



Centre for Innovations in Public Systems, Hyderabad

## **A Note on Diplomate of National Board (DNB)**

**Date- 16 February 2015**

Diplomate of National Board is a three year Post Graduate Programme. This title awarded by the National Board of Examinations (NBE), an autonomous academic body equivalent to Medical Council of India (MCI) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India to candidates who successfully complete their postgraduate or postdoctoral medical education under it. DNB course is equated with the postgraduate and post doctorate degrees awarded by other Indian Universities for all purposes. The holders of this degree are eligible to be considered for specialist's post/faculty in any Hospital including a training/teaching institution on a teaching post/as a faculty member.

DNB Programme is offered in the following specialities-

DNB- BROAD SPECIALTY COURSES Duration: Three Years (Post MBBS)	DNB- SUPER SPECIALTY COURSES	
	Course Duration: Three Years (Post DNB/MD/MS)	Course Duration: Six Years (Post MBBS)
Anaesthesiology*	Cardiac Anaesthesia	Cardio Thoracic Surgery
Anatomy	Cardio Thoracic Surgery	Neuro Surgery
Biochemistry	Cardiology	Paediatric Surgery
Dermatology & Venereology*	Endocrinology	Plastic Surgery
Emergency Medicine*	Gastroenterology	
Field Epidemiology	Genito Urinary Surgery (Urology)	
Family Medicine	Hematology	
Forensic Medicine	Medical Genetics	
General Medicine	Medical Oncology	
General Surgery	Neonatology	
Health Administration including Hospital Administration*	Nephrology	
Immunohematology & Transfusion Medicine	Neuro Surgery	
Maternal and Child Health	Neurology	
Microbiology	Paediatric Cardiology	
Nuclear Medicine*	Paediatric Surgery	
Obstetrics and Gynaecology*	Peripheral Vascular Surgery	
Ophthalmology*	Plastic Surgery	
Orthopaedic Surgery*	Rheumatology	
Otorhinolaryngology (ENT)*	Surgical Gastroenterology	
Paediatrics*	Surgical Oncology	
Pathology*	Thoracic Surgery	
Pharmacology		
Physical health and Rehabilitation*		
Physiology		
Psychiatry*		
Radio Diagnosis*		
Radio therapy*		

Respiratory Diseases*		
Social Health and Preventive Medicine		

**(\* ) A secondary (Post Diploma) 2 years DNB program is also available in these specialties**

It is run predominantly by the private hospitals with a capacity of at least 100 beds. A majority of the enrolled students, on completion of this course take up jobs in the private sector.

The government of India have written a letter to all health secretaries and to Indian Medical Council 1<sup>st</sup> June 2006, with ref No.V. 11025/6/94-ME (UG) Government of India, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare suggesting the introduction of DNB Courses and also indicating their equivalence to MD/MS/DM/M.Ch qualification.

One of the most critical components of a proper healthcare delivery system in Public Sector or Government Hospitals in India is the **healthcare workforce**, particularly **medical specialists**. **The current scenario is such that there is 40-50 % vacancy in the sanctioned posts for medical specialists** (51.8% Surgeons, 40.7% Obstetrics & Gynaecologists, 53.3% Physicians and 43.1% Paediatricians).<sup>1</sup> This approximates to a gap of 13,477 medical specialists in block level and district hospitals in India.<sup>2</sup> This figure may increase if the other specialists are to be included for the entire country.

#### **REQUIREMENTS TO START DNB PROGRAMME-**

The applicant hospital should have the following facilities- **Minimum of 200 beds, Comprehensive OPD and IPD services, Casualty services round the clock, Surgical Specialties like Surgical equipment, Major operation theatres, Minor operation theatres, Post-operative ward, Intensive Care Unit for surgical emergencies, Labor room, Pre-anaesthesia clinic, Anaesthesiology Equipment, Support facilities like Blood bank Radiology services - x-ray and ultra sound, Clinical Biochemistry, Haematology, Microbiology, Pathology and department of Dietetics.**

Additional infrastructural requirements include **Seminar room, Teaching Room, Library Room and Office Accommodation Area.**

The basic **human resource requirements** are the following- **Senior Consultants, Junior Consultants, senior residents/specialists, junior residents, Anaesthesiologists, Nurses, OT nurses, OT technicians, Paramedical staff, Dietician and librarian.**

**Note-** The requirement of Faculty depends on the intake of Candidates and vice versa. The applicant hospital has to indicate the number of available faculty based on which the

<sup>1</sup> Health and Family Welfare Statistics in India - 2013, Statistics Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India, pp.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, pp.

number of seats for admissions would be allotted by the DNB Board for the specialty in which the commencement of DNB Course is sought.

The Candidates enrolled in DNB course would be working and learning within the department.

The criteria for PG Teachers is as follows:

(i) At least one full time consultant in the department should have teaching experience of 5 years, as a post graduate teacher as Assistant /Associate/Additional Professor in the speciality.

(ii) The services rendered as a PG teacher in a recognized university or NBE accredited hospital shall be acceptable, provided the consultant has acted as a guide/ co-guide for a PG student or a PG student trained in the recognized department has qualified DNB/MD/MS qualifications.

In case of unavailability of specialist doctors in a government hospital, it can be attached with medical college to utilise the support of medical teachers as in the case of West Bengal where the programme has been initiated in six districts namely - Howrah, Hooghly, Barasat, Krishna Nagar, Purulia and Asansol in the academic year 2014-2015. West Bengal introduced this in General Medicine, General Surgery, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Paediatrics and Anaesthesia. The six district hospitals are annexed with different medical hospitals to utilise the support of medical teachers for teaching DNB students.

The course would be conducted in Hospital departments thereby minimizing the capital costs.

In short, there is a felt need to bring all the hospitals of the public sector with more than 200 beds to take up this approach as this is an innovative and a cost-effective model of developing and retaining the motivated and skilled workforce within the Public Healthcare system.

#### **Financial Resources-**

The National Board of Examinations carries out the process of accreditation of hospitals / institutions for running DNB programmes in various Broad & Super Specialties and Fellowship programme in various sub specialties of National Board of Examinations.

Each application shall be accompanied by fee for accreditation which is as follows-

<b>Fresh Case</b>	Rs. 2,00,000/- (Rupees Two Lacs Only) for each application
<b>Renewal Case</b>	Rs. 2,00,000/- (Rupees Two Lacs Only) for each application

Please add Rs. 3,000/- to the fees above towards cost of Information Bulletin.

### Refund Policy:

Refund of amount admissible*	Terms & Conditions
90% of total fees	If the application is withdrawn by the applicant hospital / institute within 4 weeks of submitting the application to NBE
50% of total fees	If the application is withdrawn by the applicant hospital / institute after 4 weeks of submitting the application to NBE, however, before departmental assessment being conducted by NBE.
	If the application is not approved after preliminary screening prior to assessment by NBE.
No refund shall be admissible	Once the assessment is conducted by NBE