



# GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

## OF THE

# REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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## Government Notice

### MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

No. 190

2021

REGULATIONS RELATING TO MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF STUDY FOR  
REGISTRATION AS MEDICAL ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS TECHNOLOGIST,  
RESTORATION OF A NAME TO REGISTER AND SCOPE OF PRACTICE FOR  
MEDICAL ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS TECHNOLOGIST:  
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT, 2004

Under section 55 of the Allied Health Professions Act, 2004 (Act No. 7 of 2004), read with section 19 of that Act, and on the recommendation of the Allied Health Professions Council of Namibia, I have made the regulations set out in the Schedule.

**DR. K. SHANGULA**

**MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

Windhoek, 24 August 2021

### SCHEDULE

1. Definitions
2. Minimum qualifications required for registration as a medical orthotics and prosthetics technologist
3. Application for registration as a medical orthotics and prosthetics technologist

4. Register of medical orthotics and prosthetics technologist
5. Restoration of name to register
6. Language of forms and documents
7. Scope of practice for medical orthotics and prosthetics technologist

### **Definitions**

1. In these regulations, a word or an expression to which a meaning has been given in the Act has that meaning, and unless the context otherwise indicates -

“certified” means certified as a true copy of the original by a commissioner of oaths appointed under section 5, or designated under section 6, of the Justices of the Peace and Commissioners of Oaths Act, 1963 (Act No. 16 of 1963);

“equivalent qualification” means a qualification obtained after fulltime education, tuition and training in similar course and comprising of similar subjects as set out in these regulations;

“practitioner” means a practitioner as defined in section 1 of the Hospital and Health Facilities Act, 1994 (Act No. 36 of 1994); and

“the Act” means the Allied Health Professions Act, 2004 (Act No. 7 of 2004).

### **Minimum qualifications for registration as medical orthotics and prosthetics technologist**

2. (1) Subject to compliance with the other requirements prescribed under the Act, the Council may register a person as medical orthotics and prosthetics technologist, if the person holds -

- (a) a diploma in medical orthotics and prosthetics;
- (b) a diploma in orthopaedic technology; or
- (c) an equivalent qualification,

obtained from an educational institution after the person has successfully completed full-time study for a period of not less than three years.

(2) The curriculum of study for a qualification contemplated in subregulation (1) includes the following main subjects -

- (a) anatomy and physiology;
- (b) kinesiology or biomechanics;
- (c) mathematics;
- (d) material technology;
- (e) technical drawing;
- (f) prosthetics and orthotics science;
- (g) pharmacology; and
- (h) pathology or concept of orthopaedics.

**Application for registration as medical orthotics and prosthetics technologist**

3. (1) An application for the registration of a person as a medical orthotics and prosthetics technologist must, be -

- (a) submitted to the registrar, in the form determined by the Council; and
- (b) accompanied by -
  - (i) a certified copy of the identity document or passport of the applicant;
  - (ii) the particulars that the Council may require; and
  - (iii) payment of application fees determined by the Council.

(2) The Council may require the applicant to furnish proof, in the manner that the Council may determine, of the applicant's proficiency in the English language.

(3) A person currently registered under the Act as orthopaedic technologist, at the commencement of these regulations is deemed registered under these regulations.

(4) A person currently registered under the Act as a medical orthotist and prosthetist, at the commencement of these regulations is deemed registered under these regulations.

**Register of medical orthotics and prosthetics technologists**

4. A register for a medical orthotics and prosthetics technologist established and kept in terms of section 24 of the Act, must contain, in addition to the particulars specified by subsection (3) of that section any change of the particulars, recorded in the register.

**Restoration of name to register**

5. An application in terms of section 26(1) of the Act for the restoration of the name of a person to a register, in addition to the documents and particulars specified by subsection (2) of that section, must be accompanied by -

- (a) a certified copy of the applicant's identity document or passport, and
- (b) the original registration certificate issued to the applicant under section 21(4)(b) of the Act, or a certified copy thereof.

**Language of forms and documents**

6. (1) Subject to subregulation (2) any form or document required to be submitted to the Council or the registrar in terms of the regulations must be in the English language.

(2) A form or document that is not in the English language must be accompanied by a sworn translation of it in English.

**Scope of practice for medical orthotics and prosthetics technologist**

7. (1) The following acts performed under the supervision of a medical orthotist and prosthetist are regarded to be acts specially pertaining to scope of practice by an orthotics and prosthetics technologist -

- (a) examining the patient with the purpose of identifying physical anomaly of that patient;
  - (b) treating of anomalies of a patient; and
  - (c) fitting of prosthetic or orthotic devices and supply other aids.
- (2) Treating of anomalies as referred to in subregulation (1)(b) is done by means of -
- (a) verifying of prescription and providing of prosthetic and orthotic devices;
  - (b) fitting, adjusting and maintaining of the devices;
  - (c) ascertaining conditions of the neuro-musculoskeletal system;
  - (d) prescribing and providing prosthetic or orthotic devices and other aids;
  - (e) screening of the musculoskeletal system for pathological conditions;
  - (f) referring of a patient to another registered practitioner for conditions not treatable within the scope of practice of an orthopaedic technologist; and
  - (g) examining or analysing of the neuro-musculoskeletal system by use of diagnostic instruments or devices.
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