

- (1) This Act shall be called "**The Pakistan Allied Health Professionals Council Act, 2021**"
(2) It shall extend to the whole of Pakistan. (3) It shall come into force at once.

2, **Definitions.** (1) In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in this context or subject.

- (a) "**allied health professional**" or "AHP" means a person who assists in providing services for diagnostic, therapeutic, preventive, curative or rehabilitative field in health care and has undergone a prescribed course of training in a recognize institution and is registered as an ' allied health professional by the Council in a discipline, as specified in .the Schedule i.e.;1 to make provisions for the constitution of Pakistan Allied Health Professionals Council (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (e) (h) (i)

"**Bachelor degree**" means any degree of allied health profession of at least four years duration, after acquiring certificate of higher secondary school, granted by a university or an institution and recognized by the Council under this Act;

"**Basic qualifications**" means certificate or diploma course for allied health professionals recognized by the Council;

"**Certificate**" means any certificate of qualification of allied health profession of at least one year duration granted by an institution and recognized by the Council under this Act;

"**Council**" means the Pakistan Allied Health Professionals Council constituted under section 3; "**continuous professional development**" means skill enhancement and improvement of personal and professional competency in allied health profession which shall comprise lectures, seminars, courses, individual study or other activities undertaken by a registered AHP; and (ii) reasonably be expected to advance a registered AHP's development in his related profession; "continuous professional development opportunity provider" **means an institution** or organization providing continuous professional development opportunities in allied health profession recognized by the Council under this Act

"**Diploma**" means any recognized qualification of at least two years duration of allied health profession granted by an institution and recognized by the Council under this Act "Division concerned" means the Division to which business of the .council stands allocated; 2 0)

"**Doctorate degree**" means any post masters or M. Phil in allied health profession recognized by the Higher Education Commission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and recognized by the Council under this Act;

(k) "**Eligible**" means any person eligible for registration of recognized qualification under this Act;

(l) "**healthcare establishment**" means any premises used or intended to be used for the provision of health care services, including but not limited to hospitals, teaching hospitals, rural health centre's, basic health units, surgical centers, blood banks, maternity homes, nursing homes, clinics, clinical laboratories, dispensaries, dental clinics, x-ray laboratories, diagnostic centers, centers for nuclear medicine or radiation therapy, ambulatories, psychiatric hospitals, burn units, psychiatric nursing homes, community mental health centers, hemodialysis centers, dialysis centers, rehabilitation centers or clinics or centers and such other health care premises as may be declared as such from time to time by the Federal or Provincial Governments or by law;

(m) "**higher qualification**" means a bachelor's degree or higher qualification in allied health profession as recognized by the Council; ("**institution**" means an institute, college or university **which is recognized under this Act to grant or train, or both, basic or higher qualification in allied** health profession;

(o) "**Masters degree**" means any post graduate degree of allied health profession granted by a university or an institution and recognized by the Council under this Act;

(p) "**Member**" means a member of the Council;

(q) "**M Phil**" means any post-master degree of allied health profession granted by a university or an institution and recognized by the Council under this Act;

(r) "**Prescribed**" means prescribed by rules or regulations made under this Act; and

G) "**Recognized qualification**" include-

(i) **A basic qualification for AHP recognized by the Council**; or

(ii) A higher qualification for AHP recognized by the Council; or

(iii) a basic or higher qualification for AHP which was registered under any law, before the commencement of this Act and which shall be deemed to be a recognized qualification for the purposes of this Act.

(2) **Any other expressions used** but not defined in this Act shall have the serene meanings assigned thereto in the respective laws and rules made there under.

3. **Constitution of the Council. –**

(1) There shall be a council herein after known as the Pakistan Allied Health Professionals Council, to be constituted by the Prime minister.

(2) **The head office of the Council** shall be at Islamabad and the Council may establish its offices in Provinces and other regions as it may deem fit.

Licensing and rights of licensees.

(1) This Council shall conduct not less than twice a year a licensing examination for each of the disciplines listed in Schedule. The examination shall be developed by the relevant advisory committee of the discipline.

(2) Any person having acquired a qualification recognized by the Council under this Act shall have the right to appear in the licensing examination.

(3) All AHPs who qualify the licensing examination shall be granted by the Council a license to practice and their names along with other record shall be entered in the register of AHPs.

(4) A registered and licensed AHP shall have the following privileges, namely:-

(a) **Entitled to practice** in their discipline subject to the prescribed code of conduct and terms of practice

(b) Entitled to hold appointment in his field in any public or private health care establishment;

(c) registered AHP having basic qualification and valid registration shall be entitled to take admission in higher qualification courses; and

(d) Eligible to become a member of the Council under this Act