

## The Right to practice Medicine/ Dentistry

All graduates must remember that medical license is bestowed either by a specified government-approved professional association or a government agency. Licenses are not granted automatically to all people with medical degrees. A medical school graduate must receive a license to practice medicine before he or she can be called a physician in a legal sense, a process that usually entails testing or examinations by a medical board. The medical license is the documentation of authority to practice medicine within a certain locality. It is a medical/dental graduate's responsibility to become acquainted with the law and requirements concerning obtaining a medical license in the country in which they want to practice.

### Obtaining medical license in Poland

Obtaining an MD/DDS diploma is not simultaneous with obtaining the right to practice in medical/dental field in Poland. Obtaining diploma (with the degree of "*Lekarz /Lekarz Dentysta*") confirms only that the dental/medical studies completed in Poland are compliant with the minimal requirements regarding the recognition of the professional qualifications presented in the art. 34 and 24 of the Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council.

According to the Polish law, in order to obtain full qualifications leading to obtaining the right to practice the profession, a person with the Polish "*Lekarz*" or "*Lekarz Dentysta*" degree diploma must still pass the **Physician Final Examination (LEK)** and **Dentist Final Examination (LDEK)** as well as complete an **obligatory post-graduate internship (staż podyplomowy)** that lasts 13 months (for MD) and 12 months (for DDS). Only after having fulfilled those requirements, the graduate may receive a full license to practice.

**In order to recognize the qualifications in another EU Member State and to be granted the full right to practice the profession of a dentist/doctor, each country may impose some additional requirements dependent on the regulations of appropriate Medical Chamber.**

#### More information:

Lubelska Izba Lekarska, 20-079 Lublin, ul. Chmielna 4,  
phone. 81 536-04-50,  
fax. 81 536-04-70  
website. <http://www.oil.lublin.pl/>

You can also contact the Department for International and EU Relations at the Supreme Chamber of Physicians and Dentists

1. Agnieszka Seweryniak - 22 559 13 51
2. Marek Szewczyński - 22 559 13 09

### Certificate of Conformity

The Supreme Medical Council (Naczelna Rada Lekarska), organ of the Polish Supreme Chamber of Physicians and Dentists (Naczelna Izba Lekarska), issues certificates in cases where the doctor is not tied with any of the regional chambers (i.e. is and never was a member of the chamber). In practice this applies to graduates of Polish medical universities who do not apply for the right to practice the profession in Poland.

**The Supreme Medical Council** issues a so called **certificate of conformity** which confirms that the medical studies completed in Poland that led to the award of the diploma with the degree of "lekarz" were **compliant to the minimal requirements laid down in art. 24 of the Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament** and of the Council on the recognition of professional qualifications and that the awarded diploma with the degree of "lekarz" is the evidence of formal qualifications in basic medical training listed for Poland in Annex V point 5.1.1 of Directive 2005/36/EC.

- [Further information available on the websites of the Supreme Chamber of Physicians and Dentists and of the Ministry of Justice](#)

[Information for foreign medical graduates wishing to apply for a licence to practice medicine in Poland](#)

- [How to order a certificate from the Polish National Criminal Register?](#)

### **The Physician Final Exam (LEK) and The Dentist Final Exam (LDEK) IN ENGLISH organized by CEM (Centrum Egzaminów Medycznych), Łódź**

(source: <https://www.cem.edu.pl/>)

In accordance with the Act of 28 April 2012 amending the Act on Professions of Doctor and Dentist, LEP and LDEP were replaced by the Physicians Final Exam (Lekarski Egzamin Koncowy - LEK) and the Dentists Final Exam (Lekarsko-Dentystyczny Egzamin Koncowy - LDEK). LEK and LDEK were held for the first time in February 2013. Similarly to previous exams, only those who graduated from Polish Medical Universities after studies in English are entitled to take LEK/LDEK in English. In contrast to LEP/LDEP it is no longer necessary to obtain the limited license to practice. Only the university diploma is needed. LEK and LDEK are test examinations organized twice a year. Each consists of 200 multiple choice questions.

Passing LEK or LDEK is necessary to obtain license to practice medicine or dentistry in Poland, respectively, for those who graduated from a Polish medical university. Thus, as there is a considerable group of doctors who have completed their studies in English, it is possible to take LEK or LDEK also in English. **Important:** only those who graduated from a Polish medical university after studies in English can take LEK or LDEK in English. In contrast to previous exams (LEP/LDEP) it is not necessary to obtain limited license to practice medicine (or dentistry) before taking LEK or LDEK.

**The first step to take LEK or LDEK is to fill the application form on CEM website.**

<https://www.cem.edu.pl/>

Application for the examination can only be made by the on-line application form available on CEM website. The deadlines are as follows:

in case of **LEK/LDEK held in September** the application must be made **by June 30th**,

in case of **LEK/LDEK held in February** the application must be made **by November 30th**.

Graduates applying for examination are assigned to a particular place of examination based on the Regional Medical Chamber they belong to, according to the table attached below. In cases when the assigned place for certain reasons does not suit the applicant, this information should be included in the application form:

The place of examination	Regional Medical Chamber
<b>Gdańsk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Gdańsk,</li> <li>· Olsztyn</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Bydgoszcz</li> <li>· Toruń</li> </ul>
<b>Kraków</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Kraków,</li> <li>· Katowice,</li> <li>· Tarnów</li> <li>· Bielsko-Biała</li> <li>· Częstochowa</li> <li>· Rzeszów</li> </ul>
<b>Łódź</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Łódź,</li> <li>· Kielce,</li> <li>· Wojskowa Izba Lekarska</li> </ul>
<b>Poznań</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Poznań,</li> <li>· Gorzów Wielkopolski,</li> <li>· Zielona Góra</li> <li>· Szczecin</li> <li>· Koszalin</li> </ul>
<b>Warszawa</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Warszawa,</li> <li>· Płock</li> <li>· Lublin</li> <li>· Białystok</li> </ul>
<b>Wrocław</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Wrocław,</li> <li>· Opole</li> </ul>

For more information regarding LEP and LDEP please contact:

**Centrum Egzaminów Medycznych w Łodzi**

ul. Rzgowska 281/289, 93-338 Łódź

phone. +042 272 20 30, +042 272 2034

fax. +042 272 20 31

email: [lep@cem.edu.pl](mailto:lep@cem.edu.pl)

website: [www.cem.edu.pl](http://www.cem.edu.pl)

## **TERMS OF PERFORMING 'STAŻ' IN POLAND FOR MUL GRADUATES:**

Every graduate of the 6 MD, 4 MD or 5 DDS program who wants to perform 'staż' in Poland must contact a respectful **regional medical chamber** in order obtain a limited medical license (*ograniczone prawo wykonywania zawodu*).

In order to obtain a limited medical license, a person awarded a Polish *lekarz* or *lekarz dentysta* degree diploma, has to fulfill the following requirements:

- present a statement saying that the person has full legal capacity
- present a note from a licensed physician that the person is in good health
- be of high moral and ethical standards (a regional medical chamber can request a note from Krajowy Rejestr Karny stating that the person has no criminal records)
- be fluent in spoken and written Polish.

### More information:

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