

GENERAL REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES FOR TRAINEES

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INDIGENOUS MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SRI LANKA

2023

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1. BACKGROUND

The System of Ayurveda Medical education in Sri Lanka commenced in June 1929 with the establishment of the Swadesheeya Vaidya Vidyalaya, which became the Institute of Indigenous Medicine (IIM) in 1977, when the University of Ceylon was established and later it was absorbed to the University of Colombo in 1980. There was no structured and organized postgraduate training in MD (Ayu) to ward clinical postgraduate degrees available in Sri Lanka of any kind to benchmark in this field. The medical officers from the Department of Ayurvedaand lecturers from Universities visited India for training and to obtain such MD clinical qualifications. Therefore, the conduct of a Postgraduate degree courses in MD (Ayu) in Sri Lanka became decisive.

The Board of Management of the IIM, University of Colombo, and University Grants Commission recommended commencing and conducting an MD (Ayu) programme in 2012. Training in the specialties of Ayurveda Medicine at the postgraduate degree level done by the Indian System of Medicine (Refer: CCIM Gazette of India, 2012 March 19) was taken into consideration when arriving at the above decision. Accordingly, the MD (Ayu) postgraduate degree course commenced in 2012 at the IIM.

However, the UGC and Ministry of Health and Indigenous Medicine with the concurrence of the Cabinet of Ministers made a policy decision to establish the Postgraduate Institute of Indigenous Medicine (PGIIM) to provide specialists to the Ministry of Health that fulfills the stipulated requirements in the Special Gazette notification number 1882/50 dated 3rd October 2014. Accordingly, the establishment of the PGIIM was gazetted in July 2017 and the Ordinance was gazetted in December 2017.

2. CURRENT STATUS OF THE PGIIM

The PGIIM is the only Higher Education Institute in Sri Lanka empowered by a gazette notification to register students for MD and Board Certification in relevant specialty study programmes of five (5) years duration with a compulsory one (1) year training overseas. These are the qualification required by Public Service Commission (PSC) to appoint specialists in Ayurveda. Unani and Siddha Specialties as per PSC Gazette Notification. It has been the responsibility of the PGIIM to provide all the required specialists in the indigenous sector. The PGIIM is affiliated with the University of Colombo in relation to academic and administrative affairs.

3. AUTHORITIES OF THE INSTITUTE

3.1 Board of Management

The Board of Management is the principal administrative, financial and academic authority of the Institute and is comprised of:

3.1.1 The following ex-officio members namely: -

- i. The Director;
- ii. The Secretary to the Ministry of the Minister in charge of the subject of Higher Education or the nominee of such Secretary;
- iii. The Secretary to the Ministry of the Minister in charge of the subject of Indigenous Medicine or the nominee of such Secretary;
- iv. The Secretary to the Ministry of the Minister in charge of the subject of Finance or the nominee of such Secretary;
- v. The Commissioner of Ayurveda
- vi. The Immediate Past Director of the Institute;
- vii. Directors/Heads of all undergraduate institutes/Units of Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha medicine established under the Act;
- viii. The Director of the Bandaranaike Memorial Ayurveda Research Institute (BMARI).
- 3.1.2 The following other members, namely:
 - i. One member each from among specialist grade doctors of Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha medicine from the Department of Ayurveda nominated by the Commissioner of Ayurveda;
 - ii. Three members with distinguished service to represent each of the following fields legal, administrative, and financial appointed by the Commission;
 - iii. Two members nominated by the University Council from among the appointed members of the Council.

The Chairman of the Board of Management shall be the Director of PGIIM, the Chief Executive Officer, and officer in charge of discipline in the Institute.

3.2 Boards of Study and Specialty Boards of Study

The Board of Study (BOS) is the main academic organ of a given medical discipline. There are three BOS established under the Ordinance; BOS Ayurveda Medicine, BOS Unani Medicine and BOS Siddha Medicine. There are seven Specialty Boards (SpB) in relevant Ayurveda Specialties, 3 in Unani Specialties and 2 in Siddha Specialties. The BOS with the relevant SpB will plan programmes of study, draft and review curricula, plan clinical or laboratory training, plan and carry out examinations, select resource persons, recommend training centers for approval and nominate examiners subject to approval by the Board of Management and theSenate of the University of Colombo. The BOS/SPB has to monitor the progress of trainees with appropriate mechanisms described in the Prospectus.

The details of all functions of BOS/SpB and the procedure to be followed to appoint members/co- opted members are described in the PGIIM ordinance gazetted in December 2017. No. 01 of 1980 and subsequent amendments.

3.3 The Final Authority

The final authority on academic matters is the Senate of the University of Colombo, on administrative matters the Council of the University of Colombo, and on financial matters of the Board of Management of the PGIIM. The Chief Executive officer of PGIIM shall be the Director and he/she shall be responsible for disciplinary matters too.

| Boards of Study | MD and Board Certification (SLQF Level 12) |
|-------------------|---|
| Ayurveda Medicine | MD in Ayurveda in Kayachikitsa and Board Certification |
| | MD in Ayurveda in Shalya Tantra and Board Certification |
| | MD in Ayurveda in Prasuthi Streeroga and Board Certification |
| | MD in Ayurveda in Kaumarabhrithya and Board Certification |
| | MD in Ayurveda in Swasthavritta and Board Certification |
| | MD in Ayurveda in Shalakya Tantra and Board Certification |
| | MD in Ayurveda in Bhaisajya Kalpana & Rasashastra and Board Certification |
| Unani Medicine | MD in Unani in Moalijat and Board Certification |
| | MD in Unani in Ilmul Adviya and Board Certification |
| | MD in Unani in Amraze Niswan of Qabalat and Board Certification |
| Siddha Medicine | MD in Siddha in Ghunapadam and Board Certification |
| | MD in Siddha in Maruthuvam and Board Certification |

4. ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

5. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA OF SELECTION EXAMINATIONS

- Ayurveda/Unani/ Siddha undergraduate degree at Bachelors level (SLQF Level 6) recognized by the Senate of a University established by UGC under the University Act Sri Lanka and other relevant local or foreign higher education institutes recognized by UGC Sri Lanka.
- Ayurveda/ Unani/ Siddha undergraduate degree at Bachelors level (SLQF Level 6) registered with the Sri Lanka Ayurveda Medical Council (SLAMC).
- Satisfactory completion of internship acceptable to the Sri Lanka Ayurveda Medical Council.

- Satisfactory completion of one-year work experience in Sri Lanka, after completion of internship (State or private sector).
- Complying with any other PGIIM general regulations relevant to the selection of trainees.

PS- Prospective trainees will be allowed to attempt screening/selection examinations without limitation on the number of attempts. This is applicable in respect of all Selection Examinations.

6. SELECTION FOR TRAINING PROGRAMMES

- 6.1 The PGIIM shall issue circular letters and advertisements in the newspapers or/and PGIIM website calling applications for Selection Examinations. Prospective applicants need to respond to such advertisements. When and if available the details may be published on an appropriate website too.
- 6.2 Application Forms received in response to such notices along with payments will be scrutinized by the Senior Assistant Registrar (SAR) Assistant Registrar (AR) in consultation with the respective Boards of Study. Candidates will be selected for training programmes on the basis of performance at the Selection Examinations (that have been prescribed by the SpB/BOS/BOM)
- 6.3 Training will be carried out in training units approved by the SpB/BOS/BOM/Senate. Allocation of trainees to training units will be done on the basis of the existing criteria laid down in the relevant Prospectus, availability of units, and trainers in the accredited training units.
- 6.4 List of trainees is submitted to the Department of Ayurveda or to the employer concerned for releasing trainees to follow courses of study/training programmes. The responsibility of releasing of trainees to the PGIIM rests with the Department of Ayurveda/University/private sector employer concerned.
- 6.5 An Ayurveda Medical Officer or an Academic in a Higher Education Institute shall be permitted to follow a full-time PG training programme leading to MD and Board Certification only in one discipline.

7. ALLOCATION OF TRAINING SLOTS

The selection for the training programme according to the maximum number indicated in the circular calling for applications for the Selection Examination and the allocation of training units to Medical Officers in Department of Ayurveda, Universities, Armed Forces/Police, Non-state Sector (Sri Lankans) and Foreign Candidates who have passed the selection examinationwill be done as described below:

- There should be "a separate merit list" for each specialty of the training programme.
- The principle of not compromising the maximum number permitted in selection for the training programme and allocation of training units for the Department of Ayurveda doctors will be respected.
- There should be Six Segments as listed below:

| Segment 1: Medical Officers attached to Department of Ayurveda/local | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| | government | | | |
| Segment 2: | Medical Officers/Academics attached to the Universities | | | |
| Segment 3: | Medical Officers attached to Armed Forces/Police Segment | | | |
| 4: | Medical Officers in the Non-State Sector | | | |
| Segment 5: | Medical Officers with overseas relevant MD qualifications or | | | |
| | equivalent who will enter through the lateral entry route | | | |
| Segment 6: | Foreign nationals. | | | |

- There should be only one "list for allocation of training units" of trainees from all segments after selection to the training programme.
- At the time of applying for the selection examination for MD (Ayurveda/Unani/Siddha) Program of PGIIM, each candidate should mention their preference of the specialty in the application.
- A common selection examination will be conducted for all the candidates, but separate merit lists will be prepared for each specialty in Ayurveda/Unani/Siddha.
- Based on the final mark in the Selection Examination of all candidates in all five segments who passed the Selection Examination will be prepared in the descending order separately under each specialty.
- Based on the maximum number permitted for each segment as decided by the Specialty Board in advance, the candidates will be selected only if they are placed above the cut off line (50%).

8. BOARD CERTIFICATION FOR FOREIGN QUALIFICATIONS

An overseas applicant who applies for admission and registration to Board Certification must possess an MD equivalent qualification obtained following full-time hospital based clinical training in the specialty such as from a recognized university or institute in India or another country. The applicant should be admitted to the Post MD programme as decided by the SpB/BOS/BOM. All such applicants should successfully complete the post MD training to be eligible for Board Certification. The registration and course fee will be communicated to such applicants by the BOM.

9. FEES AND PAYMENTS

Registration fees, Course fees, Examination fees and other fees decided by the BOM are payable by the trainees to follow training programmes and to sit the PGIIM examinations. Information concerning fees payable could be obtained from the Academic and Examination Branches or website of the PGIIM. Current rates are available with the Accounts Branch.

- 9.1. Those selected will be required to pay the specified Registration fee as a once and for all payment and should register with the PGIIM for the entire duration of the training programme of study.
- 9.2. Each trainee also should pay the course and examination fees approved by the BOM at the point of registration for each year of training/examination. It shall be the responsibility of the trainee to pay for all costs of overseas training if and when relevant.
- 9.3. The trainee should make all the above payments to the PGIIM and it shall be the responsibility of the trainee to recover such fees from the employer when and if possible.
- 9.4 Non-payment of fees at the stipulated time shall lead to discontinuation of the study program. In such instances to reinstate the trainee status, the trainee will have to re-register with the PGIIM by paying the registration fees and a handling fee determined by the BOM.

9.5. Schedule payment structure of fees

Registration and tuition fees are payable in respect of the MD training programs annually as follows:

| Instalment | Time |
|---|---|
| 1 st year fee + Registration | Before commencement |
| 2 nd year fee | 1 st month of 2 nd year |
| 3 rd year fee | 1 st month of 3 rd year |
| 4 th year fee | 1 st month of 4 th year |
| 5 th year fee | 1 st month of 5 th year |

9.6. No fees shall be refunded. In special situations, such requests will be considered on a case- by-case basis by the Finance committee and recommendations submitted to BOM for the final decision.

10. LEAVE

The stipulations that are applicable in relation to leaving for trainees are as follows:

- 10.1 Trainees are entitled to 14 days of leave per year with prior approval from BOS/SPB.
- 10.2 The SpB/BOS concerned should ensure that the trainee has completed the prescribed training in full in conformity with the criteria laid down in the Prospectus- if not the trainee should be asked to repeat the shortfall caused by the absence or unsatisfactory performance.
- 10.3 Whatever leave is taken (inclusive of maternity/sick leave) loss of training due to absence in each segment of the program would have to be repeated if 85% attendance is not secured. Even with 85% attendance, trainees may be asked, as decided by the BOS/SPB, to repeat any segment of the training program that they have not satisfactorily completed.
- 10.4 Following registration to a training program a trainee is entitled to a maximum of one year personal leave (excluding medical leave supported by a medical certificate) for acceptable personal reasons. It would be the responsibility of the trainee to obtain prior approval for such leave either from the Ministry of Health orUniversity as the case may be. However, following such leave, the trainee should join the New Prospectus in operation as a result of amendments being made to the previous one.
- 10.5 Maternity leave As required by "Section 18.2 of chapter 12 of the Government Establishment Code and the UGC Circular No. 10/2013 trainee should keep away from the training program for a period of at least 28 days from the date of delivery"

Trainees are entitled to maternity leave as per Government Establishment Code/Public Administration Circulars and UGC Circulars. However, loss of training due to absence in each segment of the program would have to be repeated if 85% attendance is not secured. This may mean that the candidate has to complete the shortfall of training even if they sit the examination with the subsequent batch of trainees.

Trainees should inform the Director/PGIIM in writing, in addition to informing therelevant employer, when availing of maternity leave along with a copy of the Medical Certificate.

10.6 Paternity leave-The trainees are entitled to paternity leave under the provisions of public administration circulars.

11. ATTENDANCE

A minimum of 85% attendance at organized lecture courses/modules, practical, fieldwork, and satisfactory completion of prescribed clinical training are requirements for granting permission to sit examinations. In addition, acceptance of the report of performance, portfolio/research report/publications are also prerequisites for granting such permission.

12. EXIT EXAMINATIONS

A comprehensive assessment will be held at the end of the prescribed training program to test the knowledge, skills, competencies, and attitudes of the trainees (MD Examination and Pre-Board Certification Assessment). In addition, should produce satisfactory outcomes on continuous assessments such as Reports on Performance, Research Projects, Portfolio Entries, and Annual Reviews.

The details of the Exit (MD) examination and Pre-Board Certification Assessment are described in the relevant prospects.

Trainees who have reached the stipulated standard for a pass in the MD Examination will be awarded the Doctor of Medicine in the specialty concerned. The University of Colombo would confer the said degree at the convocation.

Trainees who have reached the stipulated standard for a pass in the Pre-Board Certification Assessment shall be awarded the Board Certification by the PGIIM in the relevant specialty.

13. NUMBER OF ATTEMPTS AT MD EXAMINATION

- 13.1. The permitted number at MD Examinations shall be six (06). All six attempts should be completed within a period of eight years from the date of the first attempt. In reckoning the number of attempts, all scheduled examinations from the first attempt will be considered despite whether the trainee attempted the successive examinations or not. However, in the event, the trainee has not sat a scheduled examination due to an acceptable reason such as an illness substantiated by a medical certificate to the SpB/BOS/BOM or due to any other valid reason acceptable to the BOM and Senate such an attempt will not be counted in the determination of the number of attempts. When exhausted re-entry to the same program will not be permitted nor permitted to sit for the Selection Examination of the same training programs.
- 13.2 Any candidate in a training program who fails the MD Examination for the fifth attempt should be strongly recommended to satisfy the following conditions before permitting the sixth attempt.
 - a) To be appointed to a training unit for further full-time training of twelve months with a satisfactory report.

- b) To undergo Portfolio Assessment evaluation every six months with satisfactory reports.
- c) To sit for an MD mock examination which is organized by the SpB.
- 13.3. The trainees who are unsuccessful at the 6th attempt will not be permitted to sit the MD Examination again for any reason whatsoever. However, a 'Letter Certifying Completion of Training' may be issued by the PGIIM on request indicating the durations and different components of the training program.
- 13.4. Counting of the number of attempts and withdrawals of Examination Applications Prospective applicants may withdraw their examination applications or may be absent from the examination due to unavoidable circumstances. The following stipulations will apply to such situations.

Attempt/s will not be counted for purposes such as compilation of the number of attempts and compilation of merit list and other requirements pertaining to the Examination provided:

- The applicant withdraws his/her application prior to the date of closure of applications.
- The candidate withdraws his/her application after the date of closure of applications but prior to the commencement of the examination for reasons that are acceptable to the Board of Study.
- The candidate absents himself/herself from the examination without a prior intimation but submits a Medical Certificate (within 14 days from the commencement of the examination) acceptable to the SpB/BOS/BOM/Senate, in support of his/her illness with an endorsement from a specialist.
- Sudden unavoidable circumstances which are acceptable to the SpB/BOS/BOM/Senate.
- 13.5 Determination of the number of attempts for MD examinations:
 - Trainees, on completion of the prescribed training program should sit the first scheduled examination which will be counted as the FIRST ATTEMPT.
 - Trainees who are unable to sit the first scheduled examinations due to reasons such as availing of maternity leave or owing to sickness will be considered as candidates who are sitting the next scheduled examination first time. On success, they will be placed in the order of merit at the appropriate position. They will be allocated for placements according to the order of merit. The Board of Study would deal appropriately with regard to the other reasons on a case-by-case basis in relation to the determination of the number of attempts.
 - It is the trainees' responsibility to inform PGIIM within 1 month before the scheduled date of the examination if they do not wish to sit the scheduled or subsequent attempts with reasons.

 Trainees who have delayed sitting examinations due to reasons which are not acceptable to the SpB/BOS/BOM will be governed by rules and regulations which are in place at the time of sitting such examinations. In instances where reasons given by trainees for not sitting the first scheduled or subsequent examinations are not acceptable to the SpB/BOS/BOM, the number of examinations held in between will be counted when determining the number of attempts and order ofmerit determined accordingly. Fees paid will not be refunded.

14. NUMBER OF ATTEMPTS AT PRE-BOARD CERTIFICATION ASSESSMENT

The maximum number of attempts shall be four (04), and it should be completed within a maximum period of five (05) years. If either is exhausted the trainees registration shall be cancelled. The trainee shall not be permitted to register for any other MD study program norsit for the Selection Examination of such a program.

15. DETERMINATION OF THE DATE OF BOARD CERTIFICATION

15.1. The trainees become eligible for Board Certification following completion of all requirements stipulated in the respective Prospectus. On satisfactory completionof such requirements, the trainee is Board Certified with effect from the date on which they were scheduled to complete such training. For the purpose of determination of the effective date of Board Certification, <u>the durations of local and overseas training components are added to the date of release of results.</u>

Accordingly, the effective date is considered as the date on which the trainee completed the prescribed periods of training <u>reckoned from the date of release of</u> <u>MD results</u> provided:

- a. The local training has been commenced immediately after passing the MD Examination
- b. Overseas component/s of training has been commenced within 3 years after passing the MD Examination.
- c. A valid reason for such delay is given to 'a' and 'b' above
- d. There have been no complaints during the training which has resulted in the extension of the training period.
- e. There has been no delay in sitting for the PBCA and passing it as stipulated in the prospectus.
- f. Has completed all requirements stipulated in the prospectus such as the case book, portfolio, and dissertation within the stipulated period.
- g. Has applied within one month after completion of all requirements.
- h. Board of Management, on the recommendation of the SpB/BOS has not decided otherwise.

15.2 In the event of non-completion of (a) to (h) above the extra period shall be added to the date of Board Certification.

- 15.3 However, under exceptional circumstances, the Board of Management, on the recommendation of the SpB/BOS, <u>could grant an extension of time</u> up to a maximum of two (02) years to a trainee to complete the prescribed Post MD training. In such instances, the date of Board Certification will be the due date.
- **15.4** As a prerequisite, all trainees are required to report back to the employer and to the PGIIM for the purpose of Board Certification. A letter from the Commissioner of Ayurveda/Vice Chancellor/Commander of Armed Forces/Inspector/General of Police/the higher authority of the respective private organizations has to be produced to confirm that the trainee has reported for work and assumed duties in the appointed post. In the PGIIM the trainees have to sign and date a register maintained specifically for this purpose. However, in the event of any delay in doing so without a valid reason, the number of dates will be added to the calculated date of Board Certification as per 15.1 above.

16. MONITORING OF THE PROGRESS OF TRAINEES

The progress of all trainees will be monitored closely by the trainers and the SpB/BOS. The overseas component of the post-MD training program will be monitored by the overseas trainer. Appropriate assessment and appraisal mechanisms are in place for trainees at Registrar and Senior Registrar levels. SpB/BOS will determine the format of these assessments and some of which are described in the respective Prospectus.

A trainee may have to repeat part of the training or the entire training program if he/she has Shown unsatisfactory progress during training and this will delay the date of Board Certification.

If a trainee's conduct has been found to be unprofessional, appropriate action will be taken in terms of the provisions of the Disciplinary Code of the PGIIM.

17. OVERSEAS POST-MD TRAINING

- a) Period of Post-MD Training The minimum period shall be one year local and one year overseas (minimum total of two years). It will be the responsibility of the trainee to obtain the required leave, arrange required funding (course fee and transport & living allowance), and the scholarship if required from the employer.
- b) Documents such as the letter of offer pertaining to the training post, and details of fees/remuneration if any, are required to be submitted when trainees seek approval for overseas training placements.
- c) The satisfactory completion of the local component of training and passing the MD examination is a prerequisite to applying for overseas training and study leave. However, at the discretion of the SpB/BOS such overseas leave may be approved

before the completion of the minimum post-MD local training period. In such an eventthe balance local training period as determined by the BOS has to be completed in a training unit allocated by the SpB/BOS to be eligible to apply for Board Certification.

After completing the Post MD one-year local training, the trainee should commence the overseas training within 05 years after passing the MD Examination. If not, the trainee shall be removed from the training program and shall not be eligible for Board Certification no re-entry to the same program.

18. PRIVILEGES OF BOARD CERTIFICATION

As per PGIIM Ordinance Section 11. k. "the Board of Management (BOM) is authorized to recognize with the concurrence of the University such persons as may be approved by the Institute, as trainers and examiners of the Institute. A Trainer means a person having three years' experience after Board Certification or equivalent qualifications or **eligible for Privileges of Board Certification** and who shall be in active service in any University or in the Ministry of Indigenous Medicine".

Accordingly, the document proposes the process to be followed to award the "Eligible for Privileges of Board Certification" since there are many requests to obtain such.

Eligible for Privileges of Board Certification: Clinical disciplines

A) The Specialist Medical officers who are in the service of the Ministry of Indigenous Medicine or academics in faculties/institutes established under the University Act with the MD or MS or equivalent foreign qualification obtained following **3 years of minimum fulltime hospital based clinical training** from a recognized university in overseas before July 2022, shall be eligible for "Privileges of Board Certification", provided the specialist/academic concerned has **completed 2 years** of continuous service in the state health service/university after obtaining such qualification.

B) The Specialist Medical officers who are in the service of the Ministry of Indigenous Medicine or academics in faculties/institutes established under the University Act with the MD or MS obtained following **3 years of minimum fulltime training** from a recognized university in Sri Lanka before July 2022, shall be eligible for "Privileges of Board Certification", provided the specialist/academic concerned has **completed 7 years** of continuous service in the state health service/university after obtaining such qualification.

Eligible for Privileges of Board Certification: Pre-Clinical and Para-Clinical disciplines

A) The Specialist Medical officers who are in the service of the Ministry of Indigenous Medicineor academics in faculties/institutes established under the University Act with the MD or MS or equivalent foreign qualification obtained following **3 years of minimum fulltime clinical**

/Laboratory training from a recognized university in overseas before July 2022, shall be eligible for "Privileges of Board Certification", provided the specialist/academic concerned has **completed 2 years** of continuous service in the state health service/university after obtaining such qualification.

B) The Specialist Medical officers who are in the service of the Ministry of Indigenous Medicine or

academics in faculties/institutes established under the University Act with the MD or MS qualification obtained following **3 years of minimum fulltime training** from a recognized university in Sri Lanka before July 2022, shall be eligible for "Privileges of Board Certification", provided the specialist/academic concerned has **completed 7 years** of continuous service in thestate health service/university after obtaining such qualification.

Procedure

Each eligible such specialist or academic shall inform the Director PGIIM of his or her wish to apply to be considered for the "Privileges of Board Certification" with the completed application form, certified copy of the degree certificate, certified copies of Post-MD training/service, service certificate and the curriculum vitae with the specified fee *.

On receipt of such application a committee consisting of Director, PGIIM (Chair), Chairperson of relevant Board of Study (BOS) and Specialty Board or Secretary of the BOS shall evaluate the application and submit the recommendation to BOM. The BOM, if satisfied that the applicant has completed all requirements shall submit its recommendation to the Senate, University of Colombo.

Following approval of the application by the Senate, the "Privileges of Board Certification" shall be issued to the applicant under the signature of the Director, PGIIM and Chairperson of the relevant BOS to be effective from the date of PGIIM Ordinance was gazetted; Friday, December 08, 2017 for the specialist who fulfilled above requirements on or before 8th December 2017. The effective date of "Privileges of Board Certification" for those who fulfilled above requirements after 8th December 2017 would be the date of obtaining such qualification for the Privilege of Board Certification.

19. HEALTH AND FITNESS

Trainees should be in sound physical and mental health and fitness to undertake the Course of study/training program. In case of a significant illness or an impairment/disability, the trainee and/or the trainer will inform the Director/PGIIM, A trainee could be refused entryor be discontinued from the training program on account of serious illness/impairment or physical or mental health. Such a decision will be made on the recommendation of a MedicalBoard appointed by the PGIIM in consultation with the Department of Ayurveda/University/Commander of Armed Forces/Inspector General of Police/the higher authority of the respective private organizations. The decision of the Board of Managementwill be the final.

20. DISCIPLINE

20.1 Discipline is considered an important aspect of training and the trainees always have to follow the guidelines of the appropriate instruments approved by the Board of Management, University Senate, and the Council of the University of Colombo. Trainees will be dealt with the provisions of the Disciplinary Code of the PGIIM. All trainees are subject to the general guidelines of the statutory bodies such as the SLAMC and the employer and that of the foreign organizations such as AYUSH.

20.2 The PGIIM has its own Disciplinary Code which is directly applicable to PGIIM trainees to supplement the disciplinary regulations of the University. The appropriate disciplinary action on offenders shall be taken by the Board of Management or the University Council as the case may be.

21. EXAMINATION OFFENCES

Trainees are required to refrain from committing examination offences and those who commit such offences are liable to be punished under regulations of University of Colombo rules or/and regulations, code of conduct of PGIIM.

22. CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION

a) When letters are sent by trainees to the PGIIM these should be addressed to the Director. If necessary, the letters may be copied to the Chairperson of the SpB/BOS no emails and SMS messages will been entertained.

b) All letters being sent from the PGIIM to Trainers, Examiners, Specialists, or Trainees or to other institutions should be under the signature of the Director/PGIIM.