



STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS.

S.I. No. XXX of 2026

MEDICAL COUNCIL (REGISTRATION) (AMENDMENT) RULES 2026

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The Medical Council, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 11 (as amended by section 4 of the Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Act 2011 (No. 12 of 2011)) of the Medical Practitioners Act 2007 (No. 20 of 2007), hereby makes the following rules:

Citation

1. (1) These Rules may be cited as the Medical Council (Registration) (Amendment) Rules 2026.

(2) The Medical Council Registration Rules 2011 (S.I. No. 417 of 2011) and these Rules may be cited together as the Medical Council Registration Rules 2011 and 2026.

(3) The Medical Council – Rules for the Maintenance of Professional Competence (No. 2) (S.I. No. 741 of 2011) and these Rules may be cited together as the Medical Council – Rules for the Maintenance of Professional Competence (No. 2) 2011 and 2026.

(4) The Rules Specifying Examinations and Criteria for Registration in the Supervised Division Pursuant to the Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Act 2011 (S.I. No. 208 of 2013) and these Rules may be cited together as the Rules Specifying Examinations and Criteria for Registration in the Supervised Division Pursuant to the Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Act 2011 2013 and 2026.

Commencement

2. These Rules come into operation on [XXXX] 2026.

Amendments to Rules

3. The Medical Council Registration Rules 2011 (S.I. No. 417 of 2011) are amended –

(a) by the substitution of the following Rule for Rule 1:

“1. The examination referred to in section 46(b)(i) of the Act is the Pre-Registration Examination System (“the PRES”) or the Professional and Linguistic Assessments Board test organised by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom (“the PLAB”).”,

(b) by the substitution of the following Rule for Rule 5:

“The criteria to be applied to medical practitioners under section 47(1), subparagraphs (b) or (c) of the Act shall be the criteria set out in those subparagraphs and the Council shall consider applications under section 47(1), subparagraph (c) of the Act in accordance with the procedures outlined in Directive 2005/36/EC and the European Union (Recognition of Professional Qualifications) Regulations 2017 (S.I. No. 8 of 2017).”,

(c) by the substitution of “subparagraph (c)” for “subparagraphs (c), (d) or (e)” in paragraph (b) of Rule 6, and

(d) by the deletion of Rules 8, 9 and 10.

4. The Medical Council – Rules for the Maintenance of Professional Competence (No. 2) (S.I. No. 741 of 2011) are amended in paragraph (j) of Rule 2 by the substitution of “the Pre-Registration Examination System or the Professional and Linguistic Assessments Board test organised by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom” for “the Pre-Registration Examination System”.

5. The Rules Specifying Examinations and Criteria for Registration in the Supervised Division Pursuant to the Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Act 2011 (S.I. No. 208 of 2013) are amended –

- (a) in Rule 1.3, by the substitution of “the Pre-Registration Examination System (“the PRES”) Level 2 or the Professional and Linguistic Assessments Board test (“the PLAB”) 1 organised by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom” for “the Pre-Registration Examination System (“the PRES”) Level 2”, and
- (b) in Rule 3.2, by the substitution of “Pre-Registration Examination System (“the PRES”) or Professional and Linguistic Assessments Board test organised by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom (“the PLAB”)” for “Pre-Registration Examination System (“the PRES”)”.

L.S. GIVEN under the Official Seal of the Medical Council,
[Day] [Month] 2026.

President

Chief Executive Officer

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Instrument and does not purport to be a legal interpretation).

These Rules amend the Medical Council Registration Rules 2011, the Medical Council – Rules for the Maintenance of Professional Competence (No. 2) 2011 and the Rules Specifying Examinations and Criteria for Registration in the Supervised Division Pursuant to the Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Act 2011 2013 to provide for the PLAB as an alternative examination to the PRES where relevant for the purposes of registration in the register of medical practitioners, and provide for amendment and deletion of certain rules that are no longer operative by reason of intervening updates to primary legislation.