

ETHIOPIAN RESIDENCY MATCHING PROGRAM**Introduction**

The Federal Ministry of Health of Ethiopia has identified strengthening education of health workers as one of the strategic priorities of the national human resources for health strategic plan. Expanding residency training programs and substantially increasing the enrollment capacity of training institutions and increasing the number and capacity of faculty for improved quality of education are among the strategies. As part of this effort, the National Medical Schools Council was established in January of 2017 to oversee the medical education, including the residency program.

Finding all the information and requirements to understand the process of landing a residency may be time-consuming and overwhelming. This brochure is designed for applicant to any residency program in Ethiopia to have a clear understanding on the process and the convention.

Who are candidates for the residency programs?

Applicants who:

1. Graduated from an accredited public or private medical school.
2. Secured a public institute sponsorship.
3. Are committed and agreed to serve in the public sector for the period stated in the contractual agreement.
4. No service year requirement to apply

Graduates of medical schools located outside Ethiopia can apply for the residency program provided that they presented authenticated credential, and abided by the respective university's legislation and Ethiopian higher education proclamation.

What are the different specialty programs?

R stands for postgraduate year, so R-1 means the first year of postgraduate medical education, R-2 means the second year, and so forth. With the existing curricula, the length of residency ranges from three to four years. Currently, there are 22 different residency programs in 12 medical

Schools with variable number

- Internal Medicine,
- Pediatrics,
- Surgery,
- Obstetrics/Gynecology,
- Orthopedics,
- Pathology,
- Anesthesiology,
- Radiology,
- Ophthalmology,
- Psychiatry,
- Dermato-Venerology,
- Nuclear Medicine,
- Oncology,
- Neurology,
- ENT,
- Pediatric Surgery,
- Uro-Surgery,
- Plastic Surgery,
- Neurosurgery,
- Emergency Medicine,
- Family Medicine
- Forensic Medicine

The Entrance exam: Has 2 components

1. **MCQ:** Assess the applicant's knowledge in general medicine and the specific clinical disciplines

COMPOSITION OF THE MCQ EXAM AGAIN HAS TWO COMPONENTS.

- The first part is on general medicine
 - Accounts for 33.3% (40 questions)
 - Mandatory for all candidate
- Second part is specialty specific
 - Accounts for 66.6% (80 questions each)
 - A candidate can only take specialty specific exams that he/she has applied for (max-three exams)

- Total number of questions that a candidate takes will be
 - 40 questions from general medicine + (n x 80 specialty specific exams) $n \leq 3$, where n is the number of specialties that the candidate applied for. This means, a candidate can take a minimum of 120 questions and a maximum of 280 MCQs
- One question takes 1.5 min
- MCQ exam and interview exams account for 70% and 30%, respectively.
- The General medicine exam will be administered for all candidates at the same time
- Specialty specific exams will be administered as per the schedule that the exam board decides

*Note: An applicant can apply to up to 3 residency programs in a given year.

2. Interview

WHO CAN SIT FOR INTERVIEW?

- A candidate who passed the MCQ
- Candidates will be notified via email stating the date and place of interview one week before the interview date
- This will be conducted in the exam centers (hubs)

OBJECTIVE AND STRUCTURE OF THE INTERVIEW

- To assess Communication skill (language, active listening, expression), Attitude and Aspirations
- Interviewer panel of three will be established by NMSC
- The candidate should be physically and mentally fit for the training, as per the tool prepared by the department and approved by NMSC evidences for fitness may be requested if deemed necessary (medical certificate)
- Professional contribution/previous and future
 - A candidate can be interviewed for a maximum of three spots
 - Each interview takes 20 minutes

Time table for 2017

- Exam time, place and date will be posted on MOH website OR announced via government media outlet in the month of June.
- June 30th 2017: Dead line for application
- July 2017: Residency Examination
- August: Announcement of matching and deployment of applicants. It will also be emailed to individual applicants.
- September 2017: Commencement of residency Program

Choosing Specialty program

- **Explore who you are** and what you want in your life, and then identify the career options that will support your goals.
- **Think broadly** about your options, and be open to everything. You may find that more than one specialty or practice environment will bring satisfaction and meaning to your work.
- **Identify extracurricular clinical opportunities** to explore different specialties early in medical school. You might shadow physicians or attend career nights or specialty panels at your school.
- **Be strategic** in maximizing your clinical experiences to develop the skills and knowledge that will make you a strong candidate.
- **Always talk with an advisor**, your student affairs dean, and other important mentors who can guide you in the process. Their support will be invaluable.
- **Make sure** that you have good knowledge and skill to compete with others in the entrance exam.
- **Make sure** that you can cop up with the academic and social hardships to pursue the residency program

Applying for Residency

The Ministry of Health in collaboration with ministry of Education will launch a website for registration. There will be an instruction page on the website on how to apply.

Once you have filled the application form, the following documents has to be uploaded online.

The following should be uploaded

- Sponsorship letter for the chosen subjects
- An applicant can choose maximum three subjects based on interest yet it's not mandatory
- Motivation letter (Maximum 300 words),
- Filled Euro-pass CV
- Passport size photograph (4x4)
- Medical Certificate

After processing the application, FMoH will announce

- The eligible candidates list with allocated exam centers
- The MCQ exam dates

Number of residency programs one can apply to

- An applicant can apply up to three residency programs in a given year based on interest yet it's not necessarily obligatory. An applicant can choose one, two or three if deemed necessary.
- You have to make a decision in selecting 1- 3 residency programs out of 22 listed above.

What's the Interview Process?

The interview will be conducted in the selected exam hubs. Candidates will be notified via email stating the date and place of interview one week before the interview date. Interviewer panel of three will be established by NMSC. A candidate can be interviewed for a maximum of three spots. Each interview takes about 20 minutes.

Matching process and rank order list

Since the matching will be based on the specialty preference, academic performance, and marriage status:

1. Rank your specialties from 1-3 in the order of your preference.
2. Rank universities for each specialty selected in the order of your preference.
3. Select your preference of one examination hub.
4. Couple candidates can appeal to be placed in the same institution. However, they should submit marriage certificate along with an appeal letter.

N:B

- Candidates who failed to rank their preference will not sit for exam
- Selected and assigned candidates should join the residency program on the same year.
- A candidate can't directly join the residency program unless he/she takes an examination for the second time

After all matching and post matching process, if there are vacancies in certain specialties in different institutions that are deemed to be necessarily filled, the unmatched contingency candidates can be considered for an interview in the respective available vacancies.

Additional Resource

- FMoH website
- FMoE website
- Medical Education Team FMoH

No	Number of Specialties	Number of Universities with enrollment capacity in 2010 E.C											
		Adama	AAU	Arisi	BDU	Gondar	Haromaya	Hawassa	Jimma	Mekelle	St Paul	Wollo	W/sodo
1	<i>General Surgery</i>	10	20	10	15	15	6	15	20	12	10	12	6
2	<i>OBGYN</i>	10	20	8	10	15	10	12	15	10	25	8	6
3	<i>Internal Medicine</i>	10	35	10	12	20	8	12	20	20	30		
4	<i>Pediatrics</i>	10	30	8	10	15	7	15	15	12	20		
5	<i>Orthopedics</i>		20		10					6	15		
6	<i>Ophthalmology</i>		10			10		4	10		6		
7	<i>Emergency Medicine</i>		20								10		
8	<i>Family Medicine</i>		15										
9	<i>Forensic medicine</i>									4	4		
10	<i>Pathology</i>		15					3	5	3	4		
11	<i>Psychiatry</i>		20						5		6		
12	<i>Anesthesiology</i>		20						5		5		
13	<i>Dermatology</i>		15			6			2				
14	<i>Oncology</i>		10										
15	<i>ENT</i>		10							3	3		
16	<i>Nuclear Medicine</i>		5										
17	<i>Pediatrics Surgery</i>		5										
18	<i>Plastic Surgery</i>		5										
19	<i>Uro-surgery</i>		5								4		
20	<i>Neurology</i>		15										
21	<i>Neurological surgery</i>		10								4		
22	<i>Radiology</i>		25			10			5	10	15		
TOTAL		40	330	26	57	91	31	61	97	88	161	20	12