

THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL REGISTRATION FEES REGULATIONS 2026

The General Medical Council, in exercise of their powers under Section 32 of the Medical Act 1983 hereby make the following Regulations –

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the General Medical Council Registration Fees Regulations 2026 and shall come into force on 1 April 2026.

Interpretation

2.

(1) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires: -

“the Act” means the Medical Act 1983;

“adoption leave” means leave under section 75A and section 75B of the Employment Rights Act 1996;

“annual retention fee” means any fee payable by a registered practitioner under regulation 4;

“business day” means any day except Saturday, Sunday, a bank holiday in the part of the UK where service is to take place, Good Friday or Christmas Day;

“due date” is the date on which a registered practitioner becomes liable to pay an annual retention fee in accordance with regulation 4(2);

“licence” means a licence to practise;

“income threshold” means the figure published by the Registrar from time to time representing the gross annual income below which a person is entitled to a refund or discount in accordance with regulation 6;

“maternity leave” means leave under section 71 and section 73 of the Employment Rights Act 1996;

“parental leave” means leave under regulation 13(1) of the Maternity and Parental Leave etc. Regulations 1999;

“paternity leave” means leave under regulation 4 or regulation 8 of the Paternity and Adoption Leave Regulations 2002;

“primary medical qualification” means one of the primary medical qualifications set out in sections 4(3), 17, 21B (2) and (3) of the Act;

“the Principal List” means the list of that name established in accordance with sections 2(2)

(a) and 30(1) (a) and paragraph 20(2) of Schedule 6 to the Act;

“the register” means the register of medical practitioners established under section 2 of the Act

“registered address” means the electronic mail or postal address entered the register in respect of a registered practitioner;

“registered practitioner” means a person registered under any provision of the Act; and

“registration year” means, in respect of a registered practitioner, the period of twelve months commencing on: -

(a) if fully registered: -

(i) the date on which the practitioner was granted full registration or restored to the register if applicable, or the anniversary of that date; or

(ii) if the practitioner became liable for the payment of an annual retention fee under regulation 8(1) of the General Medical Council Registration Fees Regulations 2008, each anniversary of 1 January 2009

(b) if provisionally registered, the date on which the practitioner was granted provisional registration or restored to the register if applicable, or the anniversary of that date.

Fees for registration

3.

(1) The Registrar shall not make any entry in the register until the fee, if any, prescribed by this regulation has been paid.

(2) The fees for the making or amending of an entry in the register shall be: -

(a) On provisional registration under section 15, 15A, 21 or 21C of the Act£26

(b) On full registration under section 3, 14A, 19, 19A or 21B of the Act: -

(i) where the practitioner holds or has previously held provisional registration.....£184

(ii) where the date of application for full registration is within five years of obtaining a primary medical qualification and the practitioner does not hold or has not previously held provisional registration..... £184

(iii) in any case not covered by sub-paragraph (i) or (ii)..... £481
save where full registration is granted without a licence in accordance with regulations made under sections 29A and 29B of the Act, in which case sub-paragraph (d) shall apply.

(c) On full registration under section 27A or save where otherwise determined by the Registrar 27B of the Act,.....£481

(d) On full registration without a licence in accordance with regulations made under sections

29A and 29B of the Act: -

- (i) where a practitioner holds or has previously held provisional registration £66;
- (ii) where the date of application for full registration is within five years of obtaining a primary medical qualification and the practitioner does not hold or has not previously held provisional registration..... £66;
- (iii) in any case not covered by subparagraph (i) or (ii).....£172.

(3) Where a person:

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(a) has made an application for registration under the Act which has been refused, closed or withdrawn; and

(b) has paid a fee under paragraphs (2)(b), (2)(c) or (2)(d)(iii),

the Registrar shall refund to him the amount of the fee and may withhold or charge a scrutiny fee of £110 in respect of the handling of that application.

Annual retention fee

4.

(1) Any fully or provisionally registered practitioner shall be liable to pay a fee in respect of the retention of their name in the register in accordance with this regulation.

(2) Subject to paragraph (6), any person who is required to pay an annual retention fee under this regulation shall become liable to pay it in full: -

- (a) in relation to a fully registered practitioner, on each anniversary of the date on which he was granted full registration
- (b) where the person's name has been restored to the register, on the date on which their name was restored to the register and on each anniversary of that date; or
- (c) where the person became liable for the payment of an annual retention fee under regulation 8(1) of the General Medical Council Registration Fees Regulations 2008, on each anniversary of 1 January 2009.

(3) Paragraph (2) shall apply to a person first registered or restored to the register on 29 February as if he had been first registered or restored to the register on 1 March.

(4) The annual retention fee shall be:-

(a) in the case of a practitioner who has previously held provisional registration and been granted full registration no more than four years prior to the due date, and as at the due date:

(i) holds a licence..... £184;

(ii) does not hold a licence..... £66;

(b) in the case of a practitioner who has not previously held provisional registration, and was granted full registration within five years of obtaining a primary medical qualification and no more than four years prior to the due date, and as at the due date:

(i) holds a licence..... £184;

(ii) does not hold a licence..... £66;

(c) in any case not covered by paragraph 4(a) or (b) , and as at the due date the practitioner:

(i) holds a licence..... £481;

(ii) does not hold a licence..... £172.

(5) Any person who is required to pay an annual retention fee under this regulation may instruct, by way of a Direct Debit, their bank or building society to pay the Registrar the fee, and may instruct the Registrar to collect this either: -

(a) in one annual instalment;

(b) by four quarterly instalments, due at the beginning of each quarter of the registration year; or

(c) by ten instalments, due at the beginning of each month for the first ten months of the registration year.

(6) Any person whose registration has been suspended under Part V of the Act shall not be required to pay a fee under this regulation in respect of the period during which their registration is suspended.

Adjustments

5.

(1) Where a person has paid a fee under regulation 3(2)(b), 3(2)(c), 4(4)(a)(i), 4(4)(b)(i), 4(4)(c)(i) or 5(2) and, in the current registration year: -

(a) is granted registration without a licence;

(b) relinquishes their licence; or

(c) their licence is withdrawn under section 29B (2) of the Act,

the Registrar shall refund to him any proportion of the fee paid which corresponds to the number of calendar days from the date their registration without a licence is granted, their licence is relinquished or is withdrawn, until their next due date, less any amount which he is liable to pay under regulation 3(2) (d), 4(4)(a)(ii), 4(4)(b)(ii) or 4(4)(c)(ii) in respect of that period.

(2) Where a person has paid a fee under regulation 3(2)(d), 4(4)(a)(ii), 4(4)(b)(ii), 4(4)(c)(ii) or paragraph (1) applies and, in the current registration year:-

(a) the person is granted a licence;

(b) where their licence has been relinquished, this is restored;

(c) where their licence has been withdrawn, this is restored,

the person shall become liable, immediately upon grant or restoration of a licence to practise, to pay a fee which corresponds to the difference between the fee paid in respect of the number of calendar days from the date of grant or restoration of their licence until their next due date, and that which the person would have been liable to pay under regulation 3(2)(b), 3(2)(c) 4(4)(a)(i), 4(4)(b)(i) or 4(4)(c)(i) in respect of that period.

- (3) Where a person's registration has been suspended under Part V of the Act and their registration ceases to be suspended, the Registrar shall calculate the amount of fees paid by that person in respect of the most recent due date on which their registration was not suspended, and the number of calendar days: -
- (a) between that date and the date their registration was suspended; and
 - (b) between the date their registration ceased to be suspended and their next due date, and issue to the person a refund or a fee notice in respect of the difference, as appropriate.
- (4) Where a person has paid a fee under regulation 4(4) and: -
- (a) that person's name has been erased from the register by virtue of regulations made under section 31A of the Act; or
 - (b) that person's name has been erased from the register under:
 - (i) Part V of the Act;
 - (ii) section 30(5) of the Act; or
 - (iii) regulation 8(4),

the Registrar shall refund to the person the proportion of the fee paid which corresponds to the number of calendar days in the current registration year following the date of receipt of their application for voluntary erasure under section 31A of the Act, or the date of erasure under Part V, section 30(5) of the Act or regulation 8(4).

- (5) Where a person has paid a fee under regulation 4(4) and that person dies, the Registrar shall refund their estate the proportion of the fee paid which corresponds to the number of calendar days in the registration year(s) following the date of their death.
- (6) Where a provisionally registered person has paid a fee under regulation 4(4) and, in the current registration year, is granted full registration, the Registrar shall, on payment of the fee under regulation 3(2) (b) refund to that person the proportion of the fee paid under regulation 4(4) which corresponds to the number of calendar days representing the remainder of what would have been their current registration year but for the grant of full registration.

Refunds and discounts relating to income

6.

- (1) Where the Registrar is satisfied that a person's gross annual income:
- (a) in the current or forthcoming registration year, or
 - (b) during a 12 month period that includes a person's Maternity, Paternity, Parental or Adoption leave

will be less than the income threshold applicable in respect of that year, the Registrar shall grant to that person a refund or discount of one half of any fee which has been paid or would otherwise be payable by that person under regulation 3(2)(b)(iii), 3(2)(c), 3(2)(d)(iii)5(2) or 5(3) in respect of that year.

- (2) If the Registrar becomes aware that a person who has been granted a refund or a discount under paragraph (1):-
- (a) has earned or will earn more than the income threshold applicable in the registration year in respect of which the refund or discount was granted;
 - (b) has made a false declaration of their gross annual income;
 - (c) has supplied incorrect information in connection with the application for a refund or a discount; or

- (d) has, following a request in writing by the Registrar, refused or failed to declare or failed to supply evidence of their gross annual income in the year in respect of which the refund or discount was granted;

the Registrar shall as soon as practicable give notice to the person in accordance with paragraphs (3) and (4) below.

- (3) Where the Registrar becomes aware of any of the circumstances at paragraph 2(a) to (d), otherwise than by being informed by the person of the circumstances at paragraph 2(a), the Registrar shall give notice to the person: -
 - (i) stating the matters which appear to raise a question that the person has received a discount or refund to which he is not entitled;
 - (ii) providing the person with copies of any documents in support of sub-paragraph (a) above; and
 - (iii) inviting the person to make written representations or to pay the balance of any fee owing within the period of 14 days from the date of the notice
- (4) Where the Registrar is informed by the person of the circumstances at paragraph 2(a) the Registrar shall give notice to the person inviting the person to pay the balance of any fee owing within the period of 14 days from the date of the notice.
- (5) On the expiry of 14 days from the date of the notice under paragraph (3) or (4), the Registrar may, having considered any written representations, send the person notice that if any outstanding amount is not paid within 28 days of the date of the notice their name may be erased from the register.

Exceptions

7.

The Registrar may decide not to seek or issue any outstanding fees or refunds due under these regulations where he considers it is not appropriate to do so.

Reminder notices and sanction for non-payment

8.

- (1) The Registrar shall send a notice not less than 10 business days before the due date to each fully or provisionally registered practitioner who is liable to pay a fee under regulation 4(4).
- (2) Where a person is liable to pay a fee under the provisions of regulation 4(4), 5(2) or 5(3) and is in arrears of payment of the fee or any part of the fee due from him for more than 14 days, the Registrar shall send him notice warning that if the outstanding amount is not paid within 28 days of the date of the notice their name may be erased from the register.
- (3) Notices sent to a person under paragraphs (1) and (2) or under regulation 6(3) shall be sent to that person's registered address.
- (4) Where a person is liable to pay a fee under regulation 4(4), 5(2) or 5(3) and:-

- (a) a notice has been sent to the practitioner under regulation 6(3) or paragraph(2);
- (b) a period of 28 days has elapsed from the date of the notice; and
- (c) the outstanding amount has not been received by the Registrar;

the Registrar may erase the person's name from the register.

Fees for restoration to the Principal List

9.

- (1) The Registrar may refuse to restore to the Principal List the name of any person whose name has been erased: -

- (a) by virtue of section 30(5) of the Act, or by virtue of regulation 8(4), until that person pays: -

- (i) a restoration fee of £401; and

- (ii) the annual retention fee due under regulation 4(4) in respect of the forthcoming registration year; or

- (b) by virtue of regulations made under section 31A of the Act, until that person pays the annual retention fee due under regulation 4(4) in respect of the forthcoming registration year

Regulations revoked

- 10. The General Medical Council Registration Fees Regulations 2025 are hereby revoked.
- 11. Notwithstanding anything contained in these regulations any fees due to the Council under or by virtue of the regulations that have been revoked shall remain due to the Council as though they were payable under these regulations and the powers contained in these regulations in the case of non-payment shall apply in the case of such fees.

Given under the official seal of the General Medical Council this day of 4 December 2025.

Professor Dame Carrie MacEwen

Chair

Charlie Massey

Registrar