

The General Dental Council (Dentists) (International Registration) Rules 2023

The General Dental Council make the following Rules in exercise of their powers conferred by section 16A and 50C of the Dentists Act 1984¹.

1. Citation and commencement

- (1) These rules may be cited as The General Dental Council (Dentists) (International Registration) Rules 2023.
- (2) These Rules are made on 8 December 2023.
- (3) These Rules come into force on 9 March 2024.

2. Interpretation

In these Rules–

“candidate” means a person who has–

- (a) submitted a complete application for the ORE;
- (b) satisfied all other requirements for sitting the ORE as published by the Council.

“Fees Regulations” means regulations made under section 19 (1) of the Dentists Act 1984;

“medical emergencies examination” means an examination in medical emergencies which includes cardiopulmonary resuscitation;

“ORE” means the Overseas Registration Examination held pursuant to section 16A of the Dentists Act 1984;

“UK diploma in dentistry” means a diploma pursuant to section 12A of the Dentists Act 1984.

3. Structure and content of the examination

The ORE shall be in two parts, namely–

(1) Part 1 comprising–

- (a) a written paper covering clinically applied dental science and clinically applied human disease; and
- (b) a written paper in aspects of clinical dentistry, law and ethics, and health and safety; and

(2) Part 2 comprising–

- (a) an examination on a dental manikin;
- (b) an objective structured clinical examination that tests candidates’ clinical skills;
- (c) an examination designed to test candidates’ diagnostic and treatment planning skills; and
- (d) a medical emergencies examination.

¹ Dentists Act 1984 c.24. section 16A added by Dentists, Dental Care Professionals, Nurses, Nursing Associates and Midwives (International Registrations) Order 2023/162 sch.1 para (3)(2).

4. Standard to be shown by candidates

- (1) The standard of knowledge and skill required to be shown by candidates to pass the ORE shall be at the level required to pass a UK diploma in dentistry.

5. Restrictions as to subsequent attempts

- (1) A candidate must pass Part 1 at a sitting before proceeding to sit Part 2.
- (2) Part 2 must be passed within 5 years of first attempting Part 1.
- (3) In calculating the 5-year period in paragraph 5(2), no account is to be taken of the period beginning on 2 April 2020 and ending on the 8 March 2023.
- (4) A candidate may have a maximum of 4 attempts at each Part of the ORE.
- (5) Candidates who have passed all sections of Part 2 at a sitting, apart from the medical emergencies examination, may re-sit that examination, on only one occasion:
 - (a) within five years of first attempting Part 1; and
 - (b) after paying the prescribed fee for the medical emergencies examination set out in the Fees Regulations.
- (6) Candidates to whom paragraph (5) applies, who have not passed the re-sit of the medical emergencies examination, must re-sit the whole of Part 2 and paragraphs (2), (3) and (4) shall continue to apply to those candidates.
- (7) The re-sit of the medical emergencies examinations referred to in paragraph (5) shall not be counted as an attempt at Part 2 for the purposes of calculating the maximum attempts under paragraph (4).

6. Fees

- (1) A person who applies to take the ORE must pay the prescribed fee for processing the application.
- (2) A person is not permitted to take the ORE or any part thereof until payment of the relevant prescribed examination fee has been made.
- (3) The prescribed fee for processing an application and for each part of the ORE are set out in the relevant Fees Regulations.

Given under the official seal of the General Dental Council.

Lord Toby Harris
Chair

Gurvinder Soomal
Registrar