The Irish Medical Council is a Legal Body which all doctors practicing medicine must be a member of.

For more information please review http://www.medicalcouncil.ie

The Irish Medical Council registration is a professional licence. Without this licence it is illegal to practice medicine in Ireland. All necessary information necessary for registration can be found at http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Registration/

NOTE:
Registration with the General Medical Council (GMC) is not recognised as eligibility to practise as a doctor in Ireland.

There are 3 types of Registration with the Irish Medical Council:
  • General Registration
  • Specialist Registration
  • Trainee Specialist Registration

First time applicants for registration, who are seeking registration in any division, should complete the generic application form.
  • First time applications form to be filled (available online)

General Registration with the Irish Medical Council

Doctors who do not practise in individually numbered, identifiable training posts, who have not been proposed for a post in the Supervised Division, and who have not completed recognised specialist medical training must register under General Registration. This is the only form of registration available to them. Doctors with general registration may practise independently without supervision but may not falsely represent themselves as holding specialist or trainee specialist registration.

Application Process

There are four application levels possible for general registration.

The levels a doctor is required to complete depends on whether or not they are exempt from that level:

  • Level 1 - submission of an application form, fee and required documentation for assessment and verification by the Medical Council. This level applies to all applicants. All applicants must provide details of their qualifications and verify that they have not been subject to disciplinary proceedings in any country where they previously practised. Please read the guidelines very carefully as delays in registration occur very often due to incomplete applications being submitted.
  • Level 2 - (PRES), a Multiple Choice Questions examination of the candidates factual knowledge in the main clinical disciplines. This level only applies to certain applicants who are not exempt from the PRES.
  • Level 3 - (PRES), an Objective Structured Clinical Examination of the applicant’s clinical skills. This level only applies to certain applicants who are not exempt from the PRES.
Level 4 - an in-depth evaluation of the candidate’s internship training. This level applies to applicants who wish to be exempt from the PRES on the grounds that they have a certificate of experience or equivalent or higher.

Application Procedure

Doctors applying for general registration for the first time should complete the Generic Application form (available online)

Medical practitioners who have received their eligibility letter and wish to open their first registration in the general division should complete the GENFORM GF1 form.

Specialist Registration with the Irish Medical Council

Irish Medical Council specialist registration is specifically for doctors who have completed specialist training recognised by the Council and who may practise independently as a specialist. A number of eligibility categories are available for registration within the Specialist Division of the Register.
In the decision making process external agencies of the Council may advise the Medical Council on individual applications but the final decision on registration in the Specialist Division of the Register lies with the Council.

Please read the guidelines for registration very carefully as delays in registration occur very often due to incomplete applications being submitted.

More details at http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Registration/Specialist-Registration/

Trainee Specialist Registration with the Irish Medical Council

The Medical Council, in consultation with approved postgraduate training bodies and the HSE, maintains a record of postgraduate training posts within the State.
If you are undertaking postgraduate medical training in a recognised training post you must be registered with the TSD. This division also includes interns.

A doctor undertaking postgraduate medical training in a recognised training post should be registered in the TSD. This division also includes interns. By virtue of being in the TSD, doctors do not have to engage in additional professional competence activities.

Doctors intending to practise in a postgraduate training post must first undergo an application process as set out below and must have been issued with an Acceptance/Eligibility Letter which states that they are eligible for trainee specialist registration. They must inform the Medical Council of the details of that post and pay the appropriate registration fee in order to be registered.

The HSE is responsible for confirming individual posts occupied by Trainee Doctors. Doctors enrolled on training programmes with post-graduate training bodies and who have made an application to be registered in the Trainee Specialist Division (TSD) should note that on occasion, the Medical Council may not have received confirmation details of the post. Until such confirmation is received from the HSE the Council is unable to register the applicant in the Trainee Specialist Division and until that confirmation is received the applicant will be registered in the General Division.
The Medical Council does not hold information on posts to which doctors have been assigned. The doctor should contact the clinical site where the post is located to see when confirmation will be sent to the Medical Council.
A doctor enrolled in a training programme should ensure that a contract of employment has been returned to the HSE and that the annual retention fee is paid to the Medical Council.

**Irish Medical Council registration Fees**

For information about the IMC fees at [http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Registration/Fees/](http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/Registration/Fees/)

**Certificate of Good Standing (COGS)**

COGS stands for Certificate of good standing.  
This is a document from a medical council with you are registered. These can be sent directly to the Irish Medical council. It is highly recommended that these COGS are send directly from one medical council to another.

To request a Certificate of Good Standing online,  

**IELTS**

Only candidates who obtained their medical qualification/degree outside of the EU/EEA are required to sit an IELTS examination.

IELTS can be completed in test centres in Ireland in Cork and Dublin, and overseas. Locations can be found here [http://www.ielts.org/default.aspx](http://www.ielts.org/default.aspx)

A minimum score of 7.5 is required and a minimum score of 7 in each individual section is required in order to be eligible for registration with the Irish Medical Council.

**Visa restrictions with regards to working in Ireland**

Candidates who do not hold a current EU passport may require a work permit / Visa in order to work in Ireland. (Certain restrictions apply to both EU and non EU Passport holder)

NOTES on Registration to the Irish Medical Council

• TRAINEE SPECIALIST DIVISION (interns and postgraduate trainees)

• SPECIALIST DIVISION (completed recognized specialist training)

• GENERAL DIVISION (all other eligible medical practitioners)

Structure of the Register of Medical Practitioners

The Register comprises four Divisions:

1) TRAINEE SPECIALIST DIVISION

• Internship Registration

• Trainee Specialist Registration

2) SPECIALIST DIVISION

(specialist registration)

3) GENERAL DIVISION

(general registration)

4) VISITING EEA PRACTITIONERS DIVISION

Note: A medical practitioner can only be registered in one Division at a time, except when a specialist is training in another specialty, for example, a medical practitioner could be registered in the Specialist Division in the specialty of General (Internal) Medicine but is also registered in the Trainee Specialist Division while training in the specialty of Gastroenterology.

Who is eligible for the Trainee Specialist Division?

EU/EEA/Swiss Nationals who:

• have been awarded a formal qualification in basic medical training recognized by the Medical Council under EU Directive 2005/36/EC and possess the required accompanying certificate (if any) listed in the aforementioned EU Directive 2005/36/EC as a requirement for formal qualification within the meaning of the Directive;

or

• possess a Certificate of Acquired Rights;

or

• graduates of medical schools who are entitled to recognition of their qualifications under the general system for recognition of evidence of training in the Directive;

and

have completed satisfactorily internship training in accordance with Medical Council policy and been awarded a document which, in the opinion of the Council, is at least the equivalent of a certificate of experience.
Eligibility for Graduates of EU/EEA/Swiss Medical Schools

Requirements for Internship registration

- you’ve recently completed your basic medical degree and you are seeking registration to do intern training
- you can apply for Internship Registration using the form IR1 and provide the supporting documentation.

REQUIRED EVIDENCE OF FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS IN BASIC MEDICAL TRAINING IN ACCORDANCE WITH EU DIRECTIVE 2005/36/EC

EVIDENCE OF FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS

**Italy** Diploma di laurea in Medicina e Chirurgia

**Portugal** Carta de Curso de licenciatura em medicina

**Spain** Título de Licenciado en Medicina

CERTIFICATE ACCOMPANYING THE QUALIFICATIONS

**Italy** Diploma di abilitazione all’esercizio della Medicina e Chirurgia

**Portugal** Diploma comprovativo da conclusão do internato geral emitido pelo Ministério da Saúde

**Spain** Certificado de habilitación para el ejercicio de la Medicina

**Temporary Registration for Visiting European Economic Area (EEA) Practitioners**

EU citizens who are fully established to practice medicine in another EU member state may practice medicine in Ireland on a temporary and occasional basis without having to take out specialist or general registration. Doctors should apply at least one month in advance of providing a service. In order to be eligible for this type of registration, applicants must provide satisfactory evidence of the following

1. They intend to provide temporary and occasional services related to medical practice in Ireland. This must be done by completing a declaration form in accordance with Article 7 of EU Directive 2005/36/EC. This form may be found in additional information below. Please note doctors intending to provide occasional service on an annual basis must renew the written Declaration annually.

2. They are an EU citizen. This can be done by providing a notarized/attested copy of their current EU passport and a recent passport-size photograph, as proof of identity

3. They are currently established with the relevant regulatory/registration body in another EU member state to practice medicine. The relevant body must send a current Certificate of Current Professional Status / Good Standing (dated within the last three months) directly to this office

4. They hold a recognized primary medical qualification and (where applicable) higher specialist qualification. If the Certificate of Current Professional Status / Good Standing does not display the applicant’s primary medical qualification, they must also provide a notarized/attested copy of their primary medical degree

5. They are currently in good professional standing with all other regulatory/registration bodies with whom they have been registered within the past five years. The relevant body/ies must send a current Certificate of Current Professional Status / Good Standing (dated within the last three months) directly to the Medical Council’s offices.