

National Medical Commission

The National Medical Commission (NMC) is the top organization in India that looks after medical education and healthcare standards. It creates rules to ensure good quality medical education, ethical practices by doctors, and proper regulation of medical institutions. The NMC also plans for healthcare needs such as more hospitals, doctors and makes sure medical organizations follow its guidelines. Additionally, it helps to regulate fees for private medical colleges to make education more affordable.

NMC guidelines

NMC guidelines are the rules set by the National Medical Commission to maintain high standards in medical education and healthcare through Foreign medical graduate regulation (FMGL) 2021 etc. They cover areas like medical course regulations, ethical practices for doctors, fees for private colleges, and the functioning of medical institutions. These guidelines ensure quality education, fairness, and better healthcare services across the country. The NMC guidelines will be listed below.

NMC guidelines 2025 (FMGL registration)

Course Duration

1.Course duration should be a minimum 54 months. (Undergoing a course leading to foreign medical degree with a minimum duration of fifty-four months.[FMGL Regulation 2021 - 4(b)])

Internship Duration

2. Medicine course should have 12 months of internship (Undergone an internship for a minimum duration of twelve months in the same foreign medical institution[FMGL Regulation 2021 - 4(b)])

Medium of Instruction

3. The entire course should be in English language (Received a foreign medical degree with medium of instructions on English [FMGL Regulation 2021 - 4(b)])

Learn mandatory subjects in NMC list :

4. Student should learn 19 mandatory subjects in the course. (Community Medicine, General Medicine, Psychiatry, Paediatrics, General Surgery, Anaesthesia, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Orthopaedics, Otorhinolaryngology, Ophthalmology, Dermatology, Emergency or Casualty services, lab services and their sub-specialties [FMGL Regulation 2021 - 4(b)])

Registration to practice

5. Students should be eligible to get registration to practice medicine in the respective jurisdiction of the country. (Registered with the respective professional regulatory body or otherwise, competent to grant license to practice medicine in their respective jurisdiction of the country in which the medical degree is awarded and at par with the license to practice medicine given to citizens of that country [FMGL Regulation 2021 - 4(b)])

Internship in India

6. Students should do one year of internship after passing fmge/NExt exam (Undergone supervised internship in India for a minimum term of twelve months, after applying for the same to the Commission [FMGL Regulation 2021 - 4(b)])

University transfer not allowed

7. If the student taken admission in one university they can't transfer to another one. (The entire course, training and internship or clerkship shall be done outside India in the same foreign medical institution throughout the course of study and no part of medical training and internship shall be done in India or in

any country other than the country from where the primary medical qualification is obtained [FMGL Regulation 2021 - 4(b)]

Duration

8. The entered course should complete in 10 years (The total duration of the foreign medical graduation course shall be completed within ten years from the date of joining the course [FMGL Regulation 2021 - 4(b)]).

Institute should listed in WHO

9. The institute student pursuing MBBS should listed in who and it can be check using the wdoms.org (A person seeking provisional or permanent registration shall not have to qualify the Screening Test if he/she holds an undergraduate medical qualification from Australia, Canada, New Zealand, United Kingdom, or the United States of America and the holder thereof has also been awarded a postgraduate medical qualification in these countries. For all other foreign medical graduates, their institution should be listed in the WHO World Directory of Medical Schools [FMIR 2002]).

NEET is mandatory

10. NEET exam should be qualified. No need of scoring higher rank but should getting qualify mark. (NEET (UG) has to be conducted as a common and uniform National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test [(NEET (UG))] for admission to undergraduate medical education in all medical institutions in India and Abroad [NMC Act 2019 - Section 14]).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Who is a Foreign Medical Graduate (FMG)?

A Person who does not have basic graduation or primary qualification (undergraduate medical degree) from any University/medical college/institution in India, seeking license for medical practices in India.(Reg. 2 (c) of FMGL. 2021]

2. When do the FMGL Regulations, 2021 come into force?

18th Nov, 2021 [Reg. 1 (2) of FMGL. 2021)

3. Who is exempt from provisions of FMGL Regulations, 2021?

1. These regulations are not applicable to-

- a. Foreign medical graduates who have acquired a foreign medical degree or primary qualification, as the case may be, prior to 18th Nov, 2021;
- b. Candidates who are pursuing their undergraduate medical education in foreign institutions prior to 18th Nov, 2021; and
- c. Such foreign medical graduates who are specifically exempted by the Commission or the Central Government, as the case may be, by notification

2. The foreign medical graduates who have acquired a foreign medical degree or primary qualification, as the case may be, and the candidates who are pursuing their education in foreign institutions, prior to 18th Nov, 2021, shall be governed by the previously applicable regulations. (Reg. 5 of FMGL. 2021]

4. What should be the duration of the course leading to foreign medical degree?

Minimum duration of fifty-four months [Reg. 4 (a) (i) of FMGL. 2021]

5. What should be the medium of instruction during the course?

English [Reg. 4 (a) (iii) of FMGL. 2021]

6. What are the subjects to be studied during the course?

- a. A course of theory, practical and clinical training equivalent to Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) of India; and
- b. An internship of twelve months in addition to the course, in the same foreign institution where the primary medical qualification has been obtained, along with hands on training in clinical subjects including but not limited to Community Medicine, General Medicine, Psychiatry, Paediatrics, General Surgery, Anaesthesia, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Orthopedics, Otorhinolaryngology, Ophthalmology, Dermatology, Emergency or Casualty services, lab services and their sub-specialties; and
- c. The course and internship or clinical clerkship shall be commensurate with the MBBS course of India in accordance with the Regulations on Graduate Medical Education, 1997 and subsequent amendments thereto, and shall include the subjects mentioned therein as are duly recognised by the Commission under sub-section (2) of section 61 of the NMC Act, 2019 [Reg. 2 (i), (i) of Schedule I of FMGL. 2021]

7. Do FMGs need to appear for the National Exit Test?

FMGs have to clear the National Exit Test or such other mandated test or tests conducted by NMC (Reg. 4 (d) of FMGL. 2021)

8. Do FMGs need to be registered in the country which awards them the degree?

Yes; FMGs need to be registered with the respective professional regulatory body or otherwise, competent to grant license to practice medicine in their respective jurisdiction of the country in which the medical degree is awarded and at par with the license to practice medicine given to citizen of that country [Reg. 4 (b) of FMGL. 2021]

9. Is there any time limit for completion of the course?

Yes; the total duration of the foreign medical graduation course shall be completed within ten years from the date of joining the course. [Reg. 2 (iv) of Schedule 1 of FMGL. 2021]

10. Are FMGs allowed to take transfer to an Indian medical college for internship and exams?

No; The entire course, training and internship or clerkship shall be done outside India in the same foreign medical institution throughout the course of study and no part of medical training and internship shall be done in India or in any country other than the country from where the primary medical qualification is obtained. (Reg. 2 (iii) of Schedule I of FMGL. 2021)

11. What are the regulations applicable for internship of FMGs?

Internship of FMGs shall be as per provisions of National Medical Commission (Compulsory Rotating Medical Internship) Regulations, 2021.

12. What should be the duration of the internship?

Minimum duration of twelve months in the same foreign medical institution [Reg. 4 (a) (ii) of FMGL. 2021]

13. Is it mandatory for FMGs to do an internship in India?

Yes: In addition to completing an internship for a minimum duration of twelve months in the same foreign medical institution, FMGs are required to undergo a supervised internship in India for a minimum term of twelve months.

14. Where should FMGs apply for internships?

FMGs should apply for internship with the respective State Medical Council through the National Medical Commission.

15. What are the conditions to be fulfilled by FMGs to be eligible for internship in India?

FMGs must have:

- (i) undergone a course leading to foreign medical degree with minimum duration of fifty-four months;
- (ii) undergone an internship for a minimum duration of twelve months in the same foreign medical institution;
- (iii) received a foreign medical degree with medium of instructions in English;
- (iv) studied the mandatory subjects specified in the Schedule-;
- (v) registered with the respective professional regulatory body or otherwise, competent to grant license to practice medicine in their respective jurisdiction of the country in which the medical degree is awarded and at par with the license to practice medicine given to citizen of that country;
- (vi) passed the screening test or National Exit Test or such other mandated test or tests conducted by NMC;
- (vi) obtained provisional registration from the respective State Medical Council.

16. Is internship/clerkship same as that of clinical posting & training during the 54 months of MBBS course or is it separate?

No; internship/clerkship and clinical posting & training are separate phases of practical learning. While, clinical posting & training is a part of the 54 months MBBS course, internship is done after the completion of MBBS course but is an integral part of undergraduate medical education degree.

17. What are the provisions regarding online classes?

The student completed the end there cause in offline mode than the student need to take one year internship in India. If any students who attended any online classes during the course must complete two or three year of compulsory rotating medical internship

18. After coming back to India, do I need to take any exams?

Yes, if you are a Foreign Medical Graduate (FMG) returning to India, you will need to pass an examination before you can practice medicine in India. This requirement is governed by the Foreign Medical Graduate Licentiate Regulations, 2021, and the National Exit Test (NExT) has been introduced as a mandatory step for licensure:

1. Foreign Medical Graduates Examination (FMGE): As per the regulations applicable before the NExT, FMGs are required to pass the FMGE to obtain provisional registration and practice in India .

2. National Exit Test (NExT): Starting from the 2023 regulations, NExT will replace FMGE and serve as a licensure exam for both Indian and Foreign Medical Graduates. Clearing NExT will be mandatory to practice medicine and pursue postgraduate studies in India .

19. What are the things we need to check when going abroad?

First of all, you check if the university you chose complies with FMGL regulation 2021.

20. What is the difference between FMGE and Next exam?

The FmGE(foreign medical graduate exam examination) and the next(national exit test) are both licensing exams for medical graduates to practice in India. But there are some differences. FMG exam is exclusively for foreign medical graduates Next exam is a common exit test for Indian graduates and FMG's. That means both Indian graduates and foreign graduates should write NExT exam.

21. If not qualified for NEET, will there be any issues?

Yes, not qualifying for NEET (National Eligibility cum Entrance Test) Is not possible to write FMGE or NExT exam and not possible to work in India.

22. What are the criteria we need to pay attention to when considering MBBS abroad?

When considering MBBS abroad, ensure the university is NMC-recognized, offers an English-medium curriculum, meets the required course duration (54 months + 1-year internship), and has a good FMGE/NExT success rate. Check affordability, safety, clinical exposure, and future opportunities for licensing and PG studies.

23. Can I clear the NEET exam while pursuing an MBBS degree?

No, if you want to write the FMGL exam and work in India then you have to qualify the NEET exam before joining MBBS abroad. According to NMC guidelines, NEET is an eligibility test for MBBS. So you have to clear it before joining practice in India.