



MALDIVES ALLIED HEALTH COUNCIL
MINISTRY OF HEALTH
MALÉ, REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES



Standard for acceptance of qualification, professional experience and professional recognition of foreign applicants

Maldives Allied Health Council (MAHC) derives its mandate to register allied health professionals under the Health Professionals Act 13/2015. Foreign nationals intending to work as Allied Health Professionals for a specific contract periods under Employment Approvals of Maldives Immigration, recognition of their educational qualifications and trained institutions will be done as per following criteria upon application for pre-registration.

A: Completeness of Pre-registration application

1. Evaluation of Pre-Registration Application will be initiated only on receipt of a complete set of documents specified in the Pre-Registration Application Form.
2. Incomplete Pre-Registration Application will be notified to applicant or his/her representative for collection and disposed of within 7 working days if not collected.

B: Evaluation of foreign qualifications, professional experience and professional recognition

Evaluation is the process followed by MAHC to:

1. Verify foreign qualifications (authenticating the status of institutions and the qualifications offered by them; and investigating the authenticity of qualification documents and confirming that awards were made to individuals); and
2. Compare foreign qualifications with qualifications standards accepted by the MAHC, considering the structure and outcomes of the foreign qualifications
3. Verify that the professional experience
 - a. meets the minimum duration of two years
 - b. part of the experience period falls within the past two years
 - c. is gained in a relevant institution
 - d. was in a role relevant to the applied registration title.
4. Verify that the applicant was registered in a formal body or authority meant for registration of his/her profession

C: Decisions

Evaluation leads to one of two decisions:

1. Decision A: Application is accepted and a pre-registration is issued
2. Decision B: Application is not accepted due to one or more of the following reasons:
 - a. The qualification issuing body is not accredited or recognized in the national system of a particular country in accordance with the national policies, or generally accepted practice of that country.

- b. The qualification issuing body is recognised or accredited, but not authorized to offer that particular qualification / the qualification is not a part of the national system of qualifications.
- c. The qualification is not authentic and was not awarded to the individual in question.
- d. The qualification does not meet MAHC standards
- e. the professional experience requirement is not met
- f. The applicant was not registered in a formal body or authority meant for registration of his/her profession. Only for cases where MAHC requires such registration

D: Appeal

Applicants have a right to appeal against decisions made by MAHC. The relevant form is accessible on the MAHC website (www.health.gov.mv).

E: General requirements in submitting the application

1. Certified copies: MAHC accepts legible true copies if certified by an official attorney
2. Certified copies are not returned but kept for record purposes

F. Verification of authenticity of documents

1. MAHC reserves the right to request original documents and have the authenticity of documents verified by the relevant authorities in the countries of origin.
2. If falsified documents are submitted, no evaluation will be issued, and the information will be shared with the relevant authorities and third parties.
3. While authenticity of qualification documents is under investigation no applications or documents will be withdrawn, cancelled, refunded or returned.

G: Original language and sworn translations

Documents in foreign languages other than English shall be submitted together with the certified English translations and original copies of the documents. The Maldives Allied Health Council will accept notarization by

1. the institute that issued the original certificate;
2. any Embassy or Consulate of the country that issued the original certificate; and
3. A government institution of the country that issued the original certificate.

H: Qualification certificates

1. Complete and legible academic records, transcripts, subject lists and relevant supplementary information in respect of all higher education should be submitted.
2. MAHC requires all the qualifications leading up to the final qualification in order to fully understand the learning pathway.
3. Transcripts which convey the following information must be submitted
 - composition of study program
 - credit requirements for the program,
 - student performance (marks, grades, etc.)

I: Final qualification awards

MAHC requires certified copies of final graduation certificates. The following information is required.

1. Name of qualification
2. Awarding Institution: Contact and email address of awarding institution for verification
3. Delivered Institution: Contact and email address of delivered institution for verification
4. Start date and End date of the program
5. Recognizing body

J: Registration in a professional body

1. Professional registration is required if there is a statutory professional body or authority for registration in the foreign country at national or in its absence at subnational level
2. The professional bodies and authorities recognized by the council is published on MAHC website (www.health.gov.mv).

K: Professional experience

1. Foreign applicants are required to have minimum two years of certified professional experience with at least a portion of the experience falling within the last two years.
2. For specialized fields the council may require applicants to have additional professional experience.
3. Professional experience certificates must be submitted covering the recent 4 years till date of application. If there are any gaps during this period (due to being unemployed, studies, leave etc.) these gaps should be mentioned in the form.
4. Each of the professional experience certificates should include the following information
 - a. Employed institution including contact and email address of institution for verification
 - b. Designation/ Position held
 - c. Start date and End date of employment
 - d. Phone number and email of supervisor

L: Qualifications are evaluated in accordance to the following criteria:

1. In recognizing educational programs and training institutions emphasis will be given to the level of recognition given to the educational program and training institution by educational authorities and relevant professional bodies governing registration and licensing in the country of award. Also the level of international recognition of the qualification will be considered
2. The duration and content of study, competencies gained and the presence of clinical practice/ practical training.
3. Qualifications of honorary nature, are not counted towards registration
4. Fully distance, correspondence or online learning programs are not accepted for registration. *A list of such program encountered by the council will be published on MOH website (www.health.gov.mv) as they are encountered.*

5. Although some programs are recognized by national authorities of countries where the program is based, for delivery by distance education mode, the council only recognizes qualifications that, aside from the syllabus meet competency and practical skills requirements for registration. Programs that are fully delivered by Open and Distance Learning mode do not fulfill the competency and practical skills requirements for registration.
6. However regular allied health professional programs with some distance learning components that fulfill knowledge competency and practical skills requirements are considered for registration after assessment by the council

M: Rejection and re-application

1. If the educational program or the educated institution cannot be verified or the cited referee cannot be reached through regular modes of communication (email, telephone, registered mail) the application may be rejected
2. If the employed institution cannot be verified or the supervisor cannot be reached through regular modes of communication (email, telephone, registered mail) the application may be rejected
3. If an application is rejected due to lack of professional experience or having not met the educational criteria the applicant is only eligible to reapply after he/she attains the eligibility criteria



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Professional bodies and authorities recognized by Maldives Allied Health Council

Under Section J of Standard for acceptance of qualification, professional experience and professional recognition of foreign applicants

Professional bodies recognized by the council are listed below. This list is based on professional bodies encountered in pre-registration applications submitted to the council.

Government bodies

Kerala Paramedical Council, Kerala

Kerala State Pharmacy Council

Directorate of Medical Education Kerala

Andhra Pradesh Paramedical Board, Andhra Pradesh

Para Medical Board, Government of Karnataka

Directorate of Medical Education Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu Pharmacy Council Tamil Nadu

Rehabilitation Council of India (www.rehabcouncil.nic.in)

Pharmacy Council of India

Sri Lanka Medical Council

The State Medical Faculty of Bangladesh

Recognized private bodies

Indian Association Physiotherapist (<http://www.physiotherapyindia.org/>)

All India Association of Physiotherapists Kerala, India

(<http://www.physiotherapyallindia.org/contat.php>)