



PAKISTAN MEDICAL COMMISSION

POLICY DECISION

POLICY OF THE COUNCIL ON DEFINITIONS AND SCOPE OF QUALIFICATIONS (DATED 24TH OCTOBER 2022)

The Council has considered the terms Postgraduate, Additional, and Alternative Qualifications as referred under the PMC Act - 2020 and defined the same along with defining relevant terms to recognition of such qualifications.

The process of recognition of qualifications shall be prescribed under these regulations.

Pre-requisites:

- The qualification must be awarded after completion of a structured training program
- The qualification must have an exit examination in its structure
- The qualification must be recognized by the pertinent regulator in the country of graduation in the relative subject domain.
- The training was undertaken at a medical Institution recognized by the Council for training or grant of a qualification
- Pertains to a specialty in which the Council has recognized a Pakistani or Foreign Postgraduate Qualification
- Having acquired minimum competencies equivalent to comparable qualifications recognized in the assorted level of recognition
- The duration of training for the qualification must be equal to or more than that required for its relative classification
- The Committee reviewed the draft policy and proposed levels of qualifications for Post-Graduate, Additional, and Alternate to Post-Graduate qualifications and had detailed deliberation.

Postgraduate Qualification:

Postgraduate Qualification shall mean a qualification recognized by the commission, acquired after completion of a structured training program. These shall include both basic and clinical qualifications.

Pakistani Postgraduate Qualification (u/s 22 of the PMC Act, 2020)

A Postgraduate Qualification shall be recognized by the Council subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:

- a) Qualification awarded by a duly recognized university in Pakistan and/or by the College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan (CPSP)
- b) The training was undertaken at a Medical Institution recognized by the Council for training or the grant of a Post Graduate qualification under section 23(2) of the PMC Act, 2020.

[Handwritten signature and date 22/11]

Foreign Postgraduate Qualification (u/s 24 of the PMC Act, 2020)

A Foreign Postgraduate Qualification shall be recognized by the Council subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:

- a) Granted by a Foreign Postgraduate Institution recognized as the Postgraduate Institution by the regulatory authority in the relevant country for grant of Post Graduate Qualifications and recognized by the Council under section 25 of the PMC Act, 2020
- b) Obtained after formal, objective assessment with a certification after either a period of training or acquiring of minimum competencies equivalent to the comparable qualification granted by PMC-recognized universities/ CPSP.

Alternative Qualification:

Alternative Qualification shall mean a qualification acquired after completion of a structured training program outside Pakistan duly accredited by the Education and Evaluation Committee after formal objective assessment acquiring minimum competencies equivalent to the comparable qualification granted by PMC-recognized universities/ CPSP.

Alternative to postgraduate qualification shall enable the licensed doctor to qualify for inclusion in the specialist register.

Additional Qualification:

Additional Qualification shall mean a qualification attained after completion of a *Postgraduate Qualification*. This includes qualifications acquired after completion of a structured training program to develop specific academic competencies e.g subspecialty fellowships, postdoc studies.

Levels of Qualifications:

Qualification type	Level type	Minimum Duration	Clinical Qualification (or equivalent)	Non-Clinical Medical and Dental Science Qualification (or equivalent)
Primary/Basic Qualification	1	Basic Medical Qualification – 5 Years	MBBS/ MBChB/ MD	-
		Basic Dental Qualification – 4 years	BDS/ DDS/ DDM	-
Postgraduate Qualification	2A	1 year	Diploma/ Masters	Diploma/ Masters
	2B	2 years	Masters/ Membership/ Fellowship	Masters/ Membership/ Fellowship
	3	3 years	Residency/ Membership/ Fellowship/ MDS/ MD/ MS/ CCT	Fellowship/ Doctorate
Additional Qualification	4	Minimum of 2 years in relevant field	Subspecialty/ Super-specialty qualification in relevant field	Subspecialty/Super-specialty qualification in relevant field

Levels	Non-Clinical/Basic	Clinical
1	Lecturer/Demonstrator	Medical Officer
2A	Can be promoted to Senior Lecturer	Can be promoted to Senior Registrar
2B	Can be promoted to Associate Professor	Can be promoted to Associate Professor
3 & 4	Can be promoted to Professor	Can be promoted to Professor

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (CPE):

Continuing Professional Education (CPE) shall mean any learning in addition to and outside of undergraduate education or postgraduate training that helps licensed medical practitioners maintain their competence and acquire knowledge of new developments and improve their performance and covers the development of knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors across all areas of professional practice and includes both formal and informal learning activities.

A CP activity shall be recognized by the Council subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions:

- a) Granted by an Institution recognized by the Council for grant of a CPE qualification/certification; and
- b) Is within the domains of knowledge of a relevant discipline and has clearly stated learning outcomes, instructional and assessment strategies where learning outcomes build on existing knowledge, skills, and behaviors; and
- c) A program or opportunity that updates what a practitioner learned at medical school and during postgraduate training, to reflect changes in practice, changes in the needs of patients and the service, and changes in society's expectations of the way doctors work; or
- d) A program or opportunity which maintains and improves the quality of care a practitioner gives patients and the public and improves the ability to anticipate and respond to the changing demands of professional standards of the teams and services expected in healthcare.

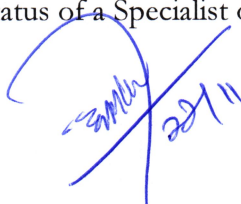
CREDENTIALING:

Credentialing shall be the process of reviewing a licensee's qualifications and certifications, training, experience or demonstrated ability, and practice history to determine what clinical privileges the licensee shall be entitled to at a hospital or medical institution.

Credentialing shall further include the process of identifying which Additional Qualifications if acquired in addition to a Postgraduate or Alternative Qualification may be considered for additional privileges to the licensee.

SPECIALIST REGISTER:

The Specialist Register shall mean the Register maintained by the Commission containing the names of licensed professionals who have acquired either a clinical Postgraduate Qualification or Alternative clinical Qualification entitling them to the status of a Specialist or a Consultant.



**Member Education & Evaluation
National Medical Authority**