

Embassy of India

Dushanbe

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Advisory: For Indian students seeking/exploring undergraduate medical study in the Republic of Tajikistan

Part - I : Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Part - II : Mandatory NEET-UG Qualification

Part - III : Screening Test - Foreign Medical Graduate Examination (FMGE)

Part - IV : General Advisory on Consular and Miscellaneous Matters

Part - V : NMC - (Foreign Medical Graduate Licentiate) Regulations, 2021
and
NMC Compendium (2020-2023) - Foreign Medical College Graduate
Volume-I

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Disclaimer/Notes: (a) The advisories issued by Mission, including FAQs, serve as a general explanation for the ease of understanding of prospective Indian medical students and the general public.

(b) References to relevant advisories, circulars, and guidelines issued by the [National Medical Commission \(NMC\)](#) / [राष्ट्रीय आयुर्विज्ञान आयोग](#) from time to time to regulate different aspects of studying or acquiring undergraduate medical degree abroad have been cited wherever possible. For legal validity purpose, please refer to the relevant gazette notification of the Government of India and/or the NMC's advisories, circulars, and guidelines.

Part - I

In response to numerous queries from Indian students and their parents with respect to pursuing undergraduate program in medicine/medical sciences in Tajikistan, the Embassy of India, Dushanbe, has issued a new set of advisories.

The 'Advisory: Part-I' is a revised and updated FAQ section that provides general information to all concerned parties.

1. Whether undergraduate medicine program in English language is available in Tajikistan?

Universities and medical institutions in Tajikistan that offer undergraduate medicine program to foreign students usually conduct classes in English.

However, foreign students are generally expected to acquire a basic level of proficiency in the local Tajik and/or Russian language as a part of their medical course curriculum.

Prospective students should directly obtain information about other language requirements and proficiency expectations from Tajik universities/medical institutes before admission.

2. Can foreign students join undergraduate program in medicine in Russian/Tajik language?

Foreign students from non-CIS countries are typically not enrolled in undergraduate medicine program in Russian or Tajik language.

3. What is the duration of an Undergraduate Program in Medicine in Tajikistan for foreign students?

In Tajikistan, the undergraduate program in medicine for foreign students (*equivalent* to MBBS qualification of India) typically consists of a five-year duration plus a one-year internship.

Prospective students are advised to verify the course curriculum and program duration with universities/medical institutes or their authorized representative/educational consultant.

4. How much does it cost to study undergraduate medicine program in Tajikistan? How can I get the details of fee?

The fee structure for undergraduate medical programs can vary among different universities and medical institutes in Tajikistan. Prospective students are advised to check directly with the specific university/institutes or their authorized representatives/educational consultants. It is important to note that fees may vary from year to year, so staying informed about the latest fee details is essential.

Students should obtain full and accurate details of actual costs involved, including tuition fees, boarding, lodging and other expenses.

5. What is the provision & duration of Internship for Foreign students?

Upon completing the undergraduate medical program, students receive a provisional degree from the university or medical institute. However, the final degree is awarded only after successful completing a one-year internship.

It should be noted that while the knowledge of the local Tajik language is not compulsory for foreign students during the internship, it is desirable to have a functional understanding of the language. This helps in communicating comfortably with patients and performing clinical examinations and other hospital assignments during the internship.

University/medical institutes usually arrange internships for foreign students in their hospital or their affiliated hospitals. Prospective students can obtain further details about internship from the universities/medical institutes or their authorized representatives and educational consultants.

6. Can an Indian student obtain a license to practice medicine in Tajikistan and is this at par with the Registration granted to citizens in Tajikistan? If so, what is the complete Process of Registration in Tajikistan? Is there a licensing exam in Tajikistan for the purpose?

Indian students who have successfully completed their undergraduate medical program can practice medicine in the Republic of Tajikistan after passing the compulsory internship, also known as the “Year of Clinical Work” or compulsory rotatory medical internship.

Upon successful completion of the internship, Indian students can apply for a license to practice medicine in Tajikistan, which grants them the same registration status as resident citizens of Tajikistan.

7. Is obtaining a license to practice medicine in Tajikistan mandatory to appear for Foreign Medical Graduate Examination (FMGE) in India?

After completing the undergraduate/graduate medical program in Tajikistan and obtaining the degree, Indian students can choose to work in Tajikistan or return to India.

However, it may be noted that to practice medicine in India, they must pass the screening test-FMGE conducted by the National Board of Education in Medical Sciences (NBEMS).

As per the NMC's regulations, an Indian Citizen or Overseas Citizen of India possessing a primary medical qualification awarded by any medical institution outside India who is desirous of getting provisional or permanent registration with the NMC shall have to pass the FMGE.

The eligibility criteria for appearing in the Screening Test-FMGE includes obtaining the 'Eligibility Certificate' from the NMC as per the 'Eligibility Requirement for Taking admission in an undergraduate medical course in a Foreign Medical Institution Regulations, 2002' as amended from time to time.

8. Is it mandatory to clear NEET-UG examination before seeking admission in any Tajikistan university for an undergraduate medicine program?

As per the NMC's regulations, Indian students who are seeking admission to an undergraduate medicine program abroad and later wish to appear in FMGE are compulsorily required to clear the NEET-UG (National Eligibility cum Entrance Test-Under Graduate) examination in India.

Please see the relevant NMC Circular [here](#).

[Only those students who clear the NEET-UG for admission to undergraduate medical education in India will be eligible to appear for the screening test, namely, the Foreign Medical Graduates Exam (FMGE). The FMGE is conducted twice (i.e. in June and December) every year].

9. Which are the universities/institutes in Tajikistan where Indian/foreign students can enroll for an undergraduate program in medicine?

At present, the following universities and medical institutes offer undergraduate medical program for foreign students in Tajikistan.

- Avicenna Tajik State Medical University (ATSMU)

[Please see the communication received from the Ministry of Health & Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Tajikistan, dated 19 August 2024, regarding the State Educational Institution 'Avicenna Tajik State Medical University' [here](#).]

- Khatlon State Medical University (KSMU)

[Please see the communication received from the Ministry of Health & Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Tajikistan, dated 13 June 2024, regarding the State Educational Institution 'Khatlon State Medical University' [here](#).]

- Medical Social Institute of Tajikistan (MSIT)

[Please see the communication received from the 'Non-Governmental Educational Institution - Medical and Social Institute of Tajikistan', dated 23 August 2024, received via the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan on 03 September 2024 [here](#).]

- Tajik National University (TNU)

[Please see the communication received from the 'Tajik National University', dated 04 September 2024, received via the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan on 11 September 2024 [here](#).]

Please note that this is not a comprehensive or exclusive list of universities or institutes that offer undergraduate medical program in Tajikistan.

It should also be noted that the NMC does not approve or recognize foreign medical institute or university for award of any medical qualification. Therefore, it is essential for prospective students and their parents to thoroughly research and verify program details and course structures directly with these universities, medical institutes or their authorized representatives and educational consultants before admission.

10. What are the major issues to be kept in mind while planning to enroll in Tajikistan for studies?

Indian students planning to enroll in a university or medical institute in Tajikistan for an undergraduate medical program are advised to verify several key factors before proceeding. These include checking whether the university or medical institute is recognized by the Tajikistan government, understanding the duration of the course, reviewing the curriculum offered, confirming the language of instruction, determining the mode of education (online or offline), understanding the fee structure, and being aware of visa requirements etc.

As per the communication received from the Avicenna Tajik State Medical University (ATSMU) for the general information of all parties concerned, the university follows curriculum of medical study (theory, practical and clinical training) equivalent to the MBBS program of India, and the medium of instructions for foreign students is English.

11. Which are the universities recommended by the Embassy for Indian students?

Prospective students may wish to exercise their own judgment when deciding on a university or medical institute in Tajikistan.

The NMC (as well as the Embassy of India in Dushanbe) does not prepare any kind of ranking of Tajik universities or medical institutes based on education quality or curriculum.

12. How is the quality of undergraduate medicine program in Tajikistan?

The Embassy has received several feedback from the past students who have completed such programs earlier. One of the most common challenges reported is the English language skills of local teachers in these universities. However, there has been improvement in the medium of instruction as English in recent years.

Additionally, some students have expressed about the lack of practical/clinical experience, particularly in terms of engaging with patients. Prospective students may find out further details about the program and facilities available in the universities/medical institutes by contacting them directly or through their authorized representatives/educational consultants, before taking the admission. As per the communication received from the Avicenna Tajik State Medical University (ATSMU), the university usually provides internships in the well-known national hospitals of Tajikistan.

13. What has been the pass percentage of medical graduates from Tajikistan in the Foreign Medical Graduate Examination (FMGE)?

Prospective students and their parents may wish to review the pass percentage of candidates who graduated from different university and medical institute in Tajikistan over the years. This information is available on the website of the National Board of Examination.

[Weblink: <https://natboard.edu.in/viewnbeexam?exam=fmge>]

Indian candidates/medical graduates from Avicenna Tajik State Medical University (ATSMU), Medical Social Institute of Tajikistan (MSIT), and Tajik National University (TNU) have been regularly appearing in the Foreign Medical Graduate Examination (FMGE).

According to the data published on the above website, only 568 out of 2845 medicine graduate candidates from Tajikistan who appeared in the Foreign Medical Graduate Examination (FMGE) between 2021 and 2023 successfully cleared it. Overall, the pass percentage of candidates who pursued undergraduate medicine program in Tajikistan during the last three year was approximately 20%.

For more details, please visit the website of [National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences / आयुर्विज्ञान में राष्ट्रीय परीक्षा बोर्ड](#) at the following link:

<https://nbe.edu.in/>

Part – II

Mandatory NEET-UG Qualification to pursue UG Medicine Program abroad

1. Indian Citizens/Overseas Citizen of India intending to obtain primary medical qualification from any medical institution outside India, on or after May 2018, shall have to mandatorily qualify the '**National-Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test for Admission to MBBS course**'. The result of the 'National- Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test for Admission to MBBS course' shall deem to be treated as the **Eligibility Certificate** for such persons.
2. The result of NEET shall be valid for a period of three (3) years from the date of declaration of result, entitling a candidate to pursue MBBS or equivalent medical course including pre-medical/ language course, if any, followed by MBBS or equivalent medical course.
3. It is to clarify that the NMC does not endorse any list of Foreign Medical Institutions/Universities for MBBS or equivalent course. The public at large is advised that before taking admission in MBBS or its equivalent course in a university outside India, confirmation of the fee structure, details of the course (which should be commensurate with the MBBS courses in India such as content, duration and internship) etc. should be directly obtained from the University/Institution concerned.

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Part – III

The Foreign Medical Graduate Examination (FMGE) / Screening Test

1. The Foreign Medical Graduate Examination (FMGE) also known as the Screening Test for Foreign Medical Graduate has been introduced through Screening Test Regulations, 2002.
2. As per the regulations, An Indian citizen/Overseas citizen of India possessing a primary medical qualification awarded by any medical institution outside India who is desirous of getting provisional or permanent registration with National Medical Commission of India shall have to qualify a screening test.
3. **National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences (NBEMS)** has been entrusted with the responsibility to conduct the Screening Test as per Screening Test Regulations 2002. Role of NBEMS is limited to conduct of the test, publishing the result and handing over the result to National Medical Commission & all State Medical Councils.
4. Only eligible candidates are allowed to appear in the FMGE who have both the Eligibility Certificate (if applicable) and the Provisional Pass Certificate/Degree Certificate of Primary Medical Qualification. The eligibility criteria for appearing in the Screening Test-FMGE include obtaining the 'Eligibility Certificate' from the NMC as per the 'Eligibility Requirement for Taking admission in an undergraduate medical course in a Foreign Medical Institution Regulations, 2002' as amended from time to time.
5. It may be noted that those Foreign Medical Students whose classes were started prior to the publication of Foreign Medical Graduate Licentiate (FMGL) regulation 2021 i.e. 18 November 2021, are covered under the provisions of Screening Test Regulations, 2002. Please see the relevant Regulations [here](#).
6. And, such Foreign Medical Students whose classes have been started after the publication of FMGL regulation 2021 i.e. 18 November 2021, are covered under the provisions of FMGL Regulations, 2021. Please see the relevant NMC Circular [here](#).
7. Candidates are advised to refer to the website of National Medical Commission (<https://nmc.org.in>) for the Screening Test Regulations, 2002 & all its amendments, Regulations on Graduate Medical Education and Eligibility Certificate Regulations and any other updates related to the Screening Test for Foreign Medical Graduates.

Part – IV

A. Documentation and Visa Requirements

1. Documentation is extremely important and it must be ensured that the relevant papers are in order. It needs to be made sure that any contract signed is in the English language or bilingual and the students are advised to go through it carefully before signing it. A contract, which is only in Russian or Tajik language and the contents of which are not clear, need not be signed.

2. It is mandatory that all the certificates and mark sheets issued in India are to be apostilled by the Ministry of External Affairs (CPV Division), New Delhi for seeking admission in universities/medical institutes abroad. For further information, please see the following link:

<https://www.mea.gov.in/apostille-menu.htm>

3. Once the course is completed, all the degrees, certificates awarded by Universities in the Republic of Tajikistan are required to be apostilled with the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Tajikistan. This requirement is mandatory before their submission to Indian organizations such as the National Medical Commission (NMC) and other State Medical Councils for registration purposes.

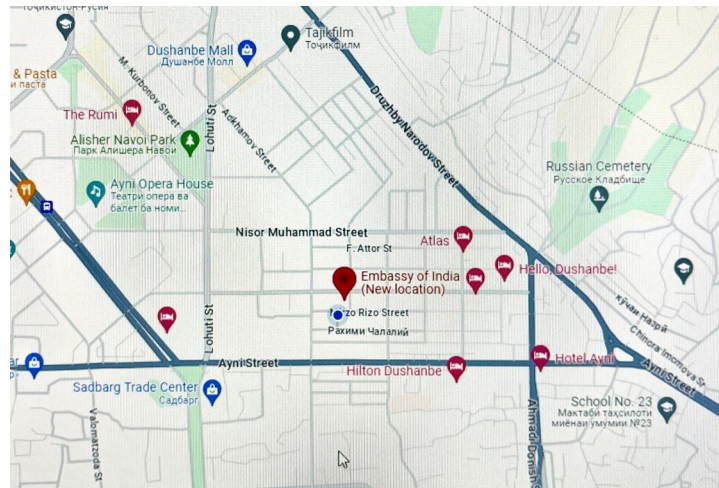
4. It needs to be ensured that visa formalities are arranged by respective authorities in the university well in advance to avoid last minute hassles. Before exiting Tajikistan for short term vacation or leave, it needs to be ensured that the visa is sufficiently validated to re-enter the country.

B. Registration with Embassy Portal / Consular Support

5. All Indian nationals including students coming to Tajikistan for long term stay are advised to register themselves with the Indian Embassy in Dushanbe immediately upon arrival. The link of the portal for registration of Indian nationals is as follows:

<https://www.eoidushanbe.gov.in/register.php>

6. The Consular Wing of Embassy in Dushanbe remains in touch with the Indian students' community in Tajikistan. Shri NKN Sinha, Second Secretary (Consular) is the Community Welfare Officer of the Embassy. Embassy's emergency help line works 24*7. In case of any emergency, the Embassy of India at Dushanbe can be contacted at the following emergency number: **+992-935710262**.



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C. General Points

7. Prospective students should browse official website of the concerned university thoroughly. It is in the interest of aspiring students who wish to study in Tajik universities to do a complete survey and satisfy themselves about the credibility of the courses offered by the universities and also about the authorized representative/educational consultant involved, if any.
8. Some of the educational consultants of local universities/institutes may be advertising through their own website(s) and/or through electronic and print media and offering admission in these universities. Please thoroughly cross-check the authenticity of the information circulated by them.
9. Browse through the websites of the respective university. It is in the interest of aspiring students who wish to study in Tajik universities to do thorough survey & satisfy themselves about the credibility of courses offered by these universities and also about their authorized representative/educational consultant, if any.
10. Passport and original testimonials are the property of the concerned student and should not be given to anyone for safe custody etc. It is the personal responsibility of the individual concerned to keep the passport and documents safely.

D. Local Conditions

11. The Tajik people maintain a cordial and friendly attitude toward Indians. However, caution is always advised for foreigners, particularly students, when spending late night hours in public places and interacting with strangers.

12. In Dushanbe, the capital city of Tajikistan where most universities and medical institutes are located, the law-and-order situation is generally good. Nevertheless, Indian students are strongly advised to adhere to local rules and customs, as everyone is expected to contribute to maintaining public order and sanctity.

13. Students may check in advance the availability of hostel facilities at the University where they are seeking admission. Tajikistan has mountainous topography and winter months see extreme cold temperature. Indian students are advised to equip themselves with sufficient woolen clothing and winter shoes.

14. Educational consultants/authorized agents get commissions for admitting students for undergraduate medicine program. It is, therefore, in the interests of prospective students to make proper enquiries about courses/facilities available before signing a contract with a particular consultant. Prospective students may also ascertain the amount of fees to be charged to avoid any misunderstanding on this score. It is strongly advised that students ascertain these facts before signing any contract with educational consultants.

15. A list of important telephone numbers and copies of passport, visa endorsement, residence permit and University ID Card may be kept handy. Since police authorities on streets sometimes demand these documents for verification.

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Part - V

(A) Prospective students and concerned parties may see the **National Medical Commission (Foreign Medical Graduate Licentiate) Regulations, 2021**; so as to be aware of the requirements to be fulfilled while pursuing undergraduate medical program abroad, in case they want to return to India and obtain license to practice medicine in India.

Link: [National Medical Commission Notification, New Delhi the 18 November, 2021](#)

(B) Prospective students and concerned parties can see the e-compendium titled '**NMC Compendium (2020-2023) - Foreign Medical College Graduate Volume-I**' for various NMC's regulations/advisories/guidelines/FAQs available on their website.

Link: <https://www.nmc.org.in/e-compendium-of-nmc-2020-2023/>
