



Higher Specialist Diploma

September 2025

Generic Paper

120 minutes

Attempt Three Questions

One Mandatory Question in Section A

Two Questions out of Four (One from Section B and one from Section C)

Instructions to Candidates

1. Record your candidate number and HSD discipline on the front sheet of the answer booklet.
2. Record your candidate number, the question number and the page number in the spaces provided on the answer sheets.
3. Begin each new question on a new page.
4. Each question is worth 100 marks.

Section A - Leadership and Management - Mandatory Pre-Seen Question

1. Critically evaluate the strategies and policies currently in place to encourage and support sustainability in clinical pathology laboratories.

Section B – Quality (Answer one question from this section)

2. Identify which key quality indicators you would choose for your department as part of the overall organisational quality management programme. Discuss why these are fundamental to quality, how you would monitor these and these impact on patient care.
3. Evaluate the role and purpose of incident reporting and discuss the actions you should take to prevent reportable incidents from occurring.

Section C - Training (Answer one question from this section)

4. Critically evaluate the use of different artificial intelligence tools in pre- and post-registration training of biomedical scientists.
5. As the person responsible for staff development in your department, discuss in detail how you would formulate a training strategy to address current and future service requirements.