



Ag Rialáil Gairmithe Sláinte
agus Cúraim Shóisialaigh

Regulating Health +
Social Care Professionals

Bord Chlárúcháin na nEolaithe Míochaine
Medical Scientists Registration Board

Mr. Terry Casey
General Secretary
Medical Laboratory Scientists Association
4th Floor
Liberty Hall
Dublin 1

6 February 2019

Re: Statutory Regulation for Medical Scientists

Dear Mr Casey,

I am delighted to inform you that The Medical Scientists Registration Board has completed all of the necessary work required to open the statutory register for Medical Scientists under the Health and Social Care Professionals Act 2005 (as amended). The register will now open on **Sunday 31 March 2019**.

This is a significant milestone in the regulation of medical scientists, a move which will ultimately afford greater protection to the public by setting standards of conduct, ethics and performance, education, training and competence for those applying to register.

I have been invited to present at your meeting in Kilkenny on the 6 April where I will be able to give you greater details of what is required to apply for registration and we will be putting more information up on the CORU website to assist medical scientists to apply for registration. The Grandparenting/transition period will remain open until **31 March 2021**, by which time every medical scientist will have to have applied for registration.

The Register:

- There is one register for Medical Scientists. When an individual applies, they will be required to specify the register for which they wish to be registered, as there are currently 9 other registers open.

Practice Period:

- When applying to register, individuals must specify if they are applying as an existing practitioner or as a new entrant to the profession in Ireland.

- An existing practitioner is defined as an individual who has been engaged in the practice of Medical Science in the Republic of Ireland for the equivalent of **two years between 31 March 2014 to 31 March 2019**.
- Existing practitioners, who hold the relevant qualifications, those listed on the HSE list (see appendix 1), must apply to register before **31 March 2021**, under transitional arrangements S91 at www.coru.ie
- Individuals commencing practice in the Republic of Ireland as a Medical Scientist can apply using a standard application route on www.coru.ie, if they hold one of the approved qualifications (see Appendix 1).

International Qualifications:

From 31 March 2019, the Medical Scientists Registration Board will be the designated competent authority for Medical Scientists and will assess all new applications for the recognition of qualifications from outside the Republic of Ireland. As the Academy of Clinical Science and Laboratory Medicine remains as the current designated competent authority until that date; we have already held a preliminary planning meeting with the team at the Academy and will shortly seek a second meeting to prepare for the transfer of function to ensure smooth transition of this service. Issues to consider will include

- the practicalities of transferring records in compliance with GDPR;
- the need for agreed procedures and protocols for dealing with current applicants and
- agreed communications with current and past applicants

Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics

- A new statutory Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Medical Scientists has been adopted by the Medical Scientists Registration Board to underpin the regulation of the profession. This was prepared after consultation with the general public, Medical Scientists, Professional bodies, Unions, educators and employers. The Code will be published on the CORU website (www.coru.ie) from 28 February 2019.

Registration On-line

- Applicants should apply at www.coru.ie from 31 March 2019. Applicants can enter all of their registration details through this system and pay by credit or debit card. Supporting documents and proofs must be submitted separately by post, in hard copy. Guidance notes will be made available to assist in the process.
- A Garda vetting application form must also be completed as part of the registration process and can be downloaded from www.coru.ie.

Thank you for your assistance and support with the transition to statutory registration for Medical Scientists.

If you have any further question, please feel free to contact us at CORU.

Yours sincerely

Ginny Hanrahan
Registrar
Medical Scientists Registration Board

Appendix 1 – Qualifications

Existing Practitioners

If an individual has been engaged in the practice of Medical Scientists in the Republic of Ireland for the equivalent of **two years between 31 March 2019 to 31 March 2019**, they are eligible to apply under transitional arrangements S91, if they hold any of the following qualifications:

1. Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Medical Science from the Galway/Mayo Institute of Technology (GMIT).
or
2. Bachelor of Science (Honours) Biomedical Science, Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) now known as the Technological University of Dublin.
or
3. Bachelor in Science Honours degree in Biomedical Science from the Joint University College Cork – Cork Institute of Technology course AND Diploma in Clinical Laboratory Practice.
or
4. Certificate in Medical Laboratory Science, Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT), Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) or Galway/Mayo Institute of Technology (GMIT)
AND
Bachelor in Science (Applied Science) Honours degree (Biomedical option) from the University of Dublin/Dublin Institute of Technology (Awarded prior to 2002).
Or
5. (Bachelor of Biomedical Science, Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) AND BSc (Honours) Biomedical Sciences, University College Cork (UCC). (Awarded prior to 2013).
or
6. Diploma in Medical Laboratory Sciences of the Dublin Institute of Technology, (DIT) or the Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) (Awarded prior to 1994).

Bord Chláirúcháin nEolaithe Míochaine, CORU, Foirgneamh Infinity, Cúirt Sheoirse, Lána Sheoirse, Margadh na Feirme, Baile Átha Cliath 7, D07 E98Y.

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or

7. Certificate in Medical Laboratory Science awarded before 1997 by Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT), Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) or Galway/Mayo Institute of Technology (GMIT).

OR

A Letter of Recognition/Accreditation for an international qualification from the Medical Scientists Registration Board / Academy of Clinical Science and Laboratory Medicine.

OR

They hold a professional qualification that, in the opinion of the Medical Scientists Registration Board, may be considered sufficiently relevant to the division to which they are applying and attests to a standard of proficiency corresponding to one of the above qualifications

New entrants to the profession

If an individual is commencing practice in the Republic of Ireland as a Medical Scientists they must hold one of the approved qualifications as listed under the HSE list of required qualifications. They include :

1. Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Medical Science from the Galway/Mayo Institute of Technology (GMIT).
Or
2. Bachelor of Science (Honours) Biomedical Science, Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT).
Or
3. Bachelor in Science Honours degree in Biomedical Science from the Joint University College Cork – Cork Institute of Technology course AND Diploma in Clinical Laboratory Practice.
or
4. Certificate in Medical Laboratory Science, Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT), Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) or Galway/Mayo Institute of Technology (GMIT)
AND
Bachelor in Science (Applied Science) Honours degree (Biomedical option) from the University of Dublin/Dublin Institute of Technology (Awarded prior to 2002).
or
5. (Bachelor of Biomedical Science, Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) AND BSc (Honours) Biomedical Sciences, University College Cork (UCC). (Awarded prior to 2013).
or
6. Diploma in Medical Laboratory Sciences of the Dublin Institute of Technology, (DIT) or the Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) (Awarded prior to 1994).
or
7. Certificate in Medical Laboratory Science awarded before 1997 by Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT), Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) or Galway/Mayo Institute of Technology (GMIT).
or

A Letter of Recognition/Accreditation for your international qualification from the Medical Scientists Registration Board/ Academy of Clinical Science and Laboratory Medicine.

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