



PHARMACY COUNCIL OF INDIA

(Constituted under the Pharmacy Act, 1948)

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Ref.No.14-56/2019(A)-PCI
14-382/2019-PCI

1657

Date : 9.7.2020

Sub: Guidelines for Pharmacy Institutions approved by the Pharmacy Council of India with regard to Examinations / Internship / Practical Training.

- Ref:
1. Office Memorandum No F.No.16-16/ 2020 U1A dated 6th July 2020 from Ministry of Human Resource development about instructions for conduct of examinations regarding
 2. UGC letter D.O. No.F.1-I/2020 (Secy) dated 6th July 2020 along with UGC Revised Guidelines on Examinations and Academic Calendar for the Universities in view of COVID-19 Pandemic.
 3. PCI's advisory No.14-56/2019-PCI(A) dt.9.4.2020.

Sir/Madam

The Pharmacy Council of India vide its notification dated 9th April, 2020 had given guidance to the institutions with regard to academic and examination related matters, in view of the challenges faced by the institutions, staff and students due to COVID-19 pandemic to help to address many such issues. In view of the unabated situation related to COVID-19 pandemic in India, it is important to safeguard the principles of health, safety, fair and equal opportunity for students. At the same time, it is very crucial to ensure academic credibility, career opportunities and future progress of students globally. The academic evaluation of students is an important milestone in any education system. Moreover, Pharmacy being a practising health sciences profession and as Pharmacists provide professional services and engage directly with human life, it is more important to successfully complete the program before entering the profession. Hence, based on the guidelines given by the Government of India and University Grants commission, where they have reiterated that the final term examinations must be **Compulsorily** conducted, further guidelines and clarifications are being issued by the PCI for the conduct of examinations. The universities / institutions are required to adopt the same and complete the Final Year/semester(s) examinations accordingly. It is reiterated that the Universities/ institutions should give paramount importance to health and safety of students, faculty and staff and adhere to the Government protocols/ guidelines related to COVID-19 while conducting the examinations.

1. Mode of Terminal Semester/ Final Year Examinations (2019-20)

- a) The universities / examining authorities are required to complete the examinations for the D.Pharm, B.Pharm, B. Pharm (Practice), M.Pharm and Pharm.D programs by the end of September 2020 in offline (pen & paper)/ online/ blended (online + offline) mode following the prescribed protocols/ guidelines related to COVID-19 pandemic.
- b) The guidelines regarding intermediate semester/ year examinations will remain unchanged as notified by the PCI on 9th April 2020.
- c) The students of Final semester/ year having backlog should compulsorily be evaluated by conducting examinations in offline (pen & paper)/ online/ blended (online + offline) mode as per feasibility and suitability.
- d) It is also suggested that where there is difficulty in mobilising students from different regions / states, the University / examining authority can adopt a collaborative effort with other universities / institutions in the state / other states. This would entail the students who are not able to travel out of their state / district, necessitating quarantine procedures, can appear for examinations where the students are residents. This would require the University / Examining authority to put a proper coordination and planning in place prior to adopting this model.
- e) Where the blended / online examinations are being conducted a proper proctoring system may be put in place to ensure academic integrity throughout the examination process.
- f) The Fifth year Pharm.D students may progress into the internship phase as prescribed under regulation 16 of the Pharm.D Regulations 2008. The student however shall appear and pass all examinations before graduating.
- g) The PCI advisory dated 2nd May 2020 with regard to removing the degree of difficulty for the internship for Pharm.D students becomes applicable in the present instance also and the institutions may facilitate the same in cooperation with the students and the internship providing hospitals..
- h) In case of the D.Pharm (Diploma in Pharmacy), where the students are not able to appear for examination as mentioned in **Para 2** below, such Diploma in Pharmacy (Part II) students may be provided the option to progress with his/her Practical Training as mentioned in Chapter- III of the Education Regulations - 1991 (Diploma in Pharmacy). The students however shall appear and pass their Part II examinations before being awarded the Diploma in Pharmacy. The institutions may facilitate the same in cooperation with the students and the practical training providing organizations.

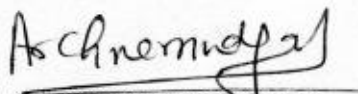
2. Provision of Examination through Special Chance -

In case a student of final semester/ final year is unable to appear in the examination conducted by the University for whatsoever the reason(s) may be, he/she may be given an opportunity to appear in special examinations for such course(s)/ paper(s), which may be conducted by the university as and when feasible, so that the student is not put to any inconvenience/ disadvantage.

- 3. One-time measure and not to be cited as precedence:** The above provisions shall be applicable only for the current academic session 2019-20 as a one-time measure and shall not form precedence.

Notwithstanding the above guidelines regarding conduct of examination and commencement of next academic session, every university/institution has to ensure that it is prepared in all respects to carry out the academic activities following necessary protocols/guidelines/directions/advisories issued by the Central/State Governments and MHRD/ UGC from time to time, in view of COVID-19 pandemic.

Yours faithfully


(ARCHNA MUDGAL)
Registrar-cum-Secretary