

5.1.9 Postgraduate Diploma in Occupational Medicine

Specific admission requirements

- Possession of an MBChB degree (or equivalent) for at least two years.
- Registration for at least one year as medical practitioner in the category independent practice with the Health Professions Council of South Africa or equivalent professions council if you do not practise in South Africa.

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**.

The number of students admitted to each two-year cycle of the programme are limited to suit the logistical and other specific programme requirements. The Postgraduate Programme Committee of the Division of Health Systems and Public Health evaluate all applications by means of a scoring system to identify successful applicants, taking into consideration academic merit, equity measures and other relevant factors. Senate, or the Executive Committee acting on its behalf, will confirm whether you are admitted to the Postgraduate Diploma in Occupational Medicine programme.

Duration of programme

The programme extends over two years.

Programme description

The programme aims to equip you as a medical practitioner with knowledge and skills of appropriate breadth and depth in occupational health so that you can comply with the legal requirements for practicing occupational health in South Africa. At the end of the programme, you will be able to effectively plan, implement and manage occupational health services, and effectively manage patients with an occupational health-related disease and/or injury within the multidisciplinary team.

Programme outcomes

On completion of the diploma programme, you will be able to demonstrate the following:

- Effective management of individuals with occupational-related diseases or injuries utilising appropriate knowledge and skills in occupational medicine, which includes appropriate screening, correct diagnosis and treatment, as well as appropriate referral for further treatment.
- The ability to identify and quantify occupational health-related problems within the worker community and act appropriately by formulating and implementing viable solutions based on occupational health knowledge and skills of appropriate depth and breadth.
- The ability to act as a coordinating link between the employer, the employee and the multidisciplinary team in Occupational Health to ensure optimal worker health.
- The ability to plan, implement and effectively manage occupational health services based on occupational health knowledge and skills of appropriate depth and breadth.

Programme content

Theoretical modules (all compulsory)

Occupational Health Management and Legislation	772(12)
Occupational Hygiene and Risk Management	772(10)
Chemical Risk Factors in the Workplace	772(12)
Physical Risk Factors in the Workplace	772(12)
Ergonomic Risk Factors in the Workplace	772(12)
Biological Risk Factors in the Workplace	773(6)
Psychosocial Risk Factors in the Workplace	773(6)
Clinical Occupational Medicine	771(16)
Evaluation of Disability and Fitness for Work/Employment	771(16)
Research Methodology	772(10)
Health Promotion and Communication	773(4)
Environmental Medicine	773(4)

Practical module (not compulsory)

Exposure through Industrial Visits	773(6)
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Assessment and examination

- The final examination in this programme is conducted in November of the second year of enrolment.
- The examination consists of three three-hour papers and the minimum pass mark is 50%.
- The final mark is calculated on the basis of a weighted average in the ratio 30:70 for the flexible assessment and the examination mark.
- If you fail the November examination, you will be admitted to a re-examination in the following January if you have achieved a final mark of at least 40%. The re-examination will be a structured oral assessment.

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*.