



The Society of Apothecaries of London

Diploma in Forensic Medical Sciences (DipFMS)

Administrative Guidance for Candidates

EXAMINATION TIMETABLE: 2018/19

Deadline for receipt in the Examinations Office of hard copy application form and full fee - see important note below* (Applications are <u>not</u> accepted via email or fax.)	5.00pm on Thursday 18 April 2019
Due date for submission of dissertations - this is the date by which the dissertation copies must have arrived at Apothecaries' Hall	5.00pm on Thursday 23 May 2019 (N.B. words in bold to the left)
Written paper (Note: This examination will only be held in LONDON)	Thursday 13 June 2019

EXAMINATION FEES

The examination entry fee is £680.

The re-entry fee for the whole exam is £680.

The re-entry fee for the written paper only is £375.

The re-entry fee for the dissertation only is £340.

***IMPORTANT NOTE.** An application is not complete without the due full fee. Candidates whose employers are paying for their examination entry, and who therefore need an invoice from the Examinations Office to prompt the payment, should note that the full fee **must** have been paid by the application deadline, and should plan well ahead accordingly.

WITHDRAWING FROM THE EXAMINATION

Candidates who wish to withdraw from the examination must notify the Society in writing. Withdrawal penalties are detailed in the table below.

If the date of receipt of notification of withdrawal falls-	The penalty incurred will be...
Before the application deadline stated above.	No penalty
In the 2 weeks after the application deadline	£110
Within 6 weeks of the start of the examination	£210
Within 2 weeks of the start of the examination	Full Fee

continued overleaf

PAYMENTS

Payments can be made via:

Direct transfer To use this method of payment you must send **your name , the examination** for which you are paying and **the date of the examination by email to the Exam Office;** examoffice@apothecaries.org

Sort Code: 18-00-02

Bank Account number: 05957192

IBAN: GB16COUT18000205957192

Swift/BIC Number: COUTGB22

Account name: The Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London

Coutts & Co, 440 Strand, London, WC2R 0QS

The payment must be made identifiable by the inclusion of the diploma abbreviation and candidate's surname (e.g. DFMS Smith)

Cheque Made payable to '**The Society of Apothecaries**' in Sterling. Please write your name, address and the diploma name on the back.

N.B. If neither option above is feasible, please telephone the Examinations Office on 020 7236 1180.

CURRENT DISSERTATION TOPIC

Title: "The medico-legal investigation of the death of persons deprived of their liberty by the state".

Guidance statement: For the avoidance of doubt concentrate on the jurisdiction in which you practise.

The European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) was formulated as a result of the horrors of World War 2, the Convention being signed in Rome on 4th November 1950.

As far as England and Wales were concerned, until the Human Rights Act 1998 came into effect a person complaining that their Convention rights had been breached had to exhaust remedies in domestic law before appealing to the European Court of Human Rights or other Convention Institutions. The Human Rights Act 1998 incorporated the Convention rights into UK law. The Scotland Act 1998 had the same effect, slightly earlier, in Scotland.

ECHR Article 2, the "Right to Life" article was originally intended to cover cases where state actors had killed the deceased. It has been extended to cover other circumstances including where death, natural or unnatural, has occurred in the custody of the state. That duty includes a duty to investigate death which has taken place where there has, arguably, been a breach of the positive or negative duties Article 2 imposes on the State.

Your dissertation should **describe and discuss** the arrangements, in the Jurisdiction where you practice, for the medico-legal investigation of a death occurring in custody or where the deceased has been deprived of his liberty by the State in some other way.

It is expected that most candidates will work in countries that are signatories to ECHR. Candidates from other countries should describe the process for the investigation of a death in custody in their jurisdiction that makes the process clear to a reader unfamiliar with the applicable jurisprudence in their country.

For full details of the requirements for the dissertation refer to the **Guide to the Diploma in Forensic Medical Sciences (DipFMS) incorporating the Regulations and Syllabus** (available at www.apothecaries.org).