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1. General Regulations

The General Diplomas of the Faculty of Dentistry, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, in the disciplines outlined in this document may be granted to those who possess a dental qualification registrable in the Register of Dentists for Ireland and to graduates or diplomates in Dental Science of those Universities and other licensing bodies recognised for the purpose (i.e. those that admit candidates to Temporary Registration in Ireland and UK) and who comply with the Regulations.

The requirements to present for the examinations are outlined below.

The dates of the examination and the fees payable for admission to the examination are set out in the examination calendars, which are published annually by the College and are available on the Faculty of Dentistry website http://facultyofdentistry.ie. The examination is conducted in the English language.

Applications must be made online through https://postgradexams.rcsi.ie/

Prior to formally applying, please ensure that you carefully read the following information that can be found on our Faculty website

- Exam regulations
- Exam Rules of Conduct

The online application must be received by the SARA Department (Student Academic and Regulatory Affairs) on or before the closing date of the examination. Once applications have reached the maximum quota, which may be in advance of the advertised closing date, no further applications will be accepted.

Once your online application has been processed you will receive official confirmation, along with your examination number.

The SARA Department will be in contact with you prior to the examination regarding further details of venues, timetables, etc.

The required certificates and the full amount of the fee payable for the examination must accompany applications for admission to an examination.

Candidates should make themselves familiar with the Examination Policies available on our website

Candidates withdrawing from an examination must adhere to the examination policies regarding withdrawal.

The College or Board of the Faculty reserves absolute discretion to refuse to admit to the examination, proceed with the examination of, any candidate who (a) infringes any of the Regulations or (b) who is considered by the Examiners to be acting in a manner prejudicial to the proper management and conduct of the examination or (c) whose conduct has rendered them in the College’s or Board’s opinion, unsuitable for conferral with the Diploma/Membership of Faculty of Dentistry of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

Candidates who wish to appeal should review the appeals policy
### 2. Membership in General Dental Surgery

#### Entry Requirements & Examination Format

**MGDS – Entry Requirements**

The requirements to present for the examination in MGDSRCSI are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A dental qualification fully registerable in the Dental Register of Ireland or the Dental Register of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the General Dental Council in the United Kingdom, or other licencing bodies as approved by the College.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Holder of the MFDRCSI (or equivalent), or evidence of engagement in the clinical practice of dentistry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for no less than 10 years or part-time equivalent in a primary care dentistry environment, and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• CPD requirements in compliance with the Dental Council in Ireland's prevailing recommendations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• To be taken normally 3 years post MFDRCSI (or equivalent)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**MGDS – Examination Format**

#### Notes

The Membership in General Dental Surgery Examination has two sections, namely section 1 and section 2. The examination will be conducted at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, or at other suitable venues approved by the Board of the Faculty. The two sections will normally be held on the same day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section 1</strong></td>
<td>Defence of the 3 Log Diaries (45 minutes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence of Log Diaries</td>
<td>• Approximately 15 minutes for each Log Diary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guidance to log diaries can be found in Pages 25-30 of the following link</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section 2</strong></td>
<td>General Viva (15 minutes) covering all aspects of the scope of the examination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Viva &amp; Simulated Clinical</td>
<td>• Two unseen simulated clinical cases (30 minutes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Covering competence in history taking, examination, diagnosis, treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>planning and communications with patients and fellow health care professionals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Appendix</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Award of the MGDS

The MGDS will be awarded to those who pass both sections of the examination (both sections of the examination must be passed, there will be no compensation between each section) and who fulfil the entry requirements...........

#### Limitation on Attempts

The examiners may, at their discretion, defer for two years, a candidate whose performance is such that re-examining within such a time is not considered to be in his/her best interest.

#### Notes

The deadline for candidates entering the examination in Ireland is 1st September in the year of the examination. Log diaries and the final certificates of postgraduate activates as stipulated in the regulations must also be received by the College not later than the 1st September.
preceding the examination. Where applicable, the deadline for candidates entering the examination in approved centres overseas is advertised separately.

| Guidance       | On Case Selection for Log Diary preparation  |
|               | On content of the Log Diaries               |
|               | On format of the Log Diaries                |
|               | On the scope of the examination             |
| Patient Consent Form |                                           |

Please review pages 25-30 for the above guidance documents

| Mentors       | A number of ‘mentors’ are available in Ireland for candidates who wish to obtain advice on cases, etc. It may also be possible to join the MGDS Study Group based in Dublin to help prepare for the examination. For further information please contact the Faculty Office facdentistry@rcsi.ie |
APPENDIX I

Candidate Code of Conduct

Exam Title  

Date  

Examination Number  

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR DISSEMATING EXAMINATION INFORMATION

1. I confirm that I will not disseminate in any way (written, oral or electronic) information regarding the content of this examination.

2. Should RCSI obtain information that I had prior access to or was involved in, copying or disseminating RCSI examination question materials, I understand that I may be prohibited from ever taking or retaking any RCSI certification examinations.

3. I understand that prior knowledge of or disseminating information on the content of the a) Written or b) Oral Clinical Examination (Viva Voce), or c) Clinical Skills Examination, or d) Objective Structural Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) could constitute a breach of my responsibility as an RCSI examination candidate.

4. I understand and accept that any violation of the above notices may mandate an investigation that may subject me to disciplinary and/or legal actions taken by RCSI. The RCSI may, at its discretion, refuse to examine me or, having examined me, may refuse to issue a certificate based upon its above-described investigation. Should I already have become a Fellow, Member or Diplomate of the Faculty of Dentistry, RCSI, such violation may result in the revocation of my certificate. It would also be customary for RCSI to inform such violation to the relevant professional governing body with whom I am registered in the practice of dentistry.

CANDIDATE’S DECLARATION:

1. For written examinations, I shall place my ID card face-up and clearly visible on my assigned desk. I may read the front cover of the examination paper before the start of my examination.

2. For clinical, viva voce or clinical skills exams, I shall wear the identity card provided and make sure that my candidate number is clearly visible at all time.

3. I understand that electronic devices are not permitted in the examination, and I am not in possession any such devices with me. All electronic devices must be handed into the College representative prior to the start of the examination.

4. Prior to the commencement of the examination, all personal belongings must be placed in the areas designed by the College representative.
5. I will not communicate with any other candidates following entry into the examination venue. If I have any queries regarding the exam, I shall seek advice of an invigilator by raising my hand.

**Examples of Examination Offences**

1. Violating the above code of conduct, particularly to discuss or disseminate information regarding the content of the examination.
2. Opening the exam paper before the exam has commenced.
3. Having unauthorised items either on your person, in the vicinity of your desk or in the examination venue including the toilets.
4. Communicating in any manner with other candidates in the examination venue.
5. Having an electronic device on your person at any time when in the examination venue including the toilets.
6. Continuing to write after the end of the exam has been announced.
7. Removing any used or unused answer books, exam papers or any other examination stationary from the examination venue, even temporarily.
8. Ignoring or disobeying any other instructions given by an invigilator or member of the Student, Academic and Regulatory Affairs office.
9. Subsequently publishing any examination material on internet or social media platforms.
10. Disseminating and sharing any illicitly obtained examination material.

**PENALTIES FOR EXAMINATION OFFENCES**

Examination offences are taken extremely seriously. Anyone either suspected of or caught committing an examination offence or for breaching the code of conduct in relation to the dissemination of examination information will be reported immediately to the Faculty and College Authorities. Further action may be taken.

The above applies to all parts of the examination. By signing below, I confirm that I have read and I fully understand the contents of this document which I accept.

Signature: 

Date