



Medical Act 1983

1983 CHAPTER 54

PART II

MEDICAL EDUCATION AND REGISTRATION: PERSONS QUALIFYING IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND ELSEWHERE IN THE EEC.

5 General functions of [^{F1}the General Council] in relation to medical education in the United Kingdom.

- (1) [^{F1}The General Council] shall have the general function of promoting high standards of medical education and co-ordinating all stages of medical education.
- (2) For the purpose of discharging that function [^{F1}the General Council] shall—
 - (a) determine the extent of the knowledge and skill which is to be required for the granting of primary United Kingdom qualifications and secure that the instruction given [^{F2}in or under the direction of bodies or combinations of bodies] in the United Kingdom to persons studying for such qualifications is sufficient to equip them with knowledge and skill of that extent;
 - (b) determine the standard of proficiency which is to be required from candidates at qualifying examinations and secure the maintenance of that standard; and
 - [^{F3}(c) discharge their functions under section 10A below in respect of programmes for provisionally registered doctors.]

^{F4}(2A)

^{F5}(2B)

[^{F6}(3) Determinations of [^{F1}the General Council] under subsection (2)(a) or (b) above shall be published in such manner as they see fit.

(3A) Such determinations—

- (a) are binding on [^{F7}bodies or combinations of bodies] concerned with medical education as regards the matters to which they relate; and
- (b) accordingly, those [^{F7}bodies or combinations of bodies] must act in accordance with them as regards the matters to which they relate.]

Changes to legislation: *Medical Act 1983, Section 5 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 11 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

(4) In this Act—

F8

“the prescribed knowledge and skill” means knowledge and skill of the extent for the time being determined under subsection (2)(a) above and [F9 set out in determinations published] under subsection (3) above;

“the prescribed standard of proficiency” means the standard of proficiency for the time being determined under subsection (2)(b) above and [F10 set out in determinations published] under subsection (3) above;

F11

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Act substituted (1.1.2009) by [The Medical Profession \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/3131\)](#), Sch. 1 para. 7(1)(2)
- F2** Words in s. 5(2)(a) substituted (3.11.2008) by [The Health Care and Associated Professions \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/1774\)](#), art. 1(5), **Sch. 1 para. 4(a)**; S.I. 2008/2556, art. 2(1)(a)
- F3** S. 5(2)(c) substituted (19.7.2006 for specified purposes, 1.8.2007 in so far as not already in force as notified in the London Gazette dated 20.7.2007) by [The Medical Act 1983 \(Amendment\) and Miscellaneous Amendments Order 2006 \(S.I. 2006/1914\)](#), art. 1(2)(b)(c)(3), **21(a)**
- F4** S. 5(2A) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The European Qualifications \(Health and Social Care Professions\) \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/593\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 1 para. 4(2)** (with reg. 12A, Sch. 1 Pt. 2) (as amended by S.I. 2020/1394, regs. 4, 9); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F5** S. 5(2B) omitted (3.12.2007) by virtue of [The European Qualifications \(Health and Social Care Professions\) Regulations 2007 \(S.I. 2007/3101\)](#), regs. 1(2), **5(b)**
- F6** S. 5(3)(3A) substituted for s. 5(3) (19.7.2006 for specified purposes, 1.8.2007 in so far as not already in force as notified in the London Gazette dated 20.7.2007) by [The Medical Act 1983 \(Amendment\) and Miscellaneous Amendments Order 2006 \(S.I. 2006/1914\)](#), art. 1(2)(b)(c)(3), **21(c)**
- F7** Words in s. 5(3A) substituted (3.11.2008) by [The Health Care and Associated Professions \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/1774\)](#), art. 1(5), **Sch. 1 para. 4(b)**; S.I. 2008/2556, art. 2(1)(a)
- F8** Words in s. 5(4) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The European Qualifications \(Health and Social Care Professions\) \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/593\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 1 para. 4(3)** (with reg. 12A, Sch. 1 Pt. 2) (as amended by S.I. 2020/1394, regs. 4, 9); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F9** Words in s. 5(4) substituted (19.7.2006 for specified purposes, 1.8.2007 in so far as not already in force as notified in the London Gazette dated 20.7.2007) by [The Medical Act 1983 \(Amendment\) and Miscellaneous Amendments Order 2006 \(S.I. 2006/1914\)](#), art. 1(2)(b)(c)(3), **21(d)(i)**
- F10** Words in s. 5(4) omitted (19.7.2006 for specified purposes, 1.8.2007 in so far as not already in force as notified in the London Gazette dated 20.7.2007) by virtue of [The Medical Act 1983 \(Amendment\) and Miscellaneous Amendments Order 2006 \(S.I. 2006/1914\)](#), art. 1(2)(b)(c)(3), **21(d)(ii)**
- F11** Words in s. 5(4) omitted (19.7.2006 for specified purposes, 1.8.2007 in so far as not already in force as notified in the London Gazette dated 20.7.2007) by virtue of [The Medical Act 1983 \(Amendment\) and Miscellaneous Amendments Order 2006 \(S.I. 2006/1914\)](#), art. 1(2)(b)(c)(3), **21(d)(iii)**

Changes to legislation:

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

- Act words substituted by [2005 c. 4 Sch. 11 para. 6](#)

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 29B(2A)-(2C) inserted by [S.I. 2008/3131 Sch. 1 para. 9\(2\)](#)
- s. 29B(2A)(a) word substituted by [S.I. 2010/234 Sch. 1 para. 2](#)
- s. 29B(3A) inserted by [S.I. 2008/3131 Sch. 1 para. 9\(3\)](#)
- s. 29E(1)(d)(e) inserted by [S.I. 2008/3131 Sch. 1 para. 12\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 29E(2)(e)(f) inserted by [S.I. 2008/3131 Sch. 1 para. 12\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 29F(1)(d)(e) inserted by [S.I. 2008/3131 Sch. 1 para. 14\(3\)](#)
- s. 35C(2)(f)(g) inserted by [S.I. 2008/1774 Sch. 1 para. 15](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). It was due to come into force on the coming into force of s. 44(1) of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 (c. 47), see art. 1(4). S. 44(1) was repealed without ever being in force on 10.9.2012 by [2012 c. 9, s. 75\(6\), Sch. 10 Pt. 5; S.I. 2012/2234, art. 2](#))
- s. 35ZA inserted by [2008 c. 14 Sch. 7 para. 4](#)
- Sch. 3B para. 5(d)(e) inserted by [S.I. 2008/3131 Sch. 1 para. 19\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 3B para. 6(1)(d)(e) inserted by [S.I. 2008/3131 Sch. 1 para. 19\(3\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- Sch. 3B para. 6(2)(d)(e) inserted by [S.I. 2008/3131 Sch. 1 para. 19\(3\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#)
- Sch. 3B para. 7(1)(d)(e) inserted by [S.I. 2008/3131 Sch. 1 para. 19\(4\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- Sch. 3B para. 7(2)(c) and word inserted by [S.I. 2008/3131 Sch. 1 para. 19\(4\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#)