

MedEx: Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is MedEx?

MedEx is short for the Medical Specialist Pre-entrance Examination (or Peperiksaan Pra-kemasukan Ijazah Lanjutan Perubatan). It was established by the Medical Deans Council of Malaysia and conducted by the Malaysian Examinations Council (Majlis Peperiksaan Malaysia, MPM) under Act 225, hence the authority to conduct examinations. It serves as one of the screening criteria to select good candidates to join clinical specialist training in Malaysian public universities. Different specialties apply different lists of Selection Criteria. Please refer to the Selection Criteria specific for the specialisation that you prefer.

2. How often is MedEx held?

MedEx is conducted 1-3 times a year depending on the specialty, and this may increase in future.

3. How much is the fee to sit for MedEx?

The fee is RM800 for each paper. One paper represents one medical specialty, except for Pathology, which represents both General Pathology and Forensic Pathology.

4. How long is the validity of a MedEx result?

The result is valid for 3 to 5 years, depending on specialty.

5. If I pass MedEx, will I be guaranteed a place in the clinical specialist training programme?

Your MedEx result is one of the requirements to join the clinical specialist training. However, there are other selection criteria to be fulfilled before you can be admitted into the programme. For further details for each programme, please refer to the Selection Criteria accessible in the MedEx Registration Portal.

6. How is the MedEx results expressed?

MedEx does not give a Pass or Fail result. It is given as Band 1 to 6, just like the Malaysian University English Test (MUET) examination. For the 2019 examination, the cut-off marks for the Bands were pre-determined, and each specialty decides which Band will be considered as the cut-off requirement for progress into the next stage of the selection process, e.g. an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) or interview session. For the 2020 examination onwards, each Specialty Committee determines the cut-off marks for the Bands for their own examination paper, and Band 4, 5 and 6 will be selected for the next stage of the selection process.

- 7. Do I have to pay for the next stage in the selection process, i.e., the interview?**
Special payment may be required for certain specialties that impose additional screening methods, e.g. OSCE, besides interview.
- 8. Can I sit more than one MedEx paper at one time?**
Yes, you can sit as many papers as you wish based on the MedEx schedule given but you need to check the MedEx paper schedule so that the papers do not clash with one another.
- 9. I am a House Officer – can I sit for MedEx?**
Yes. Anyone can sit for the examination but please check the Selection Criteria for additional pre-requisites to join the clinical specialist training programme of your preference.
- 10. Is there a limit to how many times I can sit for MedEx?**
No.
- 11. If I do well in MedEx, will I automatically qualify for training scholarships e.g. the Federal Training Award (Hadiah Latihan Persekutuan, HLP)?**
HLP or any other training scholarship is managed by the sponsor (e.g. Ministry of Health) according to their terms and conditions. Please check with the respective sponsors.
- 12. Is MedEx a compulsory requirement for entry into the medical specialist programme?**
MedEx is one of the compulsory requirements. For further details for each programme, please refer to the Selection Criteria accessible in the MedEx Registration Portal.
- 13. How many medical specialist programmes offer MedEx?**
In 2022, all 23 medical specialist programmes offer MedEx, including Forensic Pathology which shares the same MedEx paper with Pathology. The rest are Anaesthesiology, Clinical Oncology, Emergency Medicine, ENT, Family Medicine, General Surgery, Internal Medicine, Neurosurgery, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Ophthalmology, Orthopaedics, Nuclear Medicine, Paediatric Surgery, Paediatrics, Plastic Surgery, Psychiatry, Public Health, Radiology, Rehabilitation Medicine, Sport Medicine and Transfusion Medicine. However, Plastic Surgery will not be offering MedEx in April but later in the year 2022.

14. Is MedEx limited to Malaysian citizens only?

No. Foreign citizens can also sit for the MedEx as preparation for entry into the Malaysian medical specialist programme. For further details on pre-requisites for entry into each programme, please refer to the Selection Criteria accessible in the MedEx Registration Portal.

15. My basic degree is from an unrecognized university. If I take the MedEx examination for a speciality, do I still need to take the Examination for Provisional Registration (EPR) examination?

Yes, you still have to.

16. Is it true that to pass my housemanship (HO), one of the examinations I must take is the MedEx?

No, it is not true.

17. I took the specialty entrance examination last year which is valid for 2 years according to the old system (which was not under the MedEx). This year I notice that the specialty has started to use the MedEx as the entrance examination. Do I have to take the MedEx if I want to apply this year?

No, you don't have to take the MedEx of that specialty this year since your specialty entrance examination is still valid. You can take the MedEx of that specialty this year if you want to improve your standing. However, this will only apply until year 2023, as the last non-MedEx entrance examination was in 2021 for certain specialties.

18. Will there be preparatory courses for MedEx candidates?

MedEx preparatory courses are the initiatives of the individual Specialty Committees. In 2022, seven Specialty Committees are offering preparatory courses for MedEx as follows:

- a. Emergency Medicine (11-12 January 2022).
- b. Obstetrics and Gynaecology (26-28 March 2022).
- c. Ophthalmology (21-24 March 2022).
- d. Paediatrics (February 2022).
- e. Pathology (tentatively in mid-February 2022).
- f. Radiology (26 February 2022).
- g. Sports Medicine (23-24 July 2022).
- h. Neurosurgery (27-28 March 2022, contact diana_noma@hotmail.com).

The other specialties do not have plans to hold preparatory courses so far.