

NATIONAL POSTGRADUATE COLLEGE OF MEDICAL LABORATORY  
SCIENCE (ESTABLISHMENT) BILL, 2019  
ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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# A BILL

## FOR

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NATIONAL POSTGRADUATE COLLEGE OF MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE TO CONDUCT PROFESSIONAL POSTGRADUATE EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES INTO VARIOUS SPECIALISED BRANCHES OF MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

*Sponsored by Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno*

[ ] Commencement

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:

- 1           1. -(1) There is established the National Postgraduate College of  
2           Medical Laboratory Science (in this Act referred to as "the College").  
3           (2) The College-  
4           (a) shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a  
5           common seal; and  
6           (b) may sue or be sued in its corporate name.  
7           (3) The Headquarters of the College shall be in the Federal Capital  
8           Territory, Abuja or any other location that is deemed fit.
- 9           2. The College shall be responsible for the conduct of professional  
10          postgraduate examination of candidates in the various specialised branches  
11          of medical laboratory science and make awards in relation to the  
12          postgraduate examination.
- 13          3. -(1) The College shall consist of all Fellows of the College and  
14          its affairs shall be managed by:  
15          (a) the Governing Board, and  
16          (b) the Senate,  
17          which shall each exercise such powers as are conferred on it by this Act.
- 18          (2) The supplementary provisions in the Schedule to this Act shall

Establishment of National Postgraduate College of Medical Laboratory Sciences

Responsibility of the College

Fellows of the College

Schedule

1 have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Governing Board and Senate  
2 and the other matters mentioned in the Schedule.

Governing  
Board of the  
College

3 4. There is established for the College the Governing Board which  
4 shall consist of:

5 (a) the President of the College who shall be the Chairman;

6 (b) the Chairman and Registrar of the Medical Laboratory Science  
7 Council of Nigeria;

8 (c) 12 representatives of the Senate;

9 (d) the Federal Director of Medical Laboratory Service;

10 (e) the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of-

11 (i) Health or his representative;

12 (ii) Finance or his representative;

13 (iii) Education or his representative; and

14 (iv) Science and Technology or his representative; and

15 (f) two representatives of the Association of Medical Laboratory  
16 Scientists of Nigeria.

Powers of the  
Governing Board

17 5. The Governing Board shall be the governing body of the College  
18 charged with the general control and superintendence of the policies, finances  
19 and property of the College, including its public relations.

Composition  
of the Senate

20 6. The Senate shall consist of:

21 (a) the President of the College who shall be Chairman;

22 (b) the Chairman and Secretary of each Faculty Board appointed in  
23 line with section 9 of this Act; and

24 (c) one representative elected by each Faculty.

Functions of  
the Senate

25 7. The Senate shall be responsible for the running of the academic  
26 affairs of the College including:

27 (a) the organisation and control of courses of study at the College and  
28 the examinations held in connection with those courses;

29 (b) the award of Fellowships, Diplomas and such other qualifications  
30 as may be prescribed in connection with examinations held.

1 8.-(1) Subject to paragraph 1 of the Schedule to this Act, the  
2 President shall-

Appointment of  
the President of  
the College, tenure  
and resignation

3 (a) be appointed by the Governing Board; and

4 (b) hold office for three years.

5 (2) In the event of the death or incapacity of the President or if, for  
6 any reason other than the effluxion of time, the office of President is vacant,  
7 the Governing Board shall appoint another person as President for the  
8 residue of the term of the President.

9 (3) Members of the Governing Board appointed under section 4 (b)  
10 and members of the Senate appointed under section 6 (b) and (c) above shall  
11 hold office for three years.

12 (4) Any of the members of the Governing Board or the Senate  
13 referred to in subsection (3) may, by notice to the Governing Board or, as the  
14 case may be, to the Senate, resign his appointment, and where any such  
15 member ceases to hold office before his term of office would have expired  
16 by effluxion of time, the body by whom he was appointed or elected shall, as  
17 soon as may be practicable, appoint or, as the case may be, elect a person to  
18 fill the vacancy for the residue of term.

19 9.-(1) There shall be the following Faculties for the College and  
20 each Faculty shall comprise all Fellows in the appropriate specialty and the  
21 faculties in the College:

Faculties

22 (a) the Faculty of Clinical Chemistry;

23 (b) the Faculty of Medical Bacteriology and Mycology;

24 (c) the Faculty of Haematology and Blood Transfusion Science;

25 (d) the Faculty of Cellular Pathology and Histoscience;

26 (e) the Faculty of Medical Parasitology and Entomology;

27 (f) the Faculty Diagnostic Molecular Biology

28 (g) the Faculty of Immunology;

29 (h) the Faculty of Medical Virology;

30 (i) the Faculty of Cytogenetics;

1 (j) the Faculty of Forensic Science;  
2 (k) the Faculty of Biomedical Technology and Instrumentation;  
3 (l) the Faculty of General Medical Laboratory Practice; and  
4 (m) the faculty of any other specialty as may be prescribed by the  
5 Governing Board of the College.

6 (2) Each Faculty shall elect, from among its members, at least seven  
7 but not more than 15 persons to serve as its Faculty Board, two of such persons  
8 being elected Chairman and Secretary respectively of the Faculty Board and all  
9 members so elected shall hold office for a term of three years.

10 (3) Subject to such standing orders that may be made by the Senate for  
11 that purpose, each Faculty Board may carry out its duties as it deems fit.

12 (4) Each Faculty shall appoint a court of examiners and the court shall  
13 be charged with the conduct of examinations under this section and thereafter  
14 the Faculty Board shall make its recommendations to the Senate.

15 (5) Members of the Faculty Board shall not be entitled to any  
16 emolument other than expenses reasonably incurred in travelling on the  
17 Board's business, but members of a court of examiners shall be entitled to such  
18 remuneration as the Governing Board of the College may authorise.

Eligibility for  
admission

19 **10.** Where a candidate offers himself for examination under this Act  
20 he shall satisfy the appropriate Faculty Board:

21 (a) that he is a registered medical laboratory scientist with a current  
22 practising license; and

23 (b) that he is in possession of and is therein named as the holder of a  
24 certificate from an institution recognised by the College showing that he has  
25 satisfactorily attended the prescribed course of training in the particular  
26 specialised branch and for prescribed period of the course.

Award of  
Fellowship

27 **11.** Where the College awards its Fellowship under this Act, the  
28 holder shall be entitled to the status as a Fellow in the specialised branch of  
29 which the Fellowship is awarded.



1 "Medical Laboratory Science Council" means the Medical Laboratory Science  
2 Council of Nigeria;  
3 "President" means the President of the College; and  
4 "Senate" means the Senate of the College referred to in section 3 (1) (b) of this  
5 Act.

6 (2) Unless the context otherwise requires, expressions used in this Act  
7 have the same meaning as in the Act.

Citation 8 **16.** This Bill may be cited as the National Postgraduate College of  
9 Medical Laboratory Science (Establishment) Bill, 2019.

10 SCHEDULE

11 *Section 3 (2)*

12 SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE GOVERNING BOARD  
13 AND THE SENATE

14 *Composition of the First Senate and Faculty Boards and Election of the*  
15 *First President of the College*

16 1.-(1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Act, the  
17 persons who immediately before the commencement of this Act were Fellows  
18 of the Medical Laboratory Council of Nigeria shall on the commencement of  
19 this Act become members of the corresponding Faculty Boards for purposes of  
20 this Act and shall be deemed to have been appointed pursuant to section 9 of  
21 this Act.

22 (2) Appointments of members of Faculty Boards shall be made in  
23 accordance with the provisions of section 9 of this Act.

24 (3) Each Faculty shall elect the first representative of the  
25 corresponding Faculty on the Senate as specified in section 6 (c) of this Act.

26 (4) The first meeting of the Senate shall be summoned by the  
27 President of the Council and shall be presided over by him.

28 (5) At the first meeting, the Senate shall elect the person to be  
29 recommended to the Governing Board for appointment as the first President of  
30 the College as well as the first twelve representatives of the Senate on the



1 Governing Board as specified in section 4 (c) of this Act.

2 (6) The first meeting of the Governing Board shall be called by the  
3 President of the Council and shall be presided over by him until the  
4 President of the College is appointed in the manner prescribed in section 8  
5 (1) of this Act.

6 *Proceedings of the Governing Board and Senate*

7 2.-(1) The Governing Board may make standing orders regulating  
8 its proceedings or of any committee of the Board.

9 (2) The Senate may make standing orders regulating its  
10 proceedings or of any Faculty Board or committee of the Senate.

11 3. The quorum of:

12 (a) the Governing Board shall be seven;

13 (b) the Senate shall be 14;

14 (c) any Faculty Board shall be determined by the Senate.

15 4. At any meeting of the Governing Board or the Senate, the  
16 President shall preside and if the President is absent the members present  
17 shall elect one of them to preside at that meeting.

18 *Committees of the Governing Board and Senate*

19 5.-(1) The Governing Board may set up one or more committees to  
20 carry out, on behalf of the Board, such of its functions as the Board may  
21 determine, but a decision of a committee shall be of no effect until it is  
22 confirmed by the Board.

23 (2) The Senate may set up one or more committees to carry out, on  
24 behalf of the Senate, such of its functions as the Senate may determine, but a  
25 decision of a committee shall be of no effect until it is confirmed by the  
26 Senate.

27 *Miscellaneous*

28 6.-(1) The fixing of the seal of the College shall be authenticated by  
29 the signature of the President or of some other member authorised generally  
30 or specially by the Governing Board for that purpose.

1           (2) Any contract or instrument, which if made or executed by a person  
2 not being a body corporate would not be required to be under seal, may be made  
3 or executed on behalf of the College by any person generally or specially  
4 authorised to act for that purpose by the Governing Board.

5           (3) Any document purporting to be a document duly executed under  
6 the seal of the College shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the  
7 contrary is proved, be deemed to be so executed.

8           7. The validity of any proceeding of the Governing Board, the Senate  
9 Faculty Board or a committee of the Governing Board or Senate shall not be  
10 affected by-

11           (a) any vacancy in the membership of the body concerned;

12           (b) any defect in the appointment of any member; or

13           (c) reason that a person not entitled to do so took part in the  
14 proceedings.

15           8. A Member of the Governing Board and any person holding office  
16 on a committee of the Board, who has a personal interest in any contract or  
17 arrangement entered into or proposed to be considered by the Board or a  
18 committee shall disclose his interest to the Board and shall not vote on any  
19 question relating to the contract or arrangement.

#### EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to establish the National Postgraduate College of Medical Laboratory Science to conduct provisional postgraduate examination of candidates into the various specialised branches of medical laboratory science.