



# Faculty of Public Health

of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom

Working to improve the public's health

## THE REGULATIONS OF THE PART A MEMBERSHIP EXAMINATION FROM JANUARY 1999

### *Introduction*

The examination is a written examination designed to test the candidate's knowledge and understanding of the scientific basis of public health. The format of the examination and an indicative syllabus will be reviewed regularly and modifications published regularly by the Education Committee with adequate notice.

### *Eligibility and Application Criteria*

From 1999 the examination is open to all people who hold a university degree or an equivalent qualification approved by the Education Committee.

Any medical graduate who is a registered member of the GMC will be required to produce documentary evidence of that registration (a copy of their current registration certificate).

Any applicant who is not registered with the General Medical Council must provide **original** evidence of their primary qualification with their application form. Applicants registered with another health profession (e.g. NMC, GDC) are also requested to provide a copy of their current registration certificate.

The Part A Membership Examination stands alone as a route to Diplomate Membership of the Faculty (DFPHM). Any applicant who is successful in the examination will be deemed eligible to continue to the Part B Membership Examination.

A marriage certificate or other official evidence of change of name must be submitted by candidates who wish to enter under a name which differs from that which appears in the Medical Register or on their original diploma of qualification.

### *Number of attempts*

The limit on the number of attempts candidates are allowed to sit the MFPH examinations was removed by the Faculty Board in June 2008.

### *Exemptions*

Exemption from the Part A Membership Examination will be granted to candidates who have passed Part I of the examination for Membership of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine (formerly Faculty of Community Medicine) of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland or such other qualification as may be approved by the Board. Applications must be made on the relevant form and be accompanied by documentary evidence and the current examination fee.

## ***Application and Entry Requirements***

Each candidate must apply to be admitted to the Part A Membership Examination and the Part B Membership examination separately.

Application for entry to examination and for exemption from the examination must be made on the prescribed forms obtainable from the Faculty Office.

Application forms accompanied by the requisite fee and any other documents required must reach the Faculty Office not later than the published closing date. The published closing dates for entry to each part of the examination are final.

Candidates who are unsuccessful in the Part A Membership Examination may apply to enter the next sitting of the examination unless their attempt has been deferred by the Education Committee on account of poor performance.

## ***Dates and Centres***

The Part A Membership Examination is held twice each year on dates to be announced at one center in London, at one center in Hong Kong if there is sufficient demand and at such overseas centres as the Education Committee may from time to time determine.

## ***Exceptional arrangements***

The Academic Registrar may, at his or her discretion, sanction exceptional arrangements for the conduct of either Part of the examination for candidates with special needs, and report to the Education Committee.

## ***Fees***

A separate fee is payable for each attempt at the examination.

Fees must be paid in full by the published closing date for entry to that part of the Examination. Cheques should be drawn in sterling and made payable to the Faculty of Public Health Medicine.

The level of fees will be determined by the Board in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Faculty.

## ***Withdrawals***

Any candidate who withdraws from either the Part A Membership Examination or Part B Membership examination must give notice in writing to the Faculty. Fees are refunded as follows:

If notice is received by the Faculty before the closing date for application for entry to an examination, the complete fee is refunded. If notice is received after the closing date, any refund will be at the discretion of the Board.

A candidate who withdraws after starting the examination is considered to have made an attempt at that examination.

If the candidate is forced to withdraw from the examination for any reason beyond his or her control, the candidate may apply to the Education Committee for special consideration of his or her case.