

## **Guidelines for Qualifying Examinations for applicants submitting their proposals for PhD/MPhil studies**

This guidelines for qualifying examination has been approved at the Senate in 2020

In the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework document (SLQF updated version of 2015), progression pathways have been described for achieving target qualifications (page numbers 32-35). According to this guideline, graduates having SLQF level 5 qualifications (e.g. B.Sc. General Degrees) have to sit for a qualifying examination to register for an MPhil. In addition, graduates with SLQF level 6 qualifications (e.g. BSc Honours degree) without high GPA also have to sit for a qualifying examination in order to register for a PhD. Therefore, it has been decided to hold a qualifying examination for those who should sit for a qualifying examination according to the above and the sections 2.1.4 and 2.1.5 of the Postgraduate Research Degrees By-Law No. 10-2013 of the University of Ruhuna, in accordance with the following guidelines.

- 1. The Qualifying Examination shall be conducted as a viva-voce examination with duration not less than 20 minutes.*
- 2. The panel of examiners shall consist of three members appointed by the Board of Study in Medicine including the Chairperson, Board of Study in Medicine, an expert in Research Methodology and an expert in the relevant subject area.*
- 3. The examination shall assess the candidate's suitability to pursue a postgraduate degree such as his/her interest in the research area, level of motivation and the readiness for self-directed learning and shall not include assessment of fine subject knowledge.*
- 4. The candidates who fail to get through the Qualifying Examination successfully may sit for a repeat examination of similar nature after a minimum period of two months.*

Board of Study in Medicine

Faculty of Graduate Studies

University of Ruhuna