

5.1.3 Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine

Specific admission requirements

- For admission to the Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine programme, you must have an MBChB degree or another equivalent qualification considered by the University to be of an adequate standard.
- You must be registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa or an equivalent registration body outside South Africa.
- If you are an international candidate and you have obtained your qualifications from a tertiary institution where English is not the language of instruction, you are required to provide proof of English language proficiency.
- During the programme you must work in a clinical setting appropriate to the practice and learning of family medicine. Suitable settings include a general practice, community health centre, clinic or district hospital.

Please note:

Exemption on the grounds of comparable academic training gained at another recognised institution may be granted by the University in respect of prescribed modules. A separate application to the Postgraduate Programme Committee of the Division of Family Medicine and Primary Care is required after admission.

Application procedure and closing date

Apply online at www.maties.com by **30 September** of the previous year. Applications for prospective international students close on **31 August**.

Senate, or the Executive Committee acting on its behalf, will decide if you can be admitted to the programme.

Duration of programme

The programme extends over two years.

Programme description

The Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine programme aims to provide a course of study for doctors wishing to expand their knowledge and skills in areas relevant to family medicine and general practice. The programme aims to enhance the quality of family/general practice, and satisfy the desire of doctors for continuing professional development.

Please note:

You must read the Yearbook entry for this programme in conjunction with the more comprehensive outline of the programme regulations provided to you upon admission to the programme.

Programme outcomes

As a graduate of the Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine you should be able to:

- assess and treat patients with both undifferentiated and more specific problems in a cost-effective way according to the bio-psychosocial approach;
- provide all healthcare in an ethical, compassionate and responsible manner, and show respect for human rights while doing so;
- promote the general health and quality of life of the community; and
- evaluate and reflect on your personal and professional strengths and weaknesses in order to change your professional practice in an appropriate manner according to the best available evidence.

Presentation

The programme is offered in a modular manner by means of real-time learning.

Programme content

Clinical Primary Care	775(20)
Primary Care Consultations*	775(20)
Community-oriented Primary Care*	741(20)
Clinical Governance for Primary Care	775(20)
Core Dimensions of Primary Care	775(20)
Learning in Primary Care Teams*	775(20)

* First-year modules

Assessment and examination

- You must pass all six modules with a final mark of at least 50%.
- If you fail a module or the final examination in a module, you may repeat the module or the examination. Modules are only offered once a year. To repeat a module, you must enrol for the module again in the following academic year. If you are required to repeat the examination in a module only, you may attempt a supplementary examination in the same year.
- If you have failed a module or the examination in a module for the second time, you may be denied the right to attempt the module or examination again on recommendation of the Faculty Board.
- As exit examination you must sit the examination for the Higher Diploma in Family Medicine of the College of Family Physicians of South Africa. You may only take the final examination if you have successfully completed all first-year modules and at least 15 months of clinical work as documented in a learning portfolio. The cost of the examination is not included in the university fees. For more information, visit the website at www.cmsa.co.za.
- If you have failed an exit examination, you may sit for the College examination again as a supplementary examination. If you, however, fail a second exit examination, you may be denied the right to qualify for the Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine on recommendation of the Faculty Board.
- To be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine, you must obtain a final mark of not less than 50%.
- To be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine with distinction, you must obtain a final mark of at least 75%.

Enquiries

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Disclaimer:

The content above comes from the 2024 Medicine and Health Sciences Yearbook. Make sure to consult the full **Medicine and Health Sciences Yearbook** to see this extract in context and to check if there have been any changes. Take special note of additional information in the yearbook under section *Postgraduate programmes*.