

On the July 24th, 2020 it has been announced the Act of Amendment to the Act on the Profession of Medical Doctor and Dentist (Ustawa o zawodzie lekarza i lekarza dentystry) and some other acts due date July 16th, 2020. The above mentioned Act introduces a number of changes for students and graduates of the medical and dental majors.

The most important changes are listed below:

- I. Graduates of the PMU English Program who have not completed a postgraduate internship, will be able to fulfill the requirements of the countries in which they intend to practice as a medical doctor and obtain the right to practice the profession on base of recognition of the internship as completed by the decision of the Minister of Health:

From the Act on amending the Act on the Profession of Medical Doctor and Dentist dated on July 16, 2020:

Art. 8

1. For persons who started their studies on the territory of the Republic of Poland in the academic year: 2012/2013, 2013/2014, 2014/2015, 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 in the field of medicine or dentistry, in a language other than Polish, and who have not completed a postgraduate internship, the minister competent for health matters recognizes and approves, by issuing a decision, their postgraduate internship as completed:

1) **if during their studies these persons have completed at least one year of practical training, corresponding to the clinical part of the postgraduate internship program**, based on the agreement between a given university and a medical entity in the countries, where the postgraduate internship is not required, however the completion of this internship is a condition for obtaining the right to practice medical profession of a doctor [lekarz] or a dentist [lekarz dentysta], or

2) **if these persons, after obtaining the professional title of a doctor [lekarz] or a dentist [lekarz dentysta], have completed a 6-months practical training, corresponding to the clinical part of the postgraduate internship program**, executed in a medical entity, which provides the access to organizational units as a base necessary to conduct pre-graduate and post-graduate education in the medical professions to a medical university (as referred to in art. 2 clause 1 point 13 of the Act of 15 April 2011 on medical activity (Journal of Laws of 2020, items 295 and 567)).

2. A doctor or a dentist referred to **in par. 1 item. 1** shall apply for the decision referred to in par. 1, **within 3 months** from the date of obtaining the professional title of a doctor or a dentist. If the professional title of a doctor or a dentist was obtained before the entry into force of this Act, the mentioned period shall be counted from the date of entry into force of this Act.

3. A doctor or a dentist referred to **in par. 1 item 2**, shall apply for the decision referred to in par. 1, **within 3 months** from the date of completion of the practical training.

4. Additionally to the application, in the case of the training referred to in **par. 1 item 1**, a doctor or a dentist has to present:

1) the certificate issued by the entity in which practical training was completed, including information about the following:

a) the duration of the practical training and the place of its completion,

b) the person who finally approved the practical training - name, surname and function;

2) the diploma confirming completion of studies in the field of medicine or dentistry or the final certificate of completion the uniform long cycle master's degree studies in the field of medicine or dentistry;

3) the training program which was completed.

5. Additionally to the application, in the case of the training referred to in **par. 1 item 2**, a doctor or a dentist has to present:

1) the certificate issued by the medical entity in which practical training was completed and documents including information about the following:

a) the duration of practical training and the place of its completion,

b) the person who finally approved the practical training - name, surname and function;

2) the diploma confirming completion of studies in the field of medicine or dentistry or the certificate of completion of the uniform long cycle master's degree studies in the field of medicine or dentistry.

6. The practical training program referred to in par. 1 item 2, which constitutes the verification of the application referred to in par. 2, is prepared by the minister competent for health matters, considering the duration of the clinical parts of the postgraduate internship. The program is being published on the website of the Public Information Bulletin of the office supporting the minister responsible for health matters.

7. Persons undergoing practical training referred to in par. 1, item 2, may participate in the provision of health care services under the direct supervision of specialists practicing medical profession competent in the content of the training.

8. Responsibility for the organization of the practical training, referred to in par. 1 item 2, lies on the medical university in which undergoing trainee completed the studies in the field of medicine or dentistry (in accordance with art. 89 of the Act on Healthcare Institutions dated on April 15, 2011).

9. The practical training referred to in **par. 1 item 2**, may be held **not later than within 2 years from the date of obtaining the professional title of a doctor [lekarz] or a dentist [lekarz dentysta]**. If a doctor or a dentist has obtained this title before the effective date of this Act, the period shall be counted from the effective date of this Act.

10. The decision referred to in par. 1, is equivalent to the fulfillment of the requirement to complete a postgraduate internship necessary in the procedure for obtaining the permit to practice as a medical doctor or a dentist.

II. For students:

1. LEK {Final State Medical Exam} and LDEK (Final State Dentistry Exam) dates are announced by the CEM {Centre of Medical Examination} director at least six months before the planned exam.

2. LEK exam may be taken by a doctor [lekarz] or by a student who has completed 10 semesters of the 6-year uniform long cycle master's degree studies in the field of medicine provided by a university legally established in the Republic of Poland (effective from December 1, 2020).

3. LDEK exam may be taken by a dentist or by a student who has completed 8 semesters of the 5-year uniform long cycle master's degree studies in the field of dentistry at a university legally established in the Republic of Poland (effective from December 1, 2020).