

# PLANNING TO STUDY DENTISTRY ABROAD?

## Check these FAQs first:

**1**

**Where can I find the list of recognised overseas qualifications to be able to register with the Malaysian Dental Council (MDC?)**

The MDC no longer has a list of recognised qualifications under the Dental Act 2018, which took effect since 1st January 2022. To become a dental practitioner, one can obtain a dental degree from any country, provided it meets the standard specified by the MDC.

**2**

**What are the standard specified by the MDC?**

The standard specified by the MDC includes minimum entry requirements, training mode, training period, training modules/components, and whether the qualification can be registered as a dental surgeon in the country of training. The details of the specified standard are accessible on the MDC website at <https://hq.moh.gov.my/ohp/mdc/>

**3**

**What are the minimum entry requirement specified by the MDC?**

The MDC has specified that the minimum entry requirement to enrol in any overseas dental programme must be equivalent to the local entry requirements set by the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia. The details of these requirements are available on MDC website too.

**4****Can I study dentistry abroad with just SPM results?**

No. The standard specified by MDC includes a minimum entry requirement equivalent to the dental degree programmes offered locally. As such, applicants must complete a matriculation, foundation, or pre-dental programme after SPM to enrol into dental degree programmes abroad.

**5****What should I do after completing dental studies abroad?**

Beginning 1st January 2027, dental graduates with degrees obtained abroad and who wish to be registered with the MDC must submit their qualifications for evaluation by the MDC. Before being allowed to register as a dental surgeon with the MDC and begin practicing dentistry in Malaysia, the graduate must pass the Professional Qualification Examination (PQE), provided that the obtained qualification fulfills the standard set by the MDC.

**6****I am studying abroad and will graduate in 2025. Do I need to sit for the PQE to register with the MDC?**

The list of qualifications in the Second Schedule under the Dental Act 1971 is still valid until 31 December 2026. If your qualification is listed in the Second Schedule 1971, you can register without the requirement to sit for the PQE. If the qualification is not listed, an evaluation needs to be carried out to determine whether it meets the standards set by the MDC before you are confirmed eligible to sit for the PQE.

**7**

**I have completed my dental studies abroad but only intend to return to Malaysia and register after 2026 since I am currently working/ pursuing postgraduate study. Can I be exempted from the basic qualification evaluation and PQE?**

No. All overseas graduates who wish to register as dental surgeon after 2026 will need to have their basic qualifications evaluated and pass the PQE, even if they have graduated for quite some time or have obtained any post-graduate qualifications.

**8**

**How can I get the latest information regarding PQE?**

You are encouraged to obtain the most recent information from the MDC website and not from other sources. The MDC has never acknowledged any third party for evaluating and recognizing the dental degree programme offered abroad.

If you have any inquiries, please email MDC directly to [mdc@moh.gov.my](mailto:mdc@moh.gov.my).