



# Evaluation of MSc Qualifications for Fellowship of the ACSLM

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# What is a Senior Medical Scientist?

- Advanced Practice and Knowledge in their Discipline
- Advanced educational qualification in Biomedical Science
- Research Skills
- Experience in their field
- Suitable for Supervisory Role – Basic Grade Medical Scientists, Research Projects, MLAs, Students

# What is the ACSLM Role?

- Registration to practice – CORU 2017
- Eligibility for Senior MS – ongoing role
- Membership Committee Role and Process
  - 4 members, 1 academic
  - Review qualifications and experience, check adhere to requirements of Pathways to Fellowship
  - Submit Recommendations to Council and President of ACSLM
  - Applications usually processed in one month
  - 1 – 3 months if further documents or queries regarding qualifications

# Current Requirements for FACSLM

- 2 years membership of the ACSLM
- Masters qualification acceptable to the ACSLM

# Accredited MSc programmes

- College has submitted MSc course document and has been pre-approved as acceptable for FACSLM
- MSc Clinical Laboratory Science [DIT]
- MSc Biomedical Science [UU]
- Other accredited MSc courses, no longer available:
  - MSc Biomedical Science [CIT/UCC]
  - MSc Molecular Pathology [DIT/TCD]

# IBMS- accredited MSc programmes

- Similar Requirements
- Are all Masters in Science
- Accredited MSc currently:
- 23 MSc in Biomedical Science [with subspecialisms]
- 2 MSc in Blood Sciences
- 1 MSc in Infection Sciences
- 1 MSc in Cellular Sciences
- 2 MSc in Transfusion and Transplantation Sciences
- 2 MSc Medical Molecular Biology/Genetics
- 1 MSc Molecular Microbiology, Medical Virology, Medical Mycology
- 1 MSc Medical Bioinformatics
- DIT Clinical Laboratory Science
- TCD Clinical Chemistry
- UU Biomedical Science

# What about other MSc Programmes

- Have not been pre-approved
- **Most are accepted for FACSLM** – as long as they fulfil the requirements of a Masters in Science that is related to Biomedical Science
- These can be taught or research MSc qualifications
- Can be online MSc courses

# Taught Masters programmes

- Must be a Masters in SCIENCE and include:
- Minimum 10 ECTS taught component in the Biomedical Specialist subjects
- Minimum 10 ECTS taught components in core/allied science subjects
- Research Methods module
- Laboratory-practice based project – minimum 20 ECTS



# Biomedical Specialist Subjects

- Clinical Chemistry/Medical Biochemistry
- POCT/Endocrinology/Toxicology
- Cellular Pathology/Clinical Cytology/Neuropathology
- Haematology/Haemostasis/Molecular Haematology
- Medical Microbiology/Clinical/Molecular Microbiology
- Medical Virology/Clinical Virology/Parasitology
- Transfusion Science/Transplantation Science
- Clinical Immunology/ Immunopathology
- Medical Genetics (Molecular Genetics, Cytogenetics, Molecular Cytogenetics)

# Core/Allied Science Subjects

- Cell Biology, Molecular Biology, Genetics
- Immunology, Biochemistry, Bioinformatics
- Microbiology, Molecular Diagnostics, Virology
- Biology of Disease, Global and Public Health,
- Epidemiology
- Disease Surveillance
- Quality Management, Legislation/Regulation
- Health care Management
- Forensic Science
- Health/Safety, Infection management
- IVD Product Development and Innovation
- Reproductive Medicine, Embryology
- Health information systems / Healthcare Informatics
- Bioethics
- Haemovigilance

# Research Project

- MUST be laboratory-practice based
- Must have a literature review **plus** laboratory-based work
- This can be lab testing, validations, assay comparisons
- It can be audit and data analysis-based,
- Disease Surveillance, Informatics, Haemovigilance etc.
- **Literature Reviews without laboratory-based work will not be approved for FACSLM**

Molecular medicine

Epidemiology

Clinical Laboratory Science

Biomedical Diagnostics

Immunology

Biomedical Science

Healthcare Infection Management

Molecular Biology

There are many MSc programmes available

Reproduction Science

Pharmaceutical Science

Translational Oncology

Clinical Chemistry

Forensics

Bioinformatics

Stem Cell Science

Some of these will **not** be approved for FACSLM

# MSc by Research

- MSc or PhD Thesis must be submitted
- The research work must be Biomedical Science/disease-related and laboratory-practice based
- The Committee is **not** assessing the standard of the MSc/PhD, as this has been assessed by the awarding college

# I don't have an MSc but an MA or MBA

- The qualification of MSc in Science is required to be a Senior Scientist
- The MSc in Science confers key skills in advanced practice, supervision and research in the field of Biomedical Science

# What if I am refused FACSLM?

- If your MSc is deficient in components you will be advised on the deficiencies
- Partial deficiencies in the MSc – extra education and research outputs required will be specified
- Full refusal of MSc qualification – require a full MSc in an appropriate field of study
- Appeals are dealt with at the next membership and Council meeting

# I am going to start an MSc this year

- Check the Pathways to FACSLM document
- Make sure your course covers the required components and has a **Laboratory practice-based research project**



# Further Information

- [www.acslm.ie/membership](http://www.acslm.ie/membership)
- Pathways to Fellowship
- AGM – your opportunity to put a motion if you believe the Pathways should be amended
- Copy of this presentation: [helen.lambkin@dit.ie](mailto:helen.lambkin@dit.ie)