of intellect (use of published literature without proper citation/declaration/credit) shall not be acceptable. It is a joint responsibility of the supervisory team and candidate to thoroughly search UHS research repository and already published literature in Pakistan in order to avoid duplication of ideas.

10. Research Audit:

- i. All postgraduate residents shall maintain and retain all record of research submissions in presentable form throughout the course and at least for 05 years after graduation.
- ii. Research audits shall be done by the university regularly and in a prescribed manner.

11. Intermediate Examination

Intermediate examination shall be conducted for the candidates getting training in all MD/MS/MDS programs.

- i. To appear in Intermediate 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.
 - a. Candidate remained on institution roll during the period approved for appearing in examination.
 - b. Certificate of completion of mandatory workshops.
 - c. Certificate of completion of two years of training till the last date of submission of admission forms, signed by Supervisor, Head of Department of parent department

- and that of the Head of Department where rotations are done (if prescribed in the curriculum).
- d. Certificate of submission of synopsis to the university.
 - e. Evidence of payment of examination fee as prescribed by the University from time to time.
 - f. 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. Intermediate Examination will be held twice a year
 - iv. The intermediate examination shall be held in following domains:
 - a. Surgery and Allied (Except ENT, Ophthalmology, Anaesthesia, Obstetrics and Gynaecology)
 - b. ENT
 - c. Ophthalmology
 - d. Anaesthesia
 - e. Obstetrics and Gynaecology
 - f. Medicine and Allied (Except Radiology, Paediatric Medicine)
 - g. Radiology
 - h. Paediatric Medicine
 - i. Pathology
 - j. Dentistry
 - v. The Intermediate Examination will comprise of 300 marks with a Written and TOACS/Clinical component.

a. Written Examination	200 Marks
b. TOACS/Clinical Examination	100 Marks
 - vi. The candidate has to pass both components independently.
 - vii. Table of Specifications (ToS) shall be publically accessible documents and are available at UHS website <https://www.uhs.edu.pk/dpsteam.php> (Candidates will be able to navigate the TOS by clicking at respective program)
- A. Written examination (200 Marks)**
- i. 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 02 marks.
- b. There shall be no negative marking.
- c. The candidates scoring 60% marks shall be declared pass and shall be eligible to appear in the clinical examination.

B. TOACS/Clinical Examination (100 Marks)

- ii. After passing theory examination, the students shall become eligible for taking TOACS/clinical examination.
 - iii. TOACS/Clinical Examination shall be conducted by a panel of examiners to be appointed by the Vice Chancellor from a pool approved by Advanced Studies & Research Board.
 - iv. The examination will be based on "Task Oriented and Clinical Assessments" (TOACS). There will be 10 observed stations of 10 marks each making a total of 100 marks. The candidates scoring 60% marks will be declared pass in the TOACS.
 - v. A maximum of four consecutive attempts, after becoming eligible, whether availed or unavailed to pass Clinical/Oral examination will be permitted. However, in case of failure to pass Clinical/Oral examination within stipulated attempts, the credit of passing the written examination shall stand withdrawn and candidate shall have to take written examination, afresh.
2. A candidate shall be declared pass in intermediate examination after passing written and TOACS/clinical examination, independent of each other.

12. Final /Exit Examination

Final /Exit examination would be conducted for the candidates completing training in all MD/MS/MDS programs.

- i. To appear in Final/Exit Examination, a candidate shall be required to submit following through his/her head of institution:
 - a. Result card showing that the candidate has passed Intermediate Examination.
 - b. Certificate of completion of prescribed duration of training (4 or 5 years) duly signed by Supervisor, Head of parent Department and that of the Head of Department where rotations were done

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- c. Evidence of thesis submission to the Department of Examination of the University.
- d. Evidence of payment of examination fee as prescribed by the university from time to time.
- e. The examination fee once deposited cannot be refunded / carried over to the next examination under any circumstances.
- f. Certificate of achieving 85% attendance in the training program duly signed by Head of Institute.
- g. Candidate remained on institution roll during the period required for appearing in examination.
- h. Only those certificates, submitted through Principal/Dean/Head of academic institution shall be accepted.
- i. Final/Exit examination will be held twice a year
- ii. The Final/Exit Examination will comprise of Following components; Theory, TOACS, Clinical and Thesis examination.
 - a. Total Marks of Final /Exit Examination shall be 1,000. This shall include following components in which a candidate must score at least 60% marks in each to be declared as "Pass":

Sr	Component	Subdivision of Marks	Total Marks	Pass Marks
i	Continuous Internal Assessments(CIA)	100 Marks	100 Marks	60% Marks
ii	Written Examination	a. MCQs: 200 Marks b. SEQs: 100 Marks	300 Marks	60% Marks in aggregate. Candidate passed in Written Examination shall be eligible for TOACS
iii	TOACS and Clinical	a. TOACS: 100Marks	100 Marks	60% marks

	Examination			Candidates passed in TOACS shall be eligible for Clinical Examination (Short and/ Long Cases/Table Viva)
		b. Short (4x) and Long (1x)Case	Short Case :25 x4 Long Case: 100 Total: 200 Marks	60% Marks in aggregate
iv	Thesis Examination	300 Marks	300 Marks	60% Marks
Total Marks Allocated for Final/exit Examination			1000	65% as per scheme specified above

*For Obstetrics and Gynaecology, clinical component shall include one long case of Obstetrics and One long case Gynaecology whereas atleast four shortcases will be included in TOACS stations.

*For Radiology, for clinical component instead of long and short cases, there shall be a table viva conducted by a panel of six examiners having equal marks.

b. Continuous Internal Assessment (100 Marks)

- (i). The award of continuous internal assessment shall be submitted by the supervisor through Head of department and Head of institution confidentially in a sealed envelope.
- (ii). The supervisor shall submit cumulative score of internal assessment of all training years to be added together to provide a final cumulative score of Continuous Internal Assessments of all the trainees to the Head of the Department.
- (iii). The Head of Department shall submit the continuous internal assessment score through the Principal to the Examination Department of the University.

- (iv). Score of continuous internal assessment once submitted shall be final and cannot be changed subsequently under any circumstances.
- (v). The weightage of internal assessment in the Final/exit examination will be 10%.
- (vi). Continuous Internal Workplace Based Assessments will be done by the supervisors, that may be based on but not limited to:
 - a. Generic and Specialty Specific Competency Assessments
 - b. Multisource Feedback Evaluations
 - c. Assessment of Candidates' Training Portfolio
 - d. Attendance (Monthly Biometric attendance shall be shared with DPS)
- (vi). Departments/Institutes are required to submit quarterly Internal Assessment report to the DPS of the university.

c. Written Examination (300 Marks)

- (i). Written examination of all specialties will be based on their curriculum and as specified in the assessment blueprint/table of specifications as prescribed in the curricula. The written examination will consist of two papers;
 - a. Paper 1 shall comprise of hundred (100) "single best answer" type Multiple Choice Questions. Each Question shall carry 02 marks.
 - b. Paper 2 shall comprise of ten (10) Short Essay Questions, each carrying 10 marks.
- (ii). The candidates scoring 60% marks in aggregate of Paper 1 and Paper 2 of the written examination will be declared pass and will become eligible to appear in the Clinical Examination.
- (iii). Candidate who pass written examination, shall be allowed a maximum of four consecutive attempts whether availed or unavailed to pass TOACS and Clinical/Oral examination. However, in case of failure to pass TOACS and Clinical/Oral examination within stipulated attempts the credit of passing the written examination shall stand withdrawn and candidate shall have to take entire examination including written examination, afresh.

d. TOACS and Clinical Examination (300 Marks)

- (i). After Passing theory examination candidate shall be eligible for TOACS.
- a. TOACS shall consist of 10 observed/interactive stations of 10 marks each.
- (ii). Candidates shall be eligible for Clinical Examination after passing the TOACS with 60% marks. A candidate who has successfully passed the TOACS examination but was unsuccessful in the Clinical Examination (Long Case/Short Cases/Table Viva) shall not be required to reappear in the TOACS to regain eligibility for the Clinical Examination, subject to compliance with Section 12(ii)(c)(iii). Clinical Examination will evaluate patient care competencies in detail. The examination will be based on
 - a. One Long Case of hundred marks (Maximum marks 100) and Four Short Cases of 25 marks each (Maximum marks 100)
 - b. For Obstetrics and Gynaecology, clinical component shall include one long case of Obstetrics and One long case Gynaecology whereas four shortcases will be included in TOACS stations.
 - c. For Radiology, there shall be three table vivas instead of long and short cases, to be conducted by a panel of six examiners approved by the Vice Chancellor having equal marks. Each Table Viva shall be evaluated and marked independently by at least two examiners. Mean of marks awarded by both examiners shall be counted towards the final marks. In 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 a mean of awards by all three examiners.
- a. Each long case shall be evaluated and marked independently by at least two examiners. Mean of marks awarded by two independent examiners shall be counted towards the final marks.
- b. In 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 a mean of awards by all three examiners.
- c. Each short case shall be evaluate by at least one examiner.

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- (iii). In order to standardize the assessment methodology of the registered trainees in different schemes, all the subsequent examinations after December 2025 shall be held under regulations of CIP scheme. The Examination regulations of all other schemes (PU Scheme, Old Scheme, Revised scheme etc.) shall stand repealed being time-barred and significantly time-lapsed after phasing out of said schemes.

e. Thesis Examination (300 Marks)

- (i). The Thesis shall be submitted to the Controller of Examination through Head of Institute, duly signed by the Supervisor, Co-Supervisor(s) and Head of the Department.
- (ii). Submission of Thesis is a prerequisite for taking Final/Exit Theory Examination.
- (iii). Examiners shall be appointed by the Vice Chancellor on recommendation of Controller of Examination from a panel approved by Advance Studies & Research Board for evaluation of thesis.
- (iv). All MD/MS/MDS thesis shall be evaluated by two independent examiners.
- (v). Thesis defense shall be held after approval of evaluation reports by Advanced Studies & Research Board.
- (vi). Thesis defense shall be assessed by two independent examiners who evaluated the thesis of the candidate or as approved by the Competent Authority.
- (vii). The candidate scoring 60% marks in Thesis defense examination will be declared as pass in the examination.

13. Supervisor and Examiner

- i. Only those faculty members shall be eligible to supervise a candidate who:
- Hold Level-III Qualification i.e. MS/MD/MDS, FCPS or equivalent qualification as determined by PM&DC.
 - Have three years of post-qualification teaching experience in that specialty.
 - Have successfully attended the prescribed workshops as notified by the University from time to time.
 - Have submitted required number of MCQs, TOACs or other assessment items as notified by the University from time to time.



- e. The supervisor, in no case, shall be related to his/her supervisee or bear any personal, professional, financial or other conflict of interests which may potentially or actually diverge him/her from professional obligations or decisions regarding teaching, research or clinical training. An undertaking to this extent shall be a mandatory part of the research proposal / synopsis.
- ii. A pool of examiners shall be developed on recommendation of Specialty Advisory Committee of each specialty as specified in TORs of the Sepcialty 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 the 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. No examiner shall be allowed to examine a trainee in any component, with which he/she bears a conflict of interest as prescribed in UHS regulations of examination. . In such cases, the examiner/supervisor shall immediately declare the conflict in writing to the Controller of Examination in order to allow the Examination department in appointing alternate examiners well in time.

14. Monitoring

- i. Academic and clinical domains of the training programs shall be monitored by DPS of the university in a notified manner.
- ii. A standard and structured Log book shall be prescribed by the university to each candidate. The same shall be maintained throughout the training (to be evaluated as part of IMM and Exit Examination) in accordance with the academic roster. Patients/Cases/Slides/Practical seen/examined/operated/managed/performed in ER, OPD/Laboratory and IPD according to the allocated module should be mentioned in logbook with hospital slip and registration number.
- iii. Rotation schedule of every postgraduate trainee should be made on annual basis and shared with DPS, UHS till 15th January of each year for approval.

- iv. 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.
- v. Any leave requests, disciplinary issues, grievances, or requests to freeze training shall be handled according to the prevailing UHS regulations and/or Government Policy, where applicable..

15. Publication of Research Work:

Acceptance of a publication based on the original research work of the thesis in a HEC/PMDC approved journal shall be mandatory for award of degree.

16. Declaration of Result & Award of Degree

- i. A candidate having declared successful in all the components of the examination i.e. Theory, TOACS, Clinical and Thesis shall be declared pass and shall be conferred degree after fulfilling all prerequisites in the prescribed manner.

17. Implementation

- i. These regulations shall come into force immediately. All the examinations announced after December 2025 shall be held under these regulations.
- ii. The regulations notified/adopted vide orders issued in 2016, 2020 and 2021 shall stand repealed and the students registered under the said schemes shall be dealt under MD/MS/MDS Regulations 2024 (Amended Regulations).

