

MBBS Educational Regulations

Definitions:

University/Faculty of Medical Sciences: An autonomous educational, research, and service institution tasked not only with the primary responsibility of training human resources across various levels in the medical field but also with conducting educational and research activities, as well as providing health and medical services.

Study Duration:

Study Duration is a coordinated, coherent, and interdependent set of modules within a discipline, presented to students according to a specific system and timeline, ultimately culminating in the award of an MBBS degree.

MBBS consists of three stages of education:

Stage 1: Basic Sciences phase

Stage 2: Pre-clinic or Pathophysiology phase

Stage 3: Clinical or clerkship phase

Education Department:

The Education Department is an administrative unit within a university or college responsible for all educational matters pertaining to students. This includes registration, module selection, reviewing student applications, implementing educational regulations, Oversight of student attendance by professors and enforcement of related regulations. conducting exams, collecting grades, announcing results, reviewing student academic transcript, and facilitating graduation.

Professor/Instructor:

A professor/instructor is a faculty member responsible for teaching theoretical or practical courses.

Course Classification:

In terms of content, university courses are categorized into general and specialized courses (basic and field-specific). Based on their relationship, courses are classified as continuous (prerequisite) or independent. Regarding the necessity of selection, courses are divided into compulsory and elective. Additionally, based on the method of teaching and learning, courses are categorized as theoretical, practical, theoretical-practical, clerkship courses and hospital wards.

Note:

- Courses designated as theoretical and practical are taught independently, each with a separate course code and individual score.
- Courses designated as theoretical-practical are considered as a single course, sharing as a course code and score

General Courses

These courses are designed to enhance students' general knowledge, cultural growth, and insight. They are based on the culture, teachings, and beliefs of divine religions, in addition to providing familiarity with scientific methods. Completion and successful passing of these courses are mandatory for all students.

Specialized Courses

Specialized courses are divided into two categories: basic courses and field-specific specialized courses.

Basic Courses: These courses are designed to prepare students, enhance their knowledge, and strengthen their scientific understanding and insight, thereby facilitating a better comprehension of specialized courses within the field.

Specialized Courses: These courses are aimed solely at developing and increasing the scientific and practical proficiency specific to the field

Prerequisite Courses:

Prerequisite courses are those that must be completed before enrolling in another course.

Independent Courses:

Independent courses are those that do not require the completion of any other courses prior to enrollment.

Theoretical Courses:

Theoretical courses are those conducted in a classroom setting, either in-person or online.

Practical Courses:

Practical courses are those conducted in workshops, laboratories, clinical skills centers, or related departments within the faculty.

Blended Learning:

Blended learning is an educational strategy that incorporates both face-to-face (in-person) and e-learning (online) teaching methods.

Clerkship Courses:

Clerkship courses involve practical skill training in real workplace settings (hospitals, clinics, health service centers) or simulated environments (clinical skills centers).

Clerkship Wards:

Introductory training wards in clinical skills centers and real workplace settings (hospitals, clinics, health service centers) at the patient's bedside, aimed at teaching history-taking and clinical examination, recording patient information, and performing necessary procedures in collaboration with the educational team.

Chapter One: Admission and Enrollment Conditions

Article 1) The conditions for admission to the MBBS program are as follows:

- 1.1 Acceptance by the International Student Admissions Committee of the university/medical faculty.
- 1.2 Possession of a high school diploma as recognized by the admitting university/faculty.
- 1.3 Full physical and mental health.
- 1.4 Non-Iranian nationality.

Article 2) Students are required to visit the Education Office each semester at the designated time for enrollment and course selection. Failure to enroll without notification and a valid excuse will be considered a withdrawal, and the student will be expelled.

Note 1: In exceptional circumstances, students who believe their withdrawal is justified must submit a written explanation to the Education Office at least one month before the end of the semester. If the university's Educational Council approves the leave, the semester will be counted as part of the total allowable study period, and a leave of absence will be granted for that semester."

Note 2: A student who withdraws and wishes to obtain their academic documents must fulfill all obligations of their study period.

Article 3) Applicants to the MBBS program are not permitted to enroll and continue their studies in more than one field or at multiple universities simultaneously.

Chapter Two: Educational System and Rules

Article 4) The MBBS program is based on a semester-credit system.

Article 5) In the credit system, the value of each course is determined by the number of credits assigned to it, and a student's pass or fail status in a course pertains solely to that specific course.

Article 6) Each credit corresponds to a specific amount of instructional time: 17 hours for theoretical courses, 34 hours for practical (or laboratory) courses, and 51 hours for clerkship wards, to be completed during an academic semester or summer term as per the program approved by the Supreme Council for Medical Sciences Planning.

Article 7) The MBBS program consists of the following stages:

1. Basic Sciences
2. Pre-Clinical or Pathophysiology
3. Clinical Clerkship, Final Assessment Exit Exam and **Professional** competency exam according to OSCE method

Article 8) In the first and second stages of the MBBS program, each academic year is divided into two academic semesters, with an optional summer term if necessary and feasible. Each academic semester comprises at least 17 weeks of instruction, while the summer term comprises 6 weeks of instruction.

Note 1: The duration of end-of-semester or end-of-summer term exams is not included in the 17 weeks and 6 weeks of instruction.

Note 2: In exceptional and necessary circumstances, such as natural disasters, the inability of the relevant professor to be present for 17 weeks, illness of the professor, and other similar cases, the relevant faculty may propose, and the University's Educational Council may approve, that a course or courses be taught over a period shorter than 17 weeks for all enrolled students. This is contingent upon ensuring that the total instructional hours for each course unit meet the requirements stipulated in Article 6, and that attendance in all classes is mandatory according to the specified hours for each course credit.

Article 9) In the clinical or clerkship phase (third stage), conducted over 4 or 5 academic semesters, each academic year comprises multiple wards of clinical education and related theoretical courses. The number of clinical wards during each academic year is determined according to the approved MD degree curriculum, considering the time required to teach each ward.

Note 1: During the clerkship, hospital ward rotations and theoretical courses are conducted consecutively without any break between semesters. In Sabtain Branch Students may be granted a vacation only for TWO weeks during the month of farvardin (March 18th till April 2nd), subject to the approval of the university's educational council.

Article 10) All universities and faculties of medical sciences are required to implement the curriculum and syllabus approved by the Supreme Council for Medical Sciences Planning.

Note 1: The arrangement of courses according to prerequisites, the setting of the students' academic program during this phase, the teaching method, the introduction and design of new materials within a course, and the selection of resources are the responsibilities of the universities and faculties of medical sciences. The resources for the comprehensive basic science exam, the practical clinical competency exam, and the Final Exit Exam are determined by the relevant ministry.

Article 11) At the end of the first phase, a comprehensive basic science exam is administered. Passing this comprehensive exam is a prerequisite for progressing to the next phase.

Note 1: To qualify for the comprehensive basic science exam, students must complete and pass all basic science courses (including all basic, specialized, and general courses, except for one failed general course) and achieve a total average of 12 across these courses.

Note 2: If the scores for some courses are not available at the time of eligibility for the comprehensive basic science exam, the student will participate conditionally. If, after the scores are announced, the student fails any course or does not meet the requirements (as per Note 1), their exam result will be invalid. This conditional participation will not count towards the total number of exam attempts. The student will not be allowed to participate in the next comprehensive exam until passing the failed course and achieving an overall average of 12 in the basic science courses.

Article 12) Students are permitted up to three attempts to pass the comprehensive basic sciences exam. Failure to obtain a passing score within these attempts will result in the student being barred from continuing their studies in the MBBS program.

Note1: An unjustified absence from the comprehensive basic science exam will be considered as one attempt.

Note 2: A student who is barred from continuing their MBBS studies due to failure in the comprehensive basic science exam may, at the discretion of the university/college educational council, transfer to another field at the undergraduate or associate degree level.

Article 13) To qualify for the third phase or clerkship, students must pass all courses in the first and second phases (basic sciences and pre-clinical or pathophysiology phase, except for one failed pathophysiology course) and achieve an overall average of 12 in the aforementioned courses.

Article 14) Clinical clerkship includes outpatient healthcare training in hospital clinics and health service centers, inpatient bedside training, and theoretical courses.

Note 1: Throughout the clerkship, students must complete a minimum of 24 months of training according to the approved program.

Article 15) At the end of the third phase, the final Assessment Exit and Professional Competency Exam using the OSCE (Objective Structured Clinical Examination) method are conducted. Passing these exams signifies graduation from the MBBS program.

Note 1: To be eligible for the final assessment, students must pass the theoretical courses of the clerkship phase, the clinical wards, achieve an overall average of 14 in the third phase courses, and complete all courses from the first and second phases.

Note 2: If the scores for some courses and hospital rotations are not announced at the time of the final assessment, the student will participate conditionally. If, after the scores are announced, the student fails any course or does not meet the eligibility criteria as per Note 1, their exam result will be invalid. This conditional attempt will not count towards the total number of exam attempts. The student will not be allowed to participate in subsequent exams until passing the failed course and achieving the required average

Article 16) Participation in the final assessment Exit Exam is permitted up to three times.

Note 1: Students who fail to pass the final assessment Exit Exam within the permitted three attempts may, at the discretion of the university/college international student admissions committee, transfer to another field at the undergraduate or associate degree level.

Note 2: The final assessment is mandatory and applicable for MBBS students.

Note 3: The responsibility for implementing these regulations lies with medical universities and colleges that have international students and international campus education programs.

Chapter Three: Course Units and Duration of Study

Article 17) The minimum number of credits required for graduation in the MBBS program is based on the approved curriculum of the program by the Supreme Council of Medical Science Planning.

Article 18) In each semester of the first and second stages of the MBBS program, students must select a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 24 credits.

Note 1: In the final semester of each of the first and second stages, students are exempt from the minimum 12-credit requirement.

Note 2: If a student's overall GPA in a semester is 17 or higher, they can, with the approval of their academic advisor and the faculty, select up to a maximum of 24 credits in the following semester.

Note 3: In cases where a student has a maximum of 24 credits remaining to complete either the first or second stage, and provided they were not on academic probation in the previous semester, they may take all those credits in that semester with the faculty's approval.

Note 4: During the summer term, students are not allowed to select more than 6 credits.

Article 19) The maximum allowable duration for completing the MBBS program is 9 years. The first 5 years are allocated for the completion of the first and second educational phases, and the remaining time is dedicated to the third phase.

Note 1: A student who fails to pass the comprehensive basic science exam within the first 4 years of the program, or to complete the first and second phases within the first 5 years, will be barred from continuing in the MBBS program. If the student's **average grade** in the completed courses is at least 10, they may transfer to another field at the associate, bachelor's continuous, or bachelor's discontinuous level.

Note 2: A student who is unable to complete the third phase within 4 years may, with the approval of the university's educational council, extend their study period by up to 12 additional months, provided that their total study duration does not exceed the maximum allowable time.

Chapter Four: Attendance and Absence

Article 20) Student participation in all sessions related to each course and clerkship wards, whether held in person or virtually, is mandatory. Failure to participate in any session will be considered an absence.

Article 21) Attendance and Absence: Student participation in all sessions related to each course and clerkship wards is mandatory. Failure to attend any session will be considered an absence.

- Justified absence in each theoretical course: Up to 4 sessions out of 17 sessions.
- Practical and laboratory courses: Up to 2 sessions out of 17 sessions.
- Clerkship ward: Up to 1 day per month. Otherwise, the student's grade in that course or ward will be considered zero.

Note 1: Absence up to the specified limit in Article 21 will be permitted if it is deemed justified by presenting documentary evidence and the professor's approval. Handling of student absences (justified or unjustified) is the responsibility of the professor, with faculty approval.

Note 2: If a student's absence from any course or ward exceeds the specified limit in Article 21 but is deemed justified by the University's Educational Council, the course will be dropped.

Note 3: Unjustified absence from any course or ward exam will result in a zero for that course or ward. Justified absence from any course or ward exam will result in the course or section being dropped. The determination of the justification of absence from the exam session is the responsibility of the University's Educational Council.

Chapter Five: Add and Drop

Article 22) A student may delete a maximum of two courses taken in each academic semester during the first and second stages, within two weeks of the semester's start. Alternatively, a student may enroll in two other courses or replace the deleted courses with two others.

Note 1: Absence during the first two weeks of each course due to add or drop, or for any other reason, is not permitted. Such absences will count towards the maximum allowed absences (as specified in Article 18), and the provisions of that article will be enforced.

Note 2: Adding and dropping courses are not possible during the summer semester.

Article 23) In case of emergency, a student in the first and second stages of education may delete only one theoretical or practical course up to five weeks before the end of the academic semester. In special circumstances, dropping of all courses taken in the summer semester is possible up to and including the start of exams for that term, with the approval of the Faculty Educational Council.

Article 24) The deletion of all courses taken in a semester, up to the beginning of the final exams of that semester, is permitted only if, according to the Faculty Educational Council, the student is unable to continue their studies for that semester. In such cases, the semester will be considered an academic leave for the student. The Faculty Educational Council will determine whether this leave counts towards the student's permitted years of study. It is important to note that a student cannot delete a course after taking the exam.

Article 25) The deletion and replacement of a hospital ward during the clerkship stages are permitted only within the period determined by the Faculty Educational Council, subject to its approval.

Chapter Six: Evaluation of Student Academic Progress

Article 26) Student progress in each course is evaluated based on attendance, classroom activity, educational engagement, and examination results throughout the semester. The professor or professors of each course are responsible for assessing the student's performance in that course.

Article 27) Student academic progress in clinical clerkships is evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **27.1** Compliance with Islamic and professional ethics, maintaining student dignity, and fostering good relations with patients, clients, and ward staff.
- **27.2** Regular and full-time attendance in the relevant classes and performing assigned shifts according to the ward's regulatory program.
- **27.3** Accuracy and a sense of responsibility in performing assigned tasks as per the ward's regulations, including preparing and completing patient files.
- **27.4** Improvement of skills and benefiting from clinical clerkships.

- **27.5** Participation in the department's final exam and achieving the required score.

Article 28) A written exam is mandatory at the end of each course in the first and second stages of study, as well as the theoretical courses of the clinical clerkship.

Note: The clinical exam for clerkship wards is conducted at the end of each ward.

Article 29) The evaluation of a student's academic progress is expressed in the form of a numerical score, ranging from zero to twenty, based on the criteria outlined in Articles 27 and 28.

Note: The evaluation result for the **medical etiquette course** is determined qualitatively and is not included in the GPA calculation.

Article 30) The minimum passing score in basic sciences phase is 10 (except for the Family Health course that is 12).

- The minimum passing score in the Pathophysiology phase is 12 (except for Pharmacology, Immunology, and Medical Statistics that is 10),
- The minimum passing score in clerkship is 12.

A student who does not achieve the minimum passing score must retake it at the earliest opportunity. However, the scores for all courses, whether passed or failed, are recorded in the student's transcript and included in the GPA calculation.

Note 1: If a student retakes a failed course or ward and obtains a score of 16 or higher at the first opportunity, the failing score will be removed and will not be included in the semester GPA and the overall GPA. The number of times this provision can be used is limited to four during the entire study.

Note 2: If a student fails a course or hospital ward again after retaking it and then obtains a score of 16 or higher in subsequent attempts, this provision **does not** apply, and none of the failing scores will be removed.

Note 3: To enroll in the pathophysiology phase, a minimum cumulative average of 12 from the basic science phase is required.

-To enroll in the clerkship phase, a minimum cumulative average of 12 from the pathophysiology phase is required.

Note 4: To enter the pathophysiology stage, you must participate in the basic science comprehensive exam, pass all basic science courses, achieve passing scores in all theoretical, practical, and laboratory courses, and maintain a cumulative average of 12 in this phase.

- To progress to the clerkship stage, you must meet several requirements:

pass all courses from the previous stages (basic sciences, pathophysiology{ 2 failed courses are acceptable)), achieve passing scores in all courses, maintain a cumulative average of 12 in basic sciences and pathophysiology stages.

Article 31): The instructor(s) of each course or ward are required to submit the final score to the faculty's education office or record it in the student's system(Temporary) within ten days after the exam.

Note 1: After the score is announced, students can submit any objections officially to the faculty's education office within three days for necessary review. Once finalized in the student's system, the score is unchangeable.

Note 2: The summer semester is not recognized as an academic semester. Scores obtained during the summer semester are only factored into the cumulative GPA of the entire academic stage.

Article 32) The Educational Office of the Faculty or the relevant unit in each university is obligated to submit the final course scores to the University Education Administration no later than two weeks after the last exam of each semester, and after addressing student complaints and correcting any possible errors.

Note: Once the scores are submitted to the University Education Administration, they cannot be changed.

Article 33) At the end of each semester in the first and second stages, the student's GPA for that semester and their overall GPA up to the end of that semester are calculated. At the end of each stage of the MBBS program, the student's overall GPA for that stage is calculated and recorded in their transcript.

Note 1: For GPA calculation, the number of credits for each course or ward is multiplied by its score, and the total of these products (the number of credits \times its score=) is divided by the total number of credits for which the student has received either a passing or failing score.

Note 2: The summer term is not considered a semester; the scores for courses taken are only included in the overall GPA for the respective phase.

Article 34) The student's GPA in any semester of the first and second stages of education must not fall below 12. Otherwise, the student's registration for the subsequent semester will be conditional.

Note 1: If the number of credits offered by the university is fewer than 12, that semester will not be counted toward the student's academic years. However, if the GPA falls below the minimum requirement, it will be considered a conditional semester. In cases where the reduction to fewer than 12 credits is due to the student's personal issues or the final semester of any academic stage, that semester will be included in the academic years and will also be considered a conditional semester if the GPA falls short.

Note 2: The university is required to inform the student and their parents in writing of the conditional status of the registration each time, and a copy must be recorded in the student's file. Failure on the part of the university to notify, or the student's claim of ignorance of this matter, will not impede the enforcement of the regulations.

Article 35) A student on conditional registration, even in the final semester of each of the first and second stages of education, is not permitted to enroll in more than 14 academic credits in that semester.

Note: In exceptional cases, in the last semester of any of the first and second stages, based on the remaining credits and the student's academic record, the university's educational council can decide whether to allow a conditionally registered student to take more than 14 credits, but not more than 20 credits.

Article 36) A student who is placed on probation for three consecutive semesters or four alternating semesters in the first and second stages of education will be dismissed from continuing their studies. If the average GPA of the total credits completed is at least 10, the student may transfer to another major in associate, continuous bachelor's, and non-continuous bachelor's programs.

Article 37) A student who fails to meet the required average for any stage of the MBBS program, as stipulated in the provisions of the second chapter of the educational regulations, may repeat the courses or wards in which they scored below 12 or 14, provided that the permitted period for their education at that stage has not been exceeded. If the deficiency is not addressed within the allowed timeframe, the student will not be permitted to advance to the next stage or graduate. The scores from repeated courses will be recorded on the student's transcript, alongside the previous scores, and will be included in the calculation of the overall average.

Note 1: If a student repeats courses or wards in which they scored below 12 or 14, as applicable, to compensate for the deficient average in any stage of the MBBS major and subsequently achieves a score higher than 12 (for basic courses) or 14 (for specialized courses and wards), the previous score will not be considered in the average for the relevant stage but will be factored into the overall average. This provision does not apply to failed scores.

Note 2: If a student repeats courses and wards with a score below 14 to rectify the average deficit for the third stage of the MBBS major and achieves scores higher than 14, but the overall average deficit of that stage is not resolved, the student may repeat the same courses and wards, regardless of having a score higher than 14, while adhering to other educational regulations, to compensate for the average deficit of the relevant stage. The scores of the repeated courses will be recorded alongside the previous scores on the student's transcript and will be included in the overall average of the relevant stage.

Note 3: If a student repeats courses or wards in which they scored below 12 or 14, as applicable, to compensate for the overall average of each stage of the MBBS major and fails the repeated course or ward, yet achieves the required average for the relevant stage upon calculation of all scores, the initial passing score will be considered valid, allowing the student to progress

to the next stage. If the required average is not achieved, the student will fail the course or ward and must repeat it again, despite previously earning a passing score.

Note 4: A student who is unable or unwilling to utilize the opportunity provided in this article, or who fails to rectify the overall average deficiency despite utilizing this provision, may change their major to another field within the associate or bachelor's degree programs, continuous or non-continuous, provided that the average of the total credits passed is at least 10.

Article 38) A student who is deprived of continuing his studies due to excessive probation may apply to the admissions committee for re-studies. If accepted, the accepting university may **adapt** the credits that the student has completed in the previous major to the new major program and accept some or all of them in accordance with the relevant regulations

Chapter Seven: Academic Leave and Withdrawal from Studies

Article 39) Upon the completion of at least one academic semester, students are permitted to take academic leave for a maximum of two consecutive or non-consecutive academic semesters during the first and second stages of their education, and for a maximum of six consecutive months during the clinical clerkship stage, calculated in years (leave with extension).

Note 1: Approval of academic leave during the first semester requires endorsement by the University's Educational Council.

Note 2: The duration of academic leave is included in the maximum allowable period of study for the student at each educational stage.

Article 40) Applications for academic leave must be submitted in writing to the University's Education Department at least two weeks prior to the start of registration for each semester in the first and second stages, and at least two weeks prior to the start of each ward in the third stage.

Note 1: If an application for academic leave is submitted after the stipulated deadline, the decision is at the discretion of the University's Educational Council.

Note 2: The University's Education Department must notify the student in writing of the approval or disapproval of their request, after consulting with the relevant faculty, before the registration deadline.

Note 3: The consequences of academic leave are the responsibility of the student.

Article 41) Pregnant students are entitled to two semesters of maternity leave without extension during the academic years, in accordance with other applicable rules and regulations.

Article 42) Students who provide a valid medical certificate (sick leave) and justified excuse, as approved by the University Medical Council and the University Educational Council,

are entitled to a maximum of one semester of academic leave without extension during the academic years.

Article 43) Students wishing to withdraw from their studies must personally submit a withdrawal request to the University's Education Department. Students may revoke their withdrawal request only once, up to one month before the end of the same semester, during which the semester will be considered a leave of absence and they are not permitted to study. After this period, the withdrawal becomes final, and students do not have the right to return to their studies thereafter.

Note: Students who have withdrawn from their studies must fulfill all obligations incurred during their period of enrollment to receive their academic certificates

Chapter Eight: Transfer

Article 44) Transferring international students between universities is strictly prohibited.

Chapter Nine: Guest Students

Article 45) In cases where a student is temporarily compelled to change their place of study, they may do so as a guest student for a specified period, with the approval of both the home and host universities.

Article 46) A student's eligibility to stay at a host university is contingent upon the completion of at least two semesters at their home university.

Article 47) A student may enroll as a guest at a host university for one or more courses with the consent of both the home and host universities, provided the number of credits does not exceed 10. The total number of credits earned at both universities during that semester must be no less than 12 and no more than 20.

Note: The selection of courses for a guest student at the host university, whether as individual courses or a full-time course **load**, must be coordinated with the relevant educational department of the home university and comply with the home university's conditions.

Article 48) The total number of credits a student can take as a guest at one or more universities must not exceed 40 percent of the total course credits required for their program.

Note 1: The credits earned by a guest student at the host university are recorded in their transcript at the home university and are included in the calculation of their semester and overall GPA.

Note 2: The minimum passing grade for a guest student at the home university is 12. The student must retake any units taken at the home university in which they received a grade below 12.

Article 49) A student who has completed the courses in a visiting program, constituting between 30% and 40% of the total credits, and has maintained an average grade of 15 or higher, is eligible

to continue as a visiting student for more than 40% of the total course credits, subject to the agreement of both the home and host universities.

Note 1: Should the student's academic performance decline to an average grade of less than 15 in any semester, the visiting arrangement will be terminated, and the student will be required to return to the home university.

Note 2: The home university retains responsibility for the student's educational affairs during the visiting period exceeding 40% of the total course credits, in coordination with the host university.

Note 3: The home university is responsible for registering the student for the comprehensive basic science exams, the end-of-course exam, and the clinical competency practical exam during the visiting period exceeding 40% of the total course credits, in coordination with the host university.

Note 4: Graduation certificates for students who have completed more than 40% of the total course credits as visiting students will be issued by the home university.

Article 50) Regardless of the circumstances, the graduation certificate for a visiting student(guest student) will be issued by the home university.

Chapter Ten: Change of Major

Article 51) An MBBS student may change their major during their studies if the following conditions are met and the relevant university approves:

Note 1: The student's continuation in the previous major is not restricted by educational regulations.

Note 2: The student must have completed at least one academic semester and no more than one-third of the total credits.

Note 3: The student must be able to complete the required credits in the new major within the maximum permitted period of study.

Article 52) Changes in major must occur within the same academic level; otherwise, changes from a higher level to a lower level are permissible, in accordance with Article 54.

Article 53) If the request to change majors is approved, the student must register in the new major and select courses in the first academic semester following approval. Once registered, the student is not permitted to return to the previous major.

Note 1: The student remains subject to the educational regulations of the previous major until they register in the new major.

Note 2: Failure to register for the new major within the specified timeframe will be considered a withdrawal from the change of major request.

Note 3: A student is allowed to change their major only once during their study period.

Article 54) If a student simultaneously meets the requirements for transfer and changing majors, both actions are permitted.

Article 55) Courses completed in the previous major will be reviewed for equivalency by the new major's educational group. Only courses with at least 80% content similarity to the new major's courses and a minimum score of 12 will be accepted.

Note 1: Accepted courses will be recorded on the student's transcript and included in the calculation of the overall average. Courses not accepted will remain on the transcript but will not be included in the average calculation. In such cases, if the average grade of the total rejected credits is less than 12, the total will be recorded as a conditional semester in the student's academic record in the new major, as determined by the university's educational council.

Article 56) An applicant wishing to change their major must submit their application, along with the necessary documentation, to the university's education department at least six weeks before the start of the academic semester.

Chapter Eleven: Thesis

Article 57). MBBS students may optionally undertake six thesis credits, during which they are required to conduct research in a field related to their studies under the supervision of an advisor.

Article 58). MBBS students who undertake thesis credits must select and register their thesis topic at the commencement ———— of their clerkship.

Note: MBBS students who undertake thesis credits and MBBS students who do not register their thesis topic within the prescribed period ———— are not permitted to participate in the Final Assessment Exit Exam and **Professional** ~~competency~~ Competency Exam according to the OSCE method until the thesis topic is registered.

Article 59) The thesis supervisor is designated at the request of the student, with supervisor consent, the approval of the ~~the~~ relevant educational group, and the relevant faculty research council.

Note 1: The supervisor must meet the minimum required rank. In exceptional ~~eases,~~ cases, faculty members may also serve as supervisors with the approval of the faculty research council.

Note 2: In special circumstances and with the approval of the Faculty Research ~~Council~~, Council, students may have more than one supervisor to facilitate interdisciplinary research.

Article 60) If deemed necessary, upon the recommendation of the supervisor, one of the faculty members with outstanding expertise shall be appointed as ~~an~~ the first advisor, following approval by the Faculty Research Council.

Note: The maximum number of MBBS theses supervised simultaneously by each supervisor is determined by dividing the total number of incoming students per year by the total number of faculty members in the relevant faculty. In faculties with a large number of faculty members, each faculty member can supervise a maximum of two theses from students of the same entry year simultaneously, based on their academic rank and with the approval of the Faculty Research Council.

Article 61) The selection of the thesis topic must be guided by the supervisor.

Article 62) The thesis topic should not be repetitive, meaning that a thesis with a similar or different title but the same content has not been completed at the relevant university in the last five years.

Note 1: In special cases, and with the approval of the faculty research council, topics that require re-research within less than the specified time interval may be considered, allowing for a thesis with a similar title and content.

Article 63) Each student who undertake thesis credits must select a thesis topic.

Note 1: The selection of a thesis topic by a group of up to two students is permitted after receiving approval from the supervisor and the faculty research council, provided that the following conditions are met:

- **A:** The **volume** and importance of the research topic are proportionate to the number of students.
- **B:** The division of the research topic must be **such** that each student can undertake an independent part of the thesis.

Article 64) The following steps must be taken to register the thesis topic:

- **A:** Selecting the thesis topic under the guidance of the supervisor.
- **B:** Ensuring the thesis topic is not repetitive, as verified by the faculty research vice -Dean.
- **C:** Obtaining approval of the thesis proposal from the relevant educational group.
- **D:** Submitting the thesis proposal to the faculty research vice-dean for approval ~~and receiving the ethics code~~ _____ by the faculty research council.
- **E:** Notifying the supervisor of the faculty research council's approval to commence the thesis.

Note 1: The interval between registering the thesis topic and defending it should not be less than one year.

Article 65) Each thesis must contain the following:

- **A:** Abstract in Persian and English (including the importance and background of the work, materials and methods, results, and conclusions).
- **B:** Introduction (highlighting the reasons for the importance of the research topic, general information on the research field, and research objectives).
- **C:** Literature review. [This a review of the current evidence regarding he topic of the thesis.](#)
- **D:** Methodology (covering the type of research, research environment and materials, sample size and sampling method, data collection method, data analysis method, types of statistical tests, and stages of work).
- **E:** Results (incorporating statistical tests, tables, graphs, and presentation of results).
- **F:** Discussion and Conclusion (This section should include a review of the results, a comparison with other studies, an analysis of the reasons for any differences with other research, an examination of the research's shortcomings and limitations, a final conclusion, and suggestions for future research).
- **G:** References

Article 66). Writing the thesis in English is permissible; however, it must include an abstract in Persian in addition to the English abstract.

Article 67) The board of judges responsible for making the final decision on the thesis comprises the following members:

1. Supervisor(s)
2. Advisor(s) (if any)
3. Representative of the faculty research council
4. Representative of the educational group related to the thesis
5. A faculty member with research, specialist, or expert qualifications, selected by the relevant educational group

Note 1: The academic rank of the supervisor and faculty members must be at least assistant professor. In certain circumstances, faculty instructors may serve as supervisors with the approval of the faculty research council. Researchers, specialists, and experts must hold a **specialized doctorate degree**.

Article 68). The evaluation of ~~theses~~ [thesis](#) is carried out by the board of judges [from the related educational department](#) on a scoring scale from zero to twenty, and these are categorized according to their scores as follows:

- Excellent: 19 to 20
- Very good: 17 to 18.99

- Good: 14 to 16.99
- Unacceptable: Less than 14

Note 1: The thesis may receive an excellent grade if they are research-oriented or have been published or accepted for publication in reputable scientific journals, either domestically or internationally. The presentation or acceptance of the article for publication must occur before the thesis defense and the determination of the final score.

Article 69): All students are required to defend their thesis in the last semester of the academic year. If a student fails to defend their thesis and obtain a passing score within the permitted academic years, they will be expelled, even if they have successfully completed all the course and wards of the relevant educational duration.

Article 70): The number of credits and the score of the thesis are recorded in the last semester of the academic year, and the student is exempt from observing the maximum credits allowed in the last semester of the academic year.

Article 71) The student's graduation time is when he has completed all his courses and wards, including the thesis, and has passed the Final Assessment Exit Exam and Professional competency according to OSCE method exam (whichever is later.)

Article 72): All rights acquired from the thesis belong to the university.

Article 73) Obtaining thesis credits (6 credits) is optional for all MBBS students, and these students can register their thesis title before the end of the second semester of the third stage and defend their thesis before the Final Assessment Exit Exam and Professional competency according to [the](#) OSCE method

Note1:

