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Medical University
Prof. Dr. Paraskev
Stoyanov - Varna

Training Programs and Admissions Criteria

**LAGOS INTERNATIONAL
EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANTS**

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1. General Information

The Medical University of Varna is a high-tech university and has more than half a century of history and traditions. The classical models of teaching at the university are well combined with the latest technologies – 3D anatomy training and a system for complementary e-learning rich in electronic content.

The Medical University of Varna offers uncompromised quality of training and it is the first and the only university in Bulgaria which introduced the model of the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM®) for Business Excellence in 2008. The diplomas issued by the University are recognized in all European countries. The University has 82 international partners from 5 continents and students from more than forty countries. Since 1961 over 50 000 people graduated the Medical University of Varna.

The university offers to its students modern environment with unlimited opportunities for their development – high-tech labs and training premises, a library with electronic reading rooms and access to the best world information databases, modern sport facilities and professional football, volleyball and tennis playgrounds, a rehearsal hall for the university music band, a drama and folk dance troupes. Study medicine in Bulgaria.

2. Undergraduate Programs

Foreign citizens are admitted to the Medical University of Varna in conformity with the Law on Higher Education and Ordinance on the State Requirements in Republic of Bulgaria for Admission of Bulgarian and Foreign Students.

Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov"- Varna offers training to applicants (who have completed secondary education) in 14 medical specialties in Bulgarian language and *conducts training in English language - in Medicine and Dental Medicine.*

2.1 Medicine Course

Overview of the program

The six-year medical studies in English allow students to enroll in the medical school directly from high school. The program is designed for students who are strongly motivated, have a good command of both written and spoken English and interest in medical science.

The Medical studies in English last six years (ten full time semesters and one-year of state clinical internships – 310 calendar days). Except for the fact that instructions, labs, lectures and examinations are conducted in English, the curriculum of the six-year medical studies in English is completely identical with the coursework pursued by Bulgarian medical students. Learning Bulgarian language is also compulsory during the first three years of the program. Students are required to learn Bulgarian in order to be able to communicate with the patients and in order to avoid the misunderstanding of the patients from the third year onwards.

The first two years of medical school includes an overview of fundamental or basic science courses. The first year is devoted to general understanding of biological, chemical and physical sciences applicable to the practice of medicine. Starting with the second year, the focus progressively narrows down, channeling the studies towards those biomedical sciences that are most relevant for a practicing physician.

The theoretical training of the course of studies is conducted by obligatory, optional and facultative disciplines, in form of lectures, seminars, practical exercise and self-training.

The practical training of the course of studies is conducted by practical studies during the semester training, training practices and pre-graduation internship.

The theoretical and practical training in the program is in compliance with the ECTS system.

The clinical years are what all medical students anticipate, a time when lectures and laboratories translate into patient care. The clinical studies examine the application of the biomedical sciences mastered during the first two years of medical school. The teaching from the third year onwards takes place exclusively in clinical settings of the modern facilities of the University teaching hospitals and involves work with patients admitted for treatment.

The last year of medical studies has exclusively practical purposes. During the last year, students work under the direct guidance of the assistants and instructors with high academic positions in the clinics.

Final assessment of knowledge acquired by the students after accomplishing their full course of studies is given by the State Examination Board Committees at comprehensive theoretical and practical state examinations.

After the successful completion of the 6-years course of academic studies in the Programme of medicine, students are awarded a Diploma of completed higher medical education. Graduates are conferred Master's degree along with the professional qualification "physician"- Doctor of Medicine. A European supplement to the medical Diploma issued in English language is also provided to the medical graduates upon graduation. The Master-physician is an accomplished specialist who enjoys the necessary knowledge, skills and qualities for the realization of the contents, goals and assignments of the general medical practice.

The possession of that degree enables the holder to practice medicine in EU countries as well as in many other countries worldwide.

2.2 Dental Medicine

Overview of the Program

The training in Dental Medicine in English is full-time only. The course of study lasts six years – (ten semesters and pre-graduation practice after the 10th semester – 135 working days or 1080 hours and two training practices with 30 calendar days duration (each training covers 150 hours) after the sixth and the eighth semester) and includes three stages. During the first two years, students are trained in medical and biological subjects (first stage).

Except for the fact that instructions, labs, lectures and examinations are conducted in English, the curriculum of the six-year Program in Dental Medicine taught in English is identical with the coursework pursued by Bulgarian medical students. Learning Bulgarian language is also compulsory during the first three years of the program. Students are required to learn Bulgarian in order to be able to communicate with the patients and in order to avoid the misunderstanding of the patients from the third year onwards.

Clinical and medical training is conducted from second to tenth semester as it includes specialized training in general medical and clinical disciplines (second stage).

The theoretical training is conducted by obligatory, optional and facultative disciplines, in form of lectures, seminars, practical exercise (clinical work with dental patients) and self-training.

The practical training is conducted by practical studies during the semester training, training practices and pre-graduation practice. The practical instruction of students includes specific volume of practical therapeutic activity.

Under the tutelage of highly trained and productive scientists, the student acquires a solid foundation in biomedical sciences. This knowledge forms the basis for understanding the wide variety of diseases that a dentist must diagnose and treat; it also forms the foundation for the effective practice of preventive dentistry. Skillful and experienced clinical teachers guide the student in acquiring technical skills and developing clinical judgment.

Instructors with qualifications in the basic and clinical sciences assist the student in applying basic science knowledge to clinical problems. This integrated system of instruction results in a broadly trained clinician with a strong biomedical background.

The pre-graduation internship/practice (third stage) is performed in cycles in prosthetic dentistry, conservative dental treatment, periodontology and diseases of the oral mucosa; oral and maxillo-facial surgery, pediatric Dental Medicine, orthodontics. Every cycle (stage) ends with a state examination.

Upon graduation, students obtain the professional qualification of "Master-doctor in Dental Medicine" and education and qualification degree "Master".

The possession of that degree enables the holder to practice dental medicine in EU countries as well as in many other countries worldwide.

A European supplement to the Diploma of completed higher education, issued in English language is also provided to graduates of the program upon graduation.

Situated in the center of the Varna, Faculty of Dental Medicine benefits from a large pool of patients who seek dental treatment at its modern clinics and the only one in Bulgaria University medical and dental center, equipped with cutting-edge technologies.

3. Postgraduate Programs

3.1 Overview

Public health Program in English is available in the Medical University – Varna. Form of education is PART-TIME (modular training) organization of the program. The training would be organized in 2 contact modules (each with duration of 2 weeks) and additional e-based distance format of training.

The MPH at MU-Varna is a one-year program, directed at active student involvement, team work and problem-solving. The mission of the Master of Public Health Program is to contribute significantly and continuously to "the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health of the population" through interdisciplinary training and development of health professionals and others to be leaders in public health, health services research and evaluation, and health care delivery and management.

The Program in Public Health provides opportunities for:

- realization and career development in various health institutions: NCPH, RHI, NHIF, RHIF, in the administration of medical institutions, research organizations and universities, directorates of health development and social activities to the municipal administrations
- a better position in the labor market and a step towards the achievement of a higher education level
- scientific research in the field of Public Health
- planning, assessment and management of health care and social programs and projects on a national, regional or local level
- work in NGO sector, dealing with public health and social problems, prevention, health education and health promotion

3.2 Content of the Program

The Master's Program in Public Health covers basic disciplines such as:

- Introduction to Public Health
- Health Policy
- Foundations of Epidemiology and Epidemiology of Socially Significant Diseases
- Statistics
- Health Economics and Management
- Health Promotion
- Sociology
- Healthcare Information Systems
- Environment and Health, etc.

It is targeted at developing skills for the establishment of health policy at national, regional and municipal level; at scientific research; at monitoring the health status of the population and its specific groups; at development and management of public health and social programs and projects; collection and analysis of quantitative and qualitative data, case studies, teamwork, communication and others.

The MPH program has national accreditation. The MPH program has also passed through a PEER REVIEW from the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER).

This program is suitable for everyone with a Master's degree in:

- Medicine, Dental Medicine, Pharmacy, Law, Sociology, Psychology, Pedagogy, Ecology, Environmental Sciences, Engineering and others

Bachelor degree in:

- Social Science, Nursing, Healthcare Management, Economics, Sociology, Psychology, Pedagogy and Ecology. Application window for this program is tiny from 1st of June till 15th of August

4. Admissions

The prospective foreign students interested in all offered undergraduate programs with Bulgarian language of instruction have to pass an examination test – written test and personal interview provided by the Department of Foreign languages, Communication and Sport.

There is administrative fee for the examination: 200 euro, payable to the University bank account. Applicants are required to cover the fee before taking the examination.

Those applicants who are not fluent in Bulgarian or fail the examination have an opportunity to be enrolled in a Preparatory course in Bulgarian language at the University.

The Medical University of Varna offers a Preparatory course in English language for those applicants interested in the Program of Medicine and Dental medicine-English language education who are not fluent in English.

4.1 Admissions Criteria

Citizens of countries which are not members of the EU and EEA are admitted after approval of the submitted application documents (which must meet the admission requirements) by the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and Science.

Applicants, interested in direct admission (without language preparatory course) for the Programs in English are required either to pass English for Academic Medical Studies examination at Medical University of Varna or to submit one of the following certificates proving their English language ability

List with Internationally Recognized Language Proficiency Tests

Accepted language proficiency tests and certificates	Level/scores required
Cambridge ESOL Exams	FCE level - Pre-Advanced First Certificate in English, or higher
ECL	Level B2, or higher
IELTS	Band 6 – competent user, or higher
Pearson Test of English General	Level 3, or higher
TELC	The European Language Certificates, or telc - language tests telc English B2, or higher
TOEFL iBT (computer-based test)	Scores from 61 and above
TOEFL PBT (paper-based test)	Scores from 543 and above; Score of 4.0 (scale 1-6) in written test or higher
Trinity's Integrated Skills in English (ISE) exams	ISE II level, or higher

English language examination dates for 2016/17 academic year:

25 June 2016, 30 July 2016 and 10 September 2016

There is a non refundable administrative fee of 200 euro for taking the English test for Academic Medical Studies

Place of conducting the English for Academic Medical Studies examination

55 Marin Drinov street, Varna (the main building of the University)

Note: The auditorium (exact room) number is usually announced a week before the examination. All Examinations start at 9:00 a.m.

It is mandatory that the prospective foreign applicants:

1) have completed secondary education (hold a Diploma or secondary school leaving certificate) which enables them to continue their studies in higher institutions and universities in the country in which the secondary education has been completed;

2) have studied and completed Biology and Chemistry subjects in the secondary school - for those applicants who are interested in the Programmes of Medicine, Dental Medicine and Pharmacy;

It is obligatory for the average mark in Biology and Chemistry subjects from the Diploma of secondary education to be not less than 62% of the possible maximum of the grading system in the respective country.

4.2 Application Documents

1. Completed application form

2. A copy of the document for completed secondary education (diploma or secondary school leaving certificate);

3. A copy of the official transcript of all studied subjects in secondary education (high school) as well as the obtained final marks in the subjects.

For applicants (non EU and EEA citizens) it is obligatory for the average mark in Biology and Chemistry subjects from the Diploma of secondary education to be not less than 62% of the possible maximum of the grading system in the respective country.

4. A document issued by an authorized body (the applicant's high school) certifying the right (eligibility) of the applicant to continue his/her education in higher institutions and universities in the country in which the latter has acquired his/her secondary education.
5. An original medical health certificate, issued within a month before the date of application, stating that the applicant is in good physical and mental health to pursue a training course at the Medical University of Varna.

All the above listed documents must be legalized, translated into Bulgarian and certified in accordance with the provisions of the international treaties of the Republic of Bulgaria.

This means: certified true copies (only for documents 2 and 3), certified with the Apostille stamps-for documents 2, 3, 4 and 5 and translated into Bulgarian language with legalized translation (Translated by officially registered and approved translator)

6. A declaration by the applicant`s parent(s) for financial support during his/her studies in the Republic of Bulgaria at the Medical University of Varna, legalized by a Notary Public and accompanied by its official translation into Bulgarian;
7. Copy of the international passport of the applicant (only those pages with the photo and data)
8. Five recently-taken colour photos /passport size/

Once the Admission Committee has received and approved the candidate`s application (for non-EU citizens, the documents are then submitted to the Bulgarian Ministry of Education for approval. After taking decision on the application, either a Certificate on the right of the applicant to study (for entrance study visa – type D) is issued or a denial is received. The issuance of this document may take up to a month.

Once the University receives the Certificate, issued by the Ministry of Education and Science, Lagos International will be then notified (by phone, e-mail or an official letter) to come and collect the Certificate personally or by an authorized representative of yours. After receiving the Certificate you are then required to apply for a student visa type D at the Bulgarian Embassy in the home country.

4.3 Application Deadlines

Application documents are submitted from 1st of June till 30th of August for every next academic year. The whole admission process might take 6 to 8 weeks, so earlier documentation preparation is essential. This time include shipping of all required documents to Bulgaria; translate as per the official requirements, submit candidate`s documentation to the University, set aside application processing time for the Bulgarian Ministry of Education for receiving approval letter for each student allowing him/her to study in Bulgaria, send back all documents to Lagos International local branch and apply for student visa in the Bulgarian embassy located in the home country.

5. Tuition Fees

The annual tuition fee for the academic year 2016/2017 for English language program (paid for of education) is 8000 euro

Tuition Fee for the one year course of Public health Program in English is 1700 Euro

The annual tuition fee can be paid at once or in two equal installments (at the beginning of each academic year or at the beginning of every semester) but not later than two weeks after the beginning of the semester. Those students who do not pay their tuition fees on time will not be registered for the academic year and will not have the right to attend classes.

Sixth-year students can pay the tuition fee in two equal payments, respectively, from 30th August to 15th September and from 1st February until 15th February.

In case of withdrawal from the University before the beginning of the academic year against submitting the official payment receipt, 80% of the paid semestrial tuition fee is to be refunded. After the beginning of the academic year, the paid tuition fee will not be refunded!

6. Further Details

For more information on how to begin your application process and our services, please contact our local representative in your country or email info@lojeducational.com