



ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND

**CONJOINT BOARD OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS
AND THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND**

**DIPLOMA IN MEDICINE OF THE ELDERLY
D.M.E., R.C.P. & S.Irel.**

EXAMINATION REGULATIONS

PROSPECTUS

The purpose of this Examination is to give recognition for competence in the management of elderly patients to doctors interested in responsibility for the care of the elderly, including general practitioners, vocational trainees and clinical assistants.

The level of knowledge and skill is that required for good primary care and emphasis will be placed on the candidates ability to consider the relevant information, to arrive at judgements on investigation, diagnosis and management. Particular attention will be paid to the candidate's ability to make these judgements against a background of age-associated impairment. A knowledge of appropriate health and social services relevant to the care of the elderly will be expected.

**ALL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN
WRITING TO:**

**DME Administrator,
ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND,
2nd Floor, Frederick House, 19 South Frederick Street, Dublin 2, Ireland**

TELEPHONE: 01 8639700

FAX: 01 6724707

EXAMINATION DATES & FEES

For details of the dates and fees please refer to the information located in the DME webpage.

EXAMINATION PROTOCOL & SECURITY

Please refer to the notice to all DME exam candidates regarding protocol and security. The notice is located in DME webpage.

EXAMINATION FORMAT

(First Day)

10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. Written Paper

(Second Day)

Morning Oral Examination

Afternoon

Clinical Examination

The Paper and Oral Examination will be held in the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and the Clinical Examination will be held in a Dublin hospital.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR APPLICATION

For entry to the Examination send:

1. Application form.
2. Proof of qualification - certified copy of original diploma of medical qualification.
3. Consultant's letter attesting candidates approved training post.
4. Up-to-date Curriculum Vitae.
5. Two passport size photographs.
6. Examination Fee.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ANY ONE OF THE REGULATIONS WILL RESULT IN THE APPLICATION BEING RETURNED FORTHWITH.

As this exam has a limited capacity candidates are advised to apply as early as possible within the advertised opening and closing dates. Any applications received after the maximum number has been reached will be placed on a waiting list. Examination fees are processed only when an application has been accepted.

REGULATIONS

ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates must possess a medical qualification. Please note that it is necessary to forward a certified copy of your original diploma of medical qualification.

Candidates are eligible to sit the Examination if they have both:-

- (a) Held an approved training post in a Department specialising in Medicine for the Elderly for not less than three months (evidence of this must be obtained from the Consultant Geriatrician in charge) and
- (b) Been qualified 18 months at the end of the current six month training post.

In the absence of (a), a clinical attachment to a recognised Department of Geriatric Medicine involving at least 1 three hour session per week for six months will be accepted.

ADMISSION TO THE EXAMINATION

1. Applications for permission to enter must be made on the official entry form in block capitals together with all necessary documentation.
2. The candidate's full name must be given at the time of entry to the Examination and must agree with the names given on the diploma of medical qualification.
3. Candidates must submit an up-to-date Curriculum Vitae together with a letter from their consultant attesting their approved training post.
4. Candidates who fail to satisfy the Examiners on four occasions are not eligible to re-enter.
5. Two passport size photographs must accompany the application form for the preparation of an Identity Card which will be issued to each candidate for the Examination. This card must be taken to the Examination and presented at all parts of each Examination. Candidates who fail to present their identity card will not be permitted to sit the Examination until their identity is established.
6. Photographs need to be sent only once. It will not be necessary to send them with each subsequent entry.
7. Completed application forms together with the necessary documentation should be sent to the Examination Office, The Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, 2nd Floor, Frederick House, 19 South Frederick Street, Dublin 2, before the closing date.
8. Applications will not be accepted before the published opening date or after the published closing date, but candidates are advised to send in their applications as early as possible after the opening date because the number of entries is limited. Applications that are not complete in every detail and/or arrive after the published closing date will be returned. No allowance can be made for postal or other delays.
9. Any representation which candidates may desire to make with regard to the conduct of the Examination must be addressed to the Registrar, and not to the Examiners
10. The College may refuse to admit to the Examination or to proceed with the Examination of any candidate who infringes any regulation, or who is considered by the Examiners to have been guilty of behaviour prejudicial to the proper management of the Examination.
11. Candidates will receive their results by post and under no circumstances may results be given over the telephone.

12. The maximum intake of candidates for any one Examination will be limited. Candidates should ensure that their application reaches the College as soon as possible before the closing date as shown on the examination calendar.

EXAMINATION FORMAT

There will be three components to the Examination:- the written paper, the oral and the clinical.

The written and the oral sections of the Examination will be held in the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland on consecutive days.

The clinical examination will be held at one of the Dublin hospitals on the second day following the oral examination. Only those candidates achieving a satisfactory composite result for the paper and oral will go onto the clinical examination.

The Written Section

One three hour paper will be answered. It will deal with the theoretical and clinical aspects of medicine in the elderly and will consist of two essay questions and two questions in the format of "write short notes on..."

The Oral Examination

This will be held on the morning of the second day of the Examination. Each candidate will be examined by two Examiners in rotation over a period of 20 minutes.

The Clinical Examination

This will be held in the afternoon of the second day and will consist of a single long case and several short cases. The candidate will be permitted 45 minutes to examine the long case before a 30 minute (maximum) discussion on the case with two Examiners. Two different Examiners will examine the candidate on several short cases over a period of approximately 20 minutes.

FEES

Fees must be paid in Euro by cheque, cash, bank draft or bank transfer to the 2nd Floor, Frederick House, 19 South Frederick Street, Dublin 2, Ireland. Payment can also be made by Credit Card. Please complete the Credit Card details on the back of the application form. A diploma fee will be payable by the successful candidates before the diploma is awarded. Examination and diploma fees are payable in Euro only. Applications that are not accompanied by the Examination fee will not be accepted.

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE EXAMINATION

Notice of withdrawal from the Examination must be given in writing to the College. A refund less 10% will be made if written notice of withdrawal is received by the College on or before the closing date of entry to the Examination. In no circumstances will any refund be made after the closing date. Fees will not be carried over to a future Examination.

GENERAL NOTES

You are advised to allow for any transport delays when planning your time of arrival at the Examination centre, as under no circumstances will you be permitted to go into the Examination Room later than half an hour after the start of the Examination.

It is advisable for candidates to ascertain if they require a visa and to apply for this at least eight weeks before the date of the Examination to allow time for the visa to be processed.

For information regarding hotels and guest houses apply to:

Bord Failte Eireann,
Baggot Street,
Dublin 2.
Telephone: (01) 6765871