



# Administrative Guidance for Candidates 2026

## Diploma in the Philosophy of Medicine (DPMSA)

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### Timetable/Deadlines

Event	Deadline
Closing date for application form and full payment ( <b>all</b> candidates). <b>Note: once payment is made, you will be directed to the BrightSpace learning platform to complete your application form.</b>	<b>Mid-day</b> Tuesday 7 April 2026
The due date for submission of <b>Abstract for Long article (dissertation) &amp; Short article (Essay)</b> (see Guide to DPMSA incorporating Regulations and Syllabus) <b>NOTE: You will not need a candidate number prior to submission of this essay.</b> Please submit your long article (dissertation) abstract and short essay electronically in Word™ format on the <b>BrightSpace Learning Platform</b> . Your candidate number will be used to anonymise your essay during marking.	23.59pm Friday 10 April 2026
The Oral Assessment	Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Due date for submission of completed Long article (dissertation) <b>Please submit one copy using the BrightSpace learning platform. Do NOT send hard copies.</b> <b>*Important Note.</b> <b>Long articles (dissertations)</b> not submitted by the due date will be deferred to the next examination and a re-entry fee will be payable.	23.59pm Monday 22 June 2026

### Application Notes

Our aim is to approve all applications received. Candidates are advised to apply well in advance of the closing date for entries., and we aim to give priority to candidates who are nearing their 3-year period since completing the course.

The stated deadline is the final date by which a completed application can be considered for entry to the examination. Candidates who have extenuating circumstances which do not meet the above criteria will be considered individually by the Executive Director.

To submit an application, please go to the Shop >Centre for Health Studies Shop area on our website, click into the exams area, choose the exam payment option, select the exam entry you require. On checkout, you will be asked to create an account and finish payment. **You will then be directed to our online platform Brightspace to complete and submit your application form. Please note, only fully completed applications will be considered.**

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 fee **must** have been paid by the application deadline, and should plan well ahead accordingly.



## Examination Fee

1. The full examination entry fee for all applicants is £975 (online payment). Students who have been awarded a bursary by the Faculty should contact the Centre for Health Studies for the relevant reduction ([academicadmin@apothecaries.org](mailto:academicadmin@apothecaries.org)).
2. The re-entry fee for the whole exam is **£975**.  
The re-entry fee for the short essay only is **£325**.  
The re-entry fee for the oral assessment only is **£325**.  
The re-entry fee for the dissertation only is **£325**.

Candidates who withdraw from the examination after the closing date will trigger a forfeit fee as detailed below.

## Payments

Payments can be made [here](#).

Candidates who are unable to pay via the website should contact [academicmanager@apothecaries.org](mailto:academicmanager@apothecaries.org)

## Withdrawing or Deferring from the Examination

3. Candidates wishing to withdraw or defer from the examination must notify the Examinations Office as soon as possible. The following withdrawal and deferral charges are applicable:

Timing of Application to Withdraw or Defer	Possible Refund (subject to approval)
Requests to withdraw or defer before the closing date for application	No fee.
Requests to withdraw or defer after the application closing date and 30 working days (6 weeks) before the examination.	Candidates withdrawing or deferring from an examination after the closing date and up to 6 weeks before the examination will normally be charged 25% of the fee.
Requests to withdraw or defer after the application closing date and 15 working days (3 weeks) before the examination.	Candidates withdrawing or deferring from an examination after the closing date and up to 3 weeks before the examination will normally be charged 50% of the fee.
Requests to withdraw or defer less than 15 working days (3 weeks) of the examination.	A refund will not normally be made to candidates withdrawing or deferring within 15 days of the examination.  However, extenuating circumstance submitted with supporting evidence may be considered and subject to approval by the Executive Director for Centre for Health Studies.