

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



# Current list of allied health professional titles registered by Maldives Allied Health Council and their minimum required educational qualifications.

The list of allied health professionals currently being registered by the Maldives Allied Health Council and their Minimum Required Educational Qualifications is given below. The list is arranged according to categories mentioned under clause 45(b) of the law 13/2015 (Healthcare Professionals Act). The list will be publicly updated periodically to reflect changes in professional titles as well addition of new titles. The new list replaces list published on June 8, 2022 (version 4)

| Allied Health<br>Professionals title        | Minimum qualifications   | Field of<br>qualifications   | Eligibility for<br>Title     |
|---|--|--|------------------------------|
| 1) Professionals of Behavioural<br>Sciences | Please refer to Psychology<br>and Counseling<br>Professionals Registration<br>and Licensing Pathways for<br>registration criteria.<br>Gazetted on 25 January<br>2022 ((IUL)23-<br>MAHC/23/2022/47) | Please refer to<br>Psychology and<br>Counseling Professionals<br>Registration and Licensing<br>Pathways for registration<br>criteria. Gazetted on 25<br>January 2022 ((IUL)23-<br>MAHC/23/2022/47) |                              |
| Licensed Psychological<br>Associate         |  |  | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| Licensed Provisional<br>Psychologist        |  |  | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| Licensed Psychologist                       |  |  |                              |
| Licensed Clinical Psychologist              |  |  |                              |
| Licensed Counseling<br>Psychologist         |  |  |                              |
| Licensed Child Psychologist                 |  |  |                              |
| Licensed Counseling Associate               |  |  | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| Licensed Assistant Counselor                |  |  | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| Licensed Provisional Counselor              |  |  | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| Licensed Counselor                          |  |  |                              |
| Licensed Psychotherapeutic<br>Counselor     |  |  |                              |
| Licensed Mental Health<br>Counselor         |  |  |                              |
| Licensed Marriage and Family<br>Counselor   |  |  |                              |
| Licensed Addiction Counselor                |  |  |                              |
| Licensed Domestic Violence<br>Counselor     |  |  |                              |
| Licensed Psychotherapist                    |  |  |                              |

| Licensed Assistant Behavior  |  |   | Maldivian                    |
|--|--|---|------------------------------|
| Therapist  |  |   | applicants only              |
| Licensed Behavior Therapist  |  |   |                              |
| Social Worker (Specialized Field)  | Master's degree                            | Specialized area of social work   |                              |
| Social Worker  | Bachelor's degree                          | Social work   |                              |
| Assistant Social Worker  | Diploma (Please refer to additional notes) | Social work   | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| 2) Clinical and Physical Therapist   | S  |   |                              |
| Occupational Therapist   | Master's degree                            | Specialized area of   |                              |
| (Specialized Field)  |  | Occupational Therapy  |                              |
| Occupational Therapist   | Bachelor's degree                          | Occupational Therapy  |                              |
| Occupational Therapy<br>Technician   | Diploma                                    | Occupational Therapy  |                              |
| Physiotherapist (Specialized Field)  | Master's degree                            | Specialized area of<br>Physiotherapy  |                              |
| Physiotherapist  | Bachelor's degree                          | Physiotherapy   |                              |
| Physiotherapy Technician   | Diploma                                    | Physiotherapy   | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| Speech Language Pathologist  | Master's degree                            | Specialized area of   |                              |
| (Specialized Field)  |  | Speech Therapy  |                              |
| Speech Language Pathologist  | Bachelor's degree                          | Speech Therapy  |                              |
| Speech Language Pathology<br>Technician.   | Diploma                                    | Speech Therapy  | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| Prosthetist and Orthotist  | Bachelor's degree                          | Prosthetics and Orthotics   |                              |
| Prosthetic and Orthotic<br>Technician  | Diploma                                    | Prosthetics and Orthotics   | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| Respiratory Therapist  | Bachelor's degree                          | Respiratory Therapy   |                              |
| 3) Community health professiona  |  |   |                              |
| Community health (Specialized  | Master's degree                            | Specialized area of   | Maldivian                    |
| Field)   |  | Community health  | applicants only              |
| Primary Health Care Worker   | Diploma                                    | Community health  | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| Community Health Worker<br>(Renewal of registration of<br>existing registrants only) | Certificate                                | Community health  | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| Family Health Worker. ( <i>Renewal</i> of registration of existing registrants only) | Certificate                                | Community health  | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| 4) Clinical and Health Technology  | r professionals                            |   | 1                            |
| Biomedical Technologist  | Bachelor's degree                          | Biomedical degrees based  | Maldivian                    |
|  |  | on clinical health<br>technology subjects   | applicants only              |
| Clinical Biotechnologist   | Bachelor's degree                          | Bachelor's degrees which<br>are based on clinically<br>applied biotechnology<br>subjects. Excludes<br>bachelor's degrees which<br>are based on non-clinical<br>subjects |                              |

| Clinical Scientist (Embryology)  | Training in embryology<br>completed as a three-year<br>full time, work-based<br>learning and training<br>programme which includes<br>academic study at Masters<br>level. Also, completion of<br>an undergraduate degree<br>in a related subject, for<br>example medical<br>laboratory science, biology,<br>microbiology genetics or<br>biochemistry<br><b>als</b> | Embryology   |                              |
|--|---|--|------------------------------|
|  |   |  |                              |
| Medical Laboratory   | Master's degree   | Specialized area of  |                              |
| Technologist (Specialized Field)   |   | medical laboratory   |                              |
| Medical Laboratory   | Diploma   | Medical laboratory   |                              |
| Technologist<br>Microbiology Technologist                                    | Bachelor's degree   | Microbiology degrees<br>based on clinical health<br>technology subjects        | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| Biochemistry Technologist  | Bachelor's degree   | Biochemistry degrees<br>that include clinical<br>health technology<br>subjects | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| 6) Professionals of Traditional, al  | ternative and complementary   | medicine   |                              |
| ، ۵۰ ۵۵ م<br>ترویر هسیو برسر   | Dhivehibeys course or<br>training, assessment<br>recognized by Maldives<br>Allied Health Council.   | Dhivehi beys   | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| ו ב ב ני ב 0<br>י בינת מי ב תינת   | Restricted to current   |  | Maldivian                    |
| جمیر عبر و جرسر<br>(Renewal of registration of<br>existing registrants only) | registrants only  |  | applicants only              |
| Hijamist   | Completion of a course<br>covering components of<br>Competency standard for<br>Hijama Practitioners<br>published on 27 3/1/2019<br>((IUL)23-<br>MAHC/23/2019/80). Online<br>courses are not accepted  | Hijama cupping practices   |                              |
| Traditional Chinese Medicine   | Bachelor's degree   | Chinese Traditional  |                              |
| Practitioner   |   | Medicine   |                              |
| Ayurvedic Medicine Practitioner  | Bachelor's degree   | Ayurvedic Medicine   |                              |
| Unani Medicine Practitioner  | Bachelor's degree   | Unani medicine   |                              |
| Homeopathic Medicine<br>Practitioner   | Bachelor's degree   | Homeopathic Medicine   |                              |
| Homeopathic Therapist  | Diploma   | Homeopathic Medicine   | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
|  | Bachelor's degree   |  |                              |

| Acupuncture Technician                    | Diploma   | Acupuncture  | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
|---|---|--|------------------------------|
| Remedial Massage Therapist                | Diploma   | Remedial massage   | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| 6) Pharmacy professionals                 |   |  |                              |
| Pharmacist (Specialized Field)            | Master's degree   | Specialized area of pharmacy   |                              |
| Pharmacist                                | Diploma   | Pharmacy   |                              |
| Pharmacy Assistant                        | Advanced Certificate  | Pharmacy   | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| Dispensers                                | Advanced Certificate  | Pharmacy   | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| 7) Dieticians and nutritionists           |   |  |                              |
| Dietitian (Specialized Field)             | Master's degree   | Specialized area of<br>Dietetics   |                              |
| Dietitian                                 | Bachelor's degree   | Dietetics  |                              |
| Nutritionist (Specialized Field)          | Master's degree   | Specialized area of<br>Nutrition   |                              |
| Nutritionist                              | Bachelor's degree   | Nutrition  |                              |
| 8) Additional professionals reco          | gnized by the council.  | ·  | •                            |
| Optometrist (Specialized Field)           | Master's degree   | Specialized area of<br>Optometry   |                              |
| Optometrist                               | Degree  | Optometry  |                              |
| Optometry Technician                      | Diploma   | Optometry  |                              |
| Assistant Dental Hygienist                | Diploma   | Dental Hygiene   |                              |
| Assistant Dental Therapist                | Diploma   | Dental Therapy   |                              |
| Radiography Technician                    | Diploma   | Radiography  |                              |
| Radiologic Technologist                   | Bachelor's degree   | Radiography  |                              |
| Paramedic                                 | Bachelor's degree   | Emergency Medical<br>Technology  |                              |
| Assistant Emergency Medical<br>Technician | Diploma   | Emergency Medical<br>Technology  |                              |
| Emergency Care Assistant                  | Certificate level 2   | Emergency Medical<br>Technology  | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| Operation Theatre Technician              | Diploma   | Operation Theatre<br>Technology  |                              |
| Cardiovascular Technician                 | Diploma   | Cardiovascular<br>Technology   |                              |
| Neurodiagnostic Technician                | Diploma   | Neurodiagnostic<br>technology  |                              |
| Phlebotomist                              | Training  | Phlebotomist training<br>program accredited by<br>Maldives Allied Health<br>Council. | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| Perfusionist                              | Bachelor's degree in<br>Cardiovascular perfusion<br>OR Bachelor's degree in<br>science together with<br>postgraduate diploma in<br>Cardiovascular perfusion | Cardiovascular perfusion   |                              |

|                  | technology with related<br>registration in a<br>professional body |                                    |                              |
|------------------|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Chiropractor     | Bachelor's degree   | Chiropractic Science               |                              |
| Sonographer      | Bachelor's degree with<br>Postgraduate Diploma in<br>sonography   | Sonography                         | Maldivian<br>applicants only |
| Sports Therapist | Bachelor's degree   | Sports therapy or exercise science | Maldivian<br>applicants only |

## Additional notes relevant to educational qualification and experience of allied health professionals

#### **Recognition of Qualifications**

- 1. The qualifications stated above are the Minimum Required Educational Qualifications for registering under each professional title.
- 2. For the purposes of document advanced certificate, diploma, Bachelor's degree, Masters degrees are programs recognized by the Maldives Allied Heath Council. Please note that program recognition is also required separately for programs recognized by Maldives Qualifications Authority as the council also considers additional requirements for registration and licensing as an allied health professional. These requirements may include the coverage of knowledge and competencies within the program including clinical placements.
- 3. Although requirements may vary for different professionals it is expected that a minimum duration for diploma is 2 academic years, Bachelor's degree is 3 to 4 years and master's degree 1.5-2 years for full time programs.
- 4. Programs from local institutes must hold accreditation with the Maldives Allied Heath Council.
- 5. Programs studied abroad by Maldivian students must have received program approval from this council.
- 6. Programs studied abroad by Maldivian students without having received a program approval from this council will require individual evaluation to determine programs eligibility for registration.
- 7. If a qualification was issued more than 10 years ago at the time of application, council may impose additional educational requirements or assessments before considering the application.
- 8. Foreign applicants' qualifications must be issued by educational institutes in their home country which are authorized to issue allied health professional qualifications. Also, bachelors and postgraduate qualifications should be from institutes registered in their home country to offer such qualifications. E.g. University Grant Commission India. Application will be rejected If 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.
- 9. In recognizing educational programs and training institutions weightage 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 including international recognition. Additionally, the duration, content of study, competencies gained and the completion of clinical practice, practical training is considered.
- 10. Educational programs that train allied health professional are generally expected to be learnt via regular face to face learning modality. Fully distance, correspondence or online learning programs are not accepted for registration. However regular programs with some distance correspondence or online learning may be accepted, provided the council has determined that the particular subject(s) can be delivered in that manner.
- 11. Applicants having post graduate qualifications and applying for titles of that level should also have undergraduate qualifications and must meet the minimum educational qualification and experience requirements in the same professional field for the preceding professional title. Any exceptions will occur if mentioned in a specific registration pathway published for those professionals.
- 12. Qualifications of honorary nature should not be submitted and will not be considered for registration.
- 13. During national emergencies declared by the government and for professionals visiting under a bilateral understanding between Maldives and other governments or international organizations, recognition of educational programs and training institutions of foreign applicants will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the council on application.

# Changes to names of titles including discontinued titles

- 14. The names of several titles have been revised. However, the former title names remain valid until expiration of the registration period.
- 15. Applicants currently registered as Assistant Social Worker with an Advanced certificate (MNQF level4) are eligible to keep their registration with the council until 31 December 2028. The purpose is to provide registrants time to upgrade to diploma level qualifications in social work.
- 16. The following titles mentioned below have been removed from the previous list of titles Version 4. June 8, 2022.
  - a. Licensed Provisional Assistant Counselor
  - b. Histology Technologist

MAHC/Current List of Allied Health Professionals with Educational Qualifications/V5. April 28, 2024

- c. Blood Bank Technologist
- d. Cytology Technologist
- e. Reiki Practitioner
- f. Ayurveda Therapist

Among these titles currently there are no registrants under Histology Technologist, Blood Bank Technologist and Cytology Technologist titles. Registration of Licensed Provisional Assistant Counselor, Ayurveda Therapist and Reiki Practitioner will not be renewed further.

17. Students who have been provided course approvals at overseas institutes by the council, indicating future eligibility for registration as Biomedical Technologist, will be provided option to become Medical Laboratory Technologists after an evaluation of the course components for suitability for the title followed by successful completion of a competency-based assessment.

#### **Foreign applicants**

- 18. Foreign applicants in general are required to have minimum two years of recent certified professional experience. However, for specialized fields the council may require applicants to have additional professional experience. Only post qualification experience is counted.
- 19. Professional registration in home country is required if there is a statutory professional body or authority for registration in the home country at national level or in its absence at subnational/state level.
- 20. Foreign applicants for Licensed Counselor, Licensed psychologists must hold registration with professional body of their home country if a statutory body for professional governance and registration exists e.g. Rehabilitation Council of India. Only professional experience gained under the registration of such a body will be considered.
- 21. Foreign applicants for Licensed Counselor, Licensed psychologists who have not completed a structured clinical placement program as part of qualifying as a Licensed Counselor, Licensed psychologist, must demonstrate adequate documented experience and be available for a competency assessment before being considered for registration.
- 22. Foreign applicants are required to provide proof of English language competency in addition to their professional qualifications. The council requires foreign applicants to have an English language competency equivalent to the International English Language Testing System overall score of 5.5 with a minimum of 5 in each IELTS band. English language competency requirement is exempted for foreign applicants of countries where the first language is English. Also, applicants can submit results of internationally recognized equivalent exams e.g. TOEFL, OET provided the council is able to verify the results using candidate details. Test results must not be older than two years at the time of application for registration and must have been obtained at one sitting. Applicants can email to inquire about acceptance of a particular exam. Please also note that currently the council does not accept English language proficiency certificate given by universities including medium of Instruction certificates.

The council also provides the option of participating in an interview to assess English Language competency for the following categories. Pharmacist, Medical Laboratory Technologist, Optometrist, Radiography Technician, Radiologic Technologist, Assistant Dental Hygienist, Assistant Dental Therapist, Assistant Emergency Medical Technician, Neurodiagnostic Technician, Cardiovascular Technician and Operation Theatre Technician