

CODE FOR PROFESSIONAL SPECIALIZATION

The Board of Governors of the Philippine Medical Association, through the Commission on Professional Specialization, acting by virtue of authority vested by Article VII Section 3-E of the PMA By-laws hereby promulgates this Code for Professional Specialization.

ARTICLE 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. TITLE. This Code shall be referred to and known as the Code for Professional Specialization (CPS) of the Philippine Medical Association.

Section 2. PURPOSES. This Code shall:

- a. Govern the activities of members who have undergone specialized training in the different fields of medicine.
- b. Form and organize the professional societies in specialized disciplines, and determine the relationship of such specialty societies to each other.
- c. Standardize the composition and function of the certifying Board.

Section 3. IMPLEMENTING BODY. As provided under the By-laws of the Association, the Commission on Professional Specialization shall have the exclusive authority to promulgate and enforce all provisions, rules and regulations, policies relative to the conduct of specialty societies.

ARTICLE II COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL SPECIALIZATION

Section 1. COMPOSITION. The Commission shall be composed of a Chairman and eight (8) members appointed by the President with the concurrence of the Board who must be a member in good standing of his respective specialty and the Philippine Medical Association.

A. QUALIFICATIONS

1. Chairman - must be a Past President of any of the eight divisions.
2. Members - must be the Immediate Past President of each of the eight (8) specialty divisions

B. TENURE OF APPOINTMENTS

1. Chairman - the Chairman shall serve for a term of one (1) year. He may be appointed for a maximum of two consecutive terms.
2. Members - the Commission shall consist of eight (8) members, who shall serve for a term of one (1) year.

Section 3. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE - The Chairman and members of the Commission can be replaced by voluntary resignation, death or in capacity and the President with the concurrence of the Board of Governors, shall immediately appoint a new member to fill the vacancy, and the member appointed shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 4. FUNCTIONS - The Commission on Professional Specialization shall have the following functions.

1. To coordinate the activities of the various divisions.
2. To study and recommend measures to strengthen the recognized specialty societies and to standardized their respective certifying board.
3. To receive the annual report of the divisions and make necessary recommendations to the Board of Governors.
4. To monitor and evaluate the activities of the divisions and make appropriate recommendations to the Board of Governors.
5. To resolve problems referred by the divisions.

ARTICLE III DIVISIONS SPECIALTY AND SUB-SPECIALTY SOCIETIES

Only one specialty or sub-specialty society in each discipline shall be recognized by the Commission.

Section 1. DEFINITION

- 1.1 Specialty division is a recognized discipline of the profession and these are: Anesthesia, Family and Community Medicine, Medicine, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Pathology, Pediatrics, Radiology and Surgery

- 1.2 Specialty society is an organization of licensed physicians which has a nationally recognized training program and a specialty board which certified its individual members as to training and competence in the practice of their discipline.

The specialty society shall be designated as the mother society of each division.

- 1.3 Sub-specialty society is an organization of licensed physicians under and recognized by the mother society whose members underwent further training in a particular field of the main specialty.

Section 2. QUALIFICATIONS

- 2.1 Specialty Societies – a society may be recognized as a specialty society if it meets the following requirements
 - 2.1.1 It shall be national in scope and shall have no less than (50) active members.
 - 2.1.2 Its members shall be engaged in the practice of the same specialty.
 - 2.1.3 Its members shall be active members of their respective PMA Component medical societies.
 - 2.1.4 It shall have a Constitution and By-laws consistent with the By-laws of the PMA.
 - 2.1.5 It represents a specialty where no other society of the same specialty holds charter with the PMA.
 - 2.1.6 It shall have a system of accreditation and evaluation of its training programs
 - 2.1.7 It shall have a specialty Board that evaluates and certifies the competency of the graduates of its training program.
- 2.2 Sub-specialty Societies – a society may be recognized as a sub-specialty society if it meets the following requirements:
 - 2.2.1 It shall be national in scope and shall have no less than (15) active members.

- 2.2.2 Its members shall be engaged in the practice of the same sub-specialty.
- 2.2.3 Its members shall be active members of their respective PMA component medical societies.
- 2.2.4 It shall have a Constitution and By-laws consistent with the PMA By-laws.
- 2.2.5 It represents a sub-specialty where no other society of the same sub-specialty holds charter with the PMA.
- 2.2.6 It must be recognized by the Specialty Society of the Division.

Section 3. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF SPECIALTY AND SUBSPECIALTY SOCIETIES

- 3.1 They shall be autonomous in their internal affairs.
- 3.2 Their names shall be entered in the roster of specialty and sub-specialty societies of the PMA which will be endorsed to the Professional Regulation Commission
- 3.3 They shall be represented in the General Assembly by one delegate from each specialty society.
- 3.4 They shall have the privilege to participate in the scientific programs and other activities of the PMA.
- 3.5 They shall be entitled to public scientific papers of their members in the Journal of the PMA.
- 3.6 They shall have the privilege of PMA accreditation of their scientific activities.
- 3.7 They shall have the privilege to be endorsed by the PMA to the Professional Regulation Commission as the recognized specialty and sub-specialty society.

Section 4. OBLIGATIONS OF SPECIALTY AND SUB-SPECIALTY SOCIETIES

- 4.1 They shall indicate the words "Specialty of sub-specialty society recognized by the PMA" in all their official stationeries, posters, printed programs and other media of communication.

- 4.2 They shall render an annual report of their activities as well as recommendations to the Commission on Professional Specialization
- 4.3 They shall submit a complete updated list of their recognized sub-specialty societies together with their list of members which shall be updated annually.
- 4.4 They shall pay their annual dues to the PMA.
- 4.5 They shall submit all their scientific publications and newsletters to the PMA.

Section 5. SPECIALTY SOCIETIES – The recognized specialty societies of the eight (8) divisions are as follows:

- 5.1 Anesthesia – Philippine Society of Anesthesiologists
- 5.2 Family & Community Medicine – Philippine Academy of Family Physicians
- 5.3 Medicine – Philippine College of Physicians
- 5.4 Obstetrics & Gynecology - Philippine Obstetrical & Gynecological Society
- 5.5 Pathology – Philippine Society of Pathologists
- 5.6 Pediatrics – Philippine Pediatric Society
- 5.7 Radiology – Philippine College of Radiology
- 5.8 Surgery – Philippine College of Surgeons

ARTICLE IV RECOGNITION TERMINATION AND WITHDRAWAL

Section 1. RECOGNITION

- 1.1 As provided for in Article III Section 5 of the Code, the eight (8) specialty societies have been designated as the mother societies of the corresponding eight (8) divisions. Any changes in the designation shall have the approval of at least two thirds (2/3) of the members of the Commission, and two thirds (2/3) of the members of the Board of Governors.

1.2 Recognition of sub-specialty shall be through the specialty society of the Division, provided that such recognition shall be in accordance with Article III of the Code.

1.3 Annual dues – Annual dues for specialty and sub-specialty societies will be provided in the Administrative Code.

Section 2. TERMINATION OF RECOGNITION – Upon recommendation of the Commission on Professional Specialization and subject to the approval by the Board of Governors, the charter of a specialty society may be cancelled on any of the following grounds.

2.1 Failure to submit the annual report to the Commission on Professional for two (2) consecutive years.

2.2 Failure to pay the annual dues to the PMA for two (2) consecutive years

2.3 Failure of at least twenty-five (25%) of their members to comply with the requirements of PMA component society membership.

Section 3. WITHDRAWAL OF RECOGNITION.

3.1 Any specialty society may withdraw from the PMA upon presentation of a written notice from the President of the society to the President of the PMA through the Commission on Professional Specialization.