

NOTICE

MEDICAL BOARD OF T&T

All Board Members are hereby invited to an Extra-ordinary Meeting on **Wednesday 18th February 2009** at **6.00 p.m.** **Amphitheatre B, E.W.M.S.C., Uriah Butler Highway, Champs Fleurs.**

AGENDA

1. Discussion on the implementation of a Medical Specialist Register in accordance with the Medical Board Act (Chap. 29:50 [revised 2006] as amended by Act. No. 31 of 2007).
2. Bye-election of a Council Member.

Kindly visit the Medical Board's website at www.mbt.org to view relevant information on "Medical Specialist Register".

SGD. DR. NEIL ADRIAN SINGH
SECRETARY

SPECIALIST REGISTRATION, MBTT

Background

A Register of Medical Specialists was established on 28th September, 2007 in accordance with provisions set out in Sections 2 & 10A of the Medical Board Act No. 31 of 2007 (Chapter 29:50). According to the Act, doctors may be registered as Specialists upon fulfilling certain criteria set out below:-

Who is a Specialist

According to Section 2 of the Act, a ***“Specialist” means a person who has undertaken specialist training and has been awarded specialist qualifications from an institution recognised by the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago and in a speciality recognised by the Council, and that specialist training is, or those qualifications are, or when considered together found to satisfy the Council’s requirements for the speciality in question.***

Section 10A of the Act states:

- (1) ***“The Council shall cause to be kept, a book or register to be known as the Medical Specialist Register which shall contain the following particulars :-***
- (a) name and address of the Specialist;***
 - (b) area of expertise;***
 - (c) training, experience and qualifications in the area of specialisation;***
 - (d) date of registration in the Register ; and***
 - (e) date of registration in the Medical Specialist Register.***
- (2) ***Any person whose name is not entered in the Medical Specialist Register shall not be deemed a medical specialist.”***

Routes of entry into Specialist Register

The final decision on eligibility for entry to the Medical Specialist Register lies with the Council of the Medical Board of Trinidad and Tobago. Applicants must hold full registration with the Council before applying for Specialist Registration.

Applicants must have successfully completed a course of recognised postgraduate training, under the supervision of an approved postgraduate training body and be recognised as a specialist in the jurisdiction of the training body.

NB. *No person should receive a license for **specialist practice** unless he/she has passed an examination(s) satisfactory to the Board.*

(Appendix 1)
CERTIFICATION

Certification is a process which evaluates a physician's clinical skills and competency based on education, examination, review of actual patient cases, peer review and other criteria.

In some jurisdiction this process is undertaken by a designated body e.g. American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), The Royal Colleges of UK or by the medical school granting the degree e.g. UWI.

There are 24 specialty boards recognised by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS). Each board decides the extent and scope of training and requirements for its own specialty.

The ABMS accepts all postgraduate residency training recognised by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and the Royal College of Physician and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC).

Residency training in the USA offer supervised and specific training in specialities including Family Practice, Internal medicine, Paediatrics, Emergency medicine, Obstetrics/Gynaecology and Surgery.

Completion of a residency programme (3-7 years training) is currently the only way to be recognised as a member of a particular board.

For doctors practicing in a field where postgraduate degrees were not granted at the time of completion of training, consideration will be given to:

- Duration of practice: fifteen (15) years or more in the speciality area.*
- Submission of 50 CME Credits per year for 3 years.*

The recommendation of the relevant postgraduate training body following assessment of the doctor's training and experience to date will be considered, where applicable.

(Appendix 2)
Fellowship Training

Post speciality training programmes are called Fellowships. These focus more narrowly on a specific area of medicine within a specialty. Cardiology focuses on the heart and blood vessels and Gastroenterology, on the digestive system are subspecialties within internal medicine.

Fellowship training may vary from one to four (1-4) additional years.

If a structured training programme was not followed, references should be included to attest to elements of the training in detail at any given institution.

*E.g. on-call / on-take experience
number of new patients seen
post call ward rounds
assessment and management of patients
medical consultations
evidence of clinic conducted/ attended
CME
grand rounds
journal club
management courses
clinical audit
research*

BASIC CRITERIA FOR SPECIALIST REGISTRATION

The following mandatory **Basic Criteria** must be met for consideration for specialist registration:

1. The applicant must be qualified for registration by the Medical Board of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.
2. The applicant must have an internationally recognised postgraduate qualification
3. The applicant must submit documentary evidence of formal recognition of the applicant's specialist training from the country in which speciality training was done.
4. The applicant must submit documentary evidence of formal working experience as a specialist in the particular speciality, where applicable.

FURTHER PARTICULARS REGARDING CRITERIA FOR SPECIALIST REGISTRATION FROM DIFFERENT JURISDICTION (See Annexes)

All applicants must have graduated from an approved medical school and hold a valid license to practise medicine.

❖ UNITED KINGDOM AND IRELAND

1. Certificates of Completion of Specialist Training (CCTs)/Certificates of Completion of Specialist Training (CCST) from relevant specialist training bodies.
2. Listed in the General Medical Council's Specialist Registry.

❖ AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

1. Trained by one of the National Specialist Medical Colleges.
2. Listed on a State Medical Board's Specialist Registry (Australia).
3. Hold vocational scope registration in that speciality (New Zealand), and if working more than two (2) years as a specialist.

❖ USA AND CANADA

1. Board certified by one of the 24 member boards of the American Board of Medical Specialities (ABMS).
2. Have more than three (3) years of working experience as a specialist in the USA.
3. Exit qualifications from one of the Canadian National Specialist Medical Colleges, in conjunction with adequate residency training.

❖ EUROPEAN UNION

1. Must be officially recognised as a Specialist in the European country where training was obtained.
2. In the European Community (EC) the specialist title must be listed in the European Directive 93/16/EEC as proof of recognition.
3. Training should also be done in a hospital affiliated to one of the medical schools listed in the schedule of the Medical Registration Act.

❖ CARIBBEAN

1. Exit qualification from the Doctor of Medicine (DM) programmes of the University of the West Indies.

DOCUMENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIALIST REGISTRATION

1. One copy of degree certificate of qualification in medicine and sworn translations in English (certified by a Notary Public/Commissioner of affidavit and bearing an official stamp), where applicable.
2. A copy of the official and dated curriculum of the applicant's course of study, specifying courses, content and training (clinical/practical), duration and mode of evaluation.
3. A recent (within the preceding three [3] months) original letter of Good Standing (LOGS), indicating that the applicant is in good standing, issued by the foreign registration authority where the applicant is currently registered.
4. A copy of a valid Passport or Identity Document duly certified by a Notary Public/Commissioner of affidavit.

5. A Curriculum Vitae (CV) indicating the postgraduate qualifications, courses attended, training posts held and list of publications.
6. Letters from each of the hospitals in which the physician's postgraduate training took place which states:
 - a. disciplines in which the physician was trained.
 - b. time spent in each discipline.
 - c. evidence of satisfactory performance.
7. Payment of relevant fee (TT \$3,000.00)

NB. An applicant may be denied Specialist Registration if his/her license has been revoked, suspended, restricted or surrendered, or if subjected to adverse licensure proceeding.

The applicant must not have engaged in conduct which, in the judgement of the Board, reflects unethical activities relating to the practice of medicine or casts significant doubt on the ability of the doctor to practise in the best interest of the patient.

ANNEX 1

Listing of approved institutions by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) within the USA (kindly refer to website www.acgme.org).

ANNEX 2

Training requirements for certification by American Boards (kindly refer to website www.abms.org).

ANNEX 3

Information from Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (kindly refer to website www.rcpsc.medical.org).

ANNEX 4

Information from Medical Council of India (kindly refer to website www.mciindia.org).

ANNEX 5

Postgraduate Medical Education and Training Board (PMETB) United Kingdom (kindly refer to website www.pmetb.org.uk).

ANNEX 6

Australia Medical Council (kindly refer to website www.amc.org.au).

ANNEX 7

Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (kindly refer to website www.mdcnigeria.org).

ANNEX 8

Registration for Practice in Ireland (kindly refer to website www.medicalcouncil.ie).

ANNEX 9

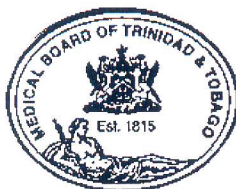
The American Board of Urology, INC, 2007 Information for Applicants and Candidates (kindly refer to website www.abu.org).

Appendix 1:

Certification (kindly refer to page 2).

Appendix 2:

Fellowship Training (kindly refer to page 3).



APPLICATION FOR INCLUSION IN THE “MEDICAL SPECIALIST REGISTER” IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MEDICAL BOARD ACT CHAP. 29:50 [REVISED 2006] AS AMENDED BY ACT NO. 31 OF 2007

I, hereby apply to be included in the
(NAME IN BLOCK LETTERS)

Medical Specialist Register with the Medical Board of Trinidad and Tobago (in accordance with Sections 10A and 15 of the Medical Board Act 1960) and by virtue of the following training experience and qualification(s) of which I am lawfully possessed.

2. List Qualifications now registering with the Medical Board of T&T:-
(Use additional sheets if necessary)

University /Institution where qualification obtained	Name of Degree	From		To	
		Mth.	Yr.	Mth.	Yr.

3. List qualifications previously registered with the Medical Board of T&T:-
(Use additional sheets if necessary)

University /Institution where qualification obtained	Name of Degree	From		To	
		Mth.	Yr.	Mth.	Yr.

4. List area of expertise, training, experience and qualifications in the area of specialization:-
(Use additional sheets if necessary)

Name of Institution	Training Categories/Domains	From		To	
		Mth.	Yr.	Mth.	Yr.

Professional Experience and Institutions	Appointment Held	From		To	
		Mth.	Yr.	Mth.	Yr.

5. List the names of Registration/Licensing authority that previously issued license to practise:-

Name of Registration/Licensing authority where previously registered	Nature of License	From		To	
		Mth.	Yr.	Mth.	Yr.

NB: If there are any periods of time during which the applicant was neither working as a physician nor in a training programme, the applicant should provide an explanation for such gaps.

Applicant's Ordinary Address

..... e-mail:

Tel. No. (H) (W) (Mobile)

Applicant's Signature Date of Application:

<u>For official use only:</u>			
Reg. Number		Date Issued	
		Receipt No.	

In the matter of the Statutory Declaration Chapter 7. No 4

I _____ in the Ward of _____ in the island of Trinidad and Tobago do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:

- I am the person referred to in the accompanying certificate(s) of qualification(s) which I submit in support of my application to be placed on the Medical Specialist Register.
- The qualification(s) was/were granted to me after examination, and entitle me as far as professional qualifications are concerned, to practise as a Specialist in the country of its/their origin.
- The course of study in the professional subjects which I underwent covered a period of academic years.
- I have never been convicted in any country of any criminal offence against the law or been debarred from practice by reason of misconduct and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, no proceedings involving a charge of any such nature are pending against me in any country or any licensing authority at present.
- I accept that my application may be delayed should I fail to submit all the required documentation.

I make this declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true according to the Statutory Declaration Ordinance Chapter (7) No. (4) and I am aware that if there is any statement in this declaration which is false or in fact which I know to be false or do not believe to be true, I am liable to fine and imprisonment.

Applicant's Signature

Declared to at:

Date: _____

This mark was made in my presence by _____

Applicant's Name

on _____ before me.

**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
FULL NAME AND STAMP**