



# **SPECIALTY ENHANCEMENT ATTACHMENT PROGRAMME (SEAP)**

---

**FOR THE  
PURPOSE OF DENTAL SPECIALIST  
REGISTRATION/ RECOGNITION**

**MALAYSIAN DENTAL COUNCIL**

**2025**

**SPECIALTY ENHANCEMENT  
ATTACHMENT PROGRAMME  
(SEAP)  
FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
SPECIALIST REGISTRATION/  
RECOGNITION**

---

**MALAYSIAN DENTAL COUNCIL**

This guideline was approved by the Malaysian Dental Council (MDC) at the 17<sup>th</sup> MDC Meeting held on 7 April 2025. This guideline shall come into operation for application received on 1 January 2025 onwards.

Amendment on 9th February 2026

**SPECIALTY ENHANCEMENT ATTACHMENT PROGRAMME (SEAP) FOR THE  
PURPOSE OF SPECIALIST REGISTRATION/ RECOGNITION**

**Table of Contents**

<b>1.0 INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2.0 AIMS OF SEAP</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3.0 OUTCOMES OF SEAP</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4.0 CRITERIA AND RESPONSIBILITIES</b>	
<b>4.1 Criteria for Applicant</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4.2 Criteria for Mentor</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4.3 Criteria for Clinical Attachment Facility (CAF)</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4.4 Responsibilities of Involved Parties</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>5.0 COMPLETION OF SEAP</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>6.0 FAILURE TO COMPLETE SEAP</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>7.0 IMPLEMENTATION OF SEAP</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8.0 IMPLICATIONS</b>	<b>7</b>

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The general criteria for postgraduate qualification for specialist registration / recognition (excerpt from The Dental Specialist Registration/Recognition document) states:

### 3.1 Training Duration

- (i) The training duration shall:
  - (a) not be less than four (4) years full-time; or
  - (b) where the training is less than four (4) years but not less than three (3) years, the applicant must fulfil the equivalent of the four (4) years specialty clinical practise, which must be mentored by a specialist approved by the Council
- (ii) For Forensic Odontology (FOD), Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology (OMR) and Dental Public Health (DPH), the minimum training duration is two (2) years, and the applicant must fulfil the equivalent of the four (4) years specialty clinical practise, which must be mentored by a specialist approved by the Council

### 3.2. Training Standard

- (i) The training must be designed to enable trainees to attain the skills necessary, be proficient in the theoretical and clinical aspects of the relevant specialty and in research.
- (ii) The postgraduate qualification must be recognised as a specialist qualification in the awarding country.
- (iii) Qualifications from distant learning/online programmes will not be considered.

### 3.3 Assessment & Recognition

- (i) Foreign qualifications that meet the above criteria will be listed in the Schedule B (Recognized Qualifications).
- (ii) A qualification from a training programme that is not listed in Schedule B will be assessed by the DSEC, on the recommendation of the relevant Dental Specialist Sub-committee (DSSC) on a case-by-case basis.

### **3.4 Fulfilment of equivalency of four (4) years training duration**

Applicants with training of less than four (4) years that fulfil the training standard in 3.2(i), may be considered if they fulfil the additional requirements as follows:

- (i) Additional attachment at a recognised **clinical attachment facility\*** under a **mentor\*** appointed by the Council (e.g. if the full-time training is for three (3) years, must undergo at least one (1) year).
- (ii) Proof of attachment as stipulated by the respective DSSC, must include a record of work done during the period of attachment, endorsed by the appointed mentor.

\*Refer to the secretariat for the criteria for clinical attachment facility and mentor for specific specialty.

### **3.5 Fulfilment of research component**

Applicants with qualifications from postgraduate programme that provides training of clinical skills necessary for a specialist, **without a research component**, may be considered if they fulfil the following criteria:

- (i) Endorsement of clinical work and research activity done within the attachment at the respective recognised attachment centre(s) must be by the mentor appointed by the Council, who shall be a dental specialist registered under the Dental Act 2018.
- (ii) Evidence of research activity and output (For example, research report, manuscript, conference paper etc) under the mentorship of the registered specialist must be provided.

**Specialist Enhancement Attachment Programme (SEAP)** is defined as the attachment that an applicant will undertake with an appointed mentor to fulfil the equivalency requirement.

This document aims to outline the implementation of SEAP.

## **2.0 AIMS OF SEAP**

SEAP aims to provide the applicants with the opportunity to enhance their specialty skills and provide valuable exposure to multicultural society in Malaysia, allowing them to experience diverse clinical management approaches that may differ from those they are accustomed to, thereby broadening their skills and adaptability in handling a variety of cases under an appointed mentor at a recognised clinical attachment facility (CAF).

## **3.0 OUTCOMES OF SEAP**

Upon completing this specialist enhancement attachment, applicant shall be able to:

- i. provide safe and high quality patient care in accordance with the Code of Professional Conduct and standards of ethics.
- ii. demonstrate good interpersonal and communication skills in a multi-ethnic society.
- iii. display a positive working and lifelong learning attitude.
- iv. assess the need for treatment on individual and societal levels with relevance to the multicultural society in Malaysia.

## **4.0 CRITERIA AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **4.1 Criteria for Applicant**

- 4.1.1 Must hold an Annual Practising Certificate (APC) / Temporary Practising Certificate (TPC) with MDC.
- 4.1.2 No conflicts of interest with the mentor.

## **4.2 Criteria for Mentor**

- 4.2.1 Specialist in the Specialist Division of the Dental Register.
- 4.2.2 Must be in the same specialty as the applicant or a related field.
- 4.2.3 Should actively practise the area of specialty and be of good standing.
- 4.2.4 Should have at least five (5) years of working experience as a specialist.
- 4.2.5 Must have worked at least one (1) year full time (full time equivalent is not considered) at the specific CAF / organisation.
- 4.2.6 No conflict of interest with the applicant.
- 4.2.7 No offenses under the Dental Act 2018 within the last two (2) years.
- 4.2.8 Mentor-applicant ratio should not exceed 1:2.
- 4.2.9 Nominated by the DSSC, recommended by the DSEC and appointed by the Dental Registrar.

## **4.3 Criteria for Clinical Attachment Facility (CAF)**

- 4.3.1 Registered/licensed as a specialist facility under the Private Healthcare Facilities and Services Act 1998 [Act 586] (where applicable).
- 4.3.2 Complies with verification inspections by Authorized Officers / Health inspectors.
- 4.3.3 The Ministry of Health, Ministry of Defence and Institute of Higher Education (IHEs) (that offer postgraduate clinical programme(s) or equivalent specific to the specialties) will be automatically recognised as attachment facilities. The programmes offered by IHE must have accreditation certification from the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA).
- 4.3.4 The IHE, which does not offer related PG programmes, may submit an application to become a CAF, subject to approval by the DSEC.
- 4.3.5 CAF should refer to Appendix A for Specialties Specific Requirements.
- 4.3.6 Provide sufficient workload and a spectrum of cases for adequate exposure for specialist practice to fulfil criteria set in Appendix B, Specialties Minimum Requirement.

#### **4.4 Responsibilities of Involved Parties**

All parties involved in the implementation of SEAP must fulfill the following responsibilities:

##### **4.4.1 Attachment Facility Certificate/License Holder or Responsible Person (RP)**

- i. Establish an agreement with the applicant undergoing SEAP, outlining terms and conditions, including the duration of SEAP.
- ii. Comply with related acts such as the Employment Act 1955 [Act 265].
- iii. Ensure the applicant has a valid Annual Practising Certificate (APC) / Temporary Practising Certificate (TPC) .
- iv. Ensure professional indemnity coverage for applicant and mentor.
- v. Ensure that a replacement mentor is appointed with approval from DSEC if the existing mentor is unable to carry out his duties for more than 30 days during the attachment period.
- vi. Ensure the applicant is given the opportunity to attend continuing professional development (CPD) activities for the purpose of Annual Practising Certificate (APC) / Temporary Practising Certificate (TPC) application.

Note: In the event of non-compliance with any of the above conditions, the approval of the facility as a CAF is void.

##### **4.4.2 Responsibilities of Mentor**

- i. Acknowledge no conflicts of interest with the applicant.
- ii. Report the date of SEAP commencement for the applicant to DSEC.
- iii. Report non-compliance with SEAP duration to MDC within 30 days.
- iv. Release the applicant for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities for APC/TPC renewal purposes.
- v. Submit Progress Report (Appendix II) at the interval of six (6) months from the start of the SEAP.
- vi. Submit the "Confirmation Report of Completion of SEAP" to DSEC within 30 days after the applicant has completed the SEAP period.

- vii. Review and monitor the completion of the applicant's logbook.
- viii. Conduct regular reflection sessions and provide feedback to the applicant.

#### **4.4.3 Responsibilities of the Applicant Undergoing SEAP**

- i. Acknowledge no conflicts of interest with the mentor.
- ii. Sign an agreement with the clinic certificate/license holder or RP.
- iii. Hold a valid Annual Practising Certificate (APC) / Temporary Practising Certificate (TPC).
- iv. Submit Progress Report (Appendix II) at the interval of six (6) months from the start of the SEAP
- v. Complete the SEAP period at the approved CAF, minimum of two and a half (2.5) days per week.
- vi. Fulfills specialty minimum requirements as stipulated in Appendix B.
- vii. Complete a logbook by the end of the programme and submit it to the DSEC Secretariat.
- viii. Inform and seek approval from the DSEC if the applicant has to postpone his period of attachment, or change the CAF or mentor.

Note: The SEAP period may be extended at the discretion of the DSEC.

#### **4.4.4 DSEC/DSSC Responsibilities**

- i. Assess and approve applications as CAF.
- ii. Issue a list of eligible mentors for SEAP.
- iii. Consider and approve SEAP applications, including CAF.
- iv. Consider any appeal from applicant, CAF or mentors in the implementation of SEAP.
- v. Issue a "Confirmation Letter of Completion of SEAP" to applicants who have been certified by the mentor as having completed the attachment period.
- vi. Monitor the implementation of SEAP at CAFs via desktop assessment.
- vii. Confirm the mentor as having good standing.
- viii. Disqualify the applicant or mentor in the event of non-compliance.

## **5.0 COMPLETION OF SEAP**

Applicants who complete the SEAP shall submit the proof of attachment to DSEC.

Evidence required are as follows:

- (a) Completed logbook of cases undertaken during SEAP. This logbook must be approved and signed by the mentor. All cases logged must have been managed and treated by the applicant.
- (b) Signed declaration that all cases were treated during SEAP.
- (c) A formal "Confirmation Report of Completion of SEAP" from the mentor at the end of SEAP.

## **6.0 FAILURE TO COMPLETE SEAP**

If the applicant fails to complete the SEAP due to:

- (a) The applicant's own non-compliance with attachment period;
  - i. the applicant must respond to a show-cause notice from the DSEC within 30 days; and
  - ii. make an appeal to the DSEC.
- (b) Mentor non-compliance; the applicant may request a change of mentor by writing a letter to the DSEC with justification.
- (c) CAF non-compliance; the applicant must write a letter to the DSEC with justification to change facilities.

## **7.0 IMPLEMENTATION OF SEAP**

The intake of applicants is subject to the capacity of the CAF meeting the set criteria. The appointment and financial arrangements are subject to the CAF's considerations with written agreement from all involved parties.

If the mentor practices at more than one (1) recognised CAF, the applicant is allowed to apply to practice at those CAFs.

## **8.0 IMPLICATIONS**

MDC may revoke the approval for the CAF if non-compliance is reported. An applicant who does not complete the SEAP period or does not receive a "Confirmation of Completion of SEAP Letter" cannot be registered in the Specialist Division of the Dental Register or recognised as a specialist.

## **MEMBERS OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE**


1. Prof. Dr. Dalia bt Abdullah
2. Prof. Dr. Noor Hayaty binti Abu Kasim
3. Prof. Dr. Noorliza Mastura binti Ismail
4. Prof. Madya Dr. Mohd Fadhli bin Khamis
5. Prof. Madya Dr. Annapurny Venkiteswaran
6. Prof. Madya Dr. Wan Nurazreena binti Wan Hassan
7. Dr. Rasidah bt Ayob
8. Dr. Nurshaline Pauline bt Hj Kipli
9. Dr. Sutina bt Kohir
10. Dr. Mohamed Muzafar Bin Hamirudin
11. Dr. Lam Jac Meng

### Secretaries of the Working Committee:

1. Dr. Norfarhana binti Md Daud
2. Dr. Nur Hamizah binti Abu Bakar

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The committee records its appreciation to the Dental Registrar of MDC, Dr. Fauziah binti Ahmad; Secretary of MDC, Dr. Nurul Syakirin binti Abdul Shukor; Dental Specialty Sub-Committees (DSSC); and the secretariat of the DSSC for their contributions and assistance in the preparation of this document.



Malaysian Dental Council  
Ministry of Health Malaysia  
E301, Level 3, Block 3440  
Enterprise Building 1, CoPlace 12  
Jalan Teknokrat 3  
63000 Cyberjaya, Selangor, Malaysia.  
Tel. : 03-8318 6440  
<https://hq.moh.gov.my/ohp/mdc/>