



The Society of Apothecaries of London

Diploma in Forensic Medical Sciences (DipFMS)

Administrative Guidance for Candidates

EXAMINATION TIMETABLE: 2010

The examination schedule is as follows:

Deadline for applications	Thursday 29 April
Due date for submission of dissertations	Thursday 3 June
Written paper	Thursday 24 June
Oral	Thursday 23 September

Please note that the written paper is held on the same day in London and Glasgow but at differing times. In London the examination is held from 3 pm - 6 pm and in Glasgow from 6 pm - 9 pm. Oral examinations will be held in London from 2 pm and in Glasgow from 6 pm.

EXAMINATION FEE

The examination entry fee is £495. The re-entry fee for the written paper is £250 and for the dissertation is £245.

ADMISSION TO THE EXAMINATION

Candidates must indicate clearly, on the application form, whether they wish to be examined in Glasgow or in London.

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...	Penalty incurred will be...
Before the application deadline stated above.	No penalty
8-6 weeks before the start of the examination (i.e. in the two weeks after the application deadline)	£75
Within 6 weeks of the start of the examination	£150

PAYMENTS

Payments can be made via:

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|-----------------|--|
| Cheque | Made payable to 'The Society of Apothecaries'. Please write your name, address and the diploma name on the back. |
| PayPal™ | Via the Society website: www.apothecaries.org |
| Direct transfer | Details on application |

Candidates from overseas should ensure that their cheques yield the correct fee in Sterling AFTER deduction of bank charges. If submitting a bankers draft please note that we only accept drafts drawn on a UK bank. Banker's drafts should be valid for at least three months after the examination date.

CURRENT DISSERTATION TOPIC

The current topic is 'Doping in Sport'.

Context:

For many years, sportspeople have tried to gain an advantage over their competitors by using drugs and other doping methods which are banned by sports regulatory bodies such as the International Olympic Committee and the World Anti-Doping Agency. Measures instituted to eliminate doping are often circumvented by the development of counter-measures and new doping methods based on the latest research, not only by sportspeople but by trainers, sporting organisations, biomedical industrial companies and even governments. Doping in sport is a wide-ranging problem that involves ethics, medicine and science but also, increasingly, the law.

Direction:

Your dissertation should provide a critical overview of doping in sport and of the procedures in place for its control. A historical review may be included as the basis for the current situation but should not be the main focus of the dissertation. Also, in the light of recent doping scandals and developments in medicine, science and the law, the dissertation should give your opinion on how the problem might develop, and be tackled, in the future.

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).