



PRESS REGISTRAR

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
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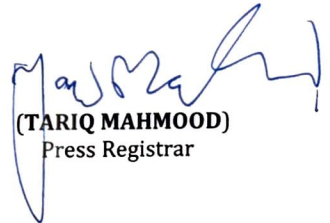
Subject: **CRITERIA FOR GRANT OF NOC FOR FRESH TITLE OR TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF AN ALREADY DECLARED TITLE**

In exercise of powers conferred upon the Press Registrar under Section-8 (1) and (2) of Press, Newspapers, News Agencies and Books Registration (PNNBR) Rules 2009, made under Article 44 of PNNBR Ordinance 2002, following revised criteria regarding grant of NOC for a Fresh title or Transfer of ownership of an already Authenticated and Declared title of periodical or news agency has been prescribed;

1. Criteria for Grant of NOC for a Fresh or Transferred Title: –

- (i) Each citizen of Pakistan shall be eligible for obtaining NOC for a Title (fresh/transferred) of a periodical or news agency, if he/she;
 - (a) Possess Master's degree (in any subject) or bachelor's degree with 16 years of schooling/equivalence and five-year experience in journalism with valid registered periodical or news agency. In case of a foreign degree, Higher Education Commission's equivalency certificate is mandatory;
 - (b) Possess Bachelor's degree (in any subject) with 14 years of schooling/equivalence and ten-year experience in journalism with valid registered periodical or news agency;
- (ii) Experience certificate shall be submitted on original letter head of periodical or news agency, duly signed and stamped along with mandatory supporting documents i.e. news clippings, employee ID card copy and attested copies of salary slip to verify the mentioned working period bona fide;
- (iii) If an eligible applicant failed to meet the experience criteria, the Press Registrar may relax the criteria subject to the condition that the applicant shall appoint a person as an editor who meets the required criteria as aforementioned in clause (1);
- (iv) If an eligible applicant holds a professional degree (in a specific subject), applied for a title in that specific field (e.g. medicine, engineering, law, information technology, architecture, scientific research, sports, economy, business, etc.) on self-basis or on behalf of an institution/research center/university/department/registered firm or company etc. shall furnish an experience certificate in the respective field in place of journalistic experience;
- (v) If an eligible applicant applied for NOC for a title name (periodical/news agency/printing press), same or like the name of a known entity, owned by public or private owner including print or electronic media houses, societies, institutions, departments, universities, organizations, famous businesses etc. shall be allowed, if authorized by the competent authority of that entity;

- (vi) In case of death of owner of a declared registered title (periodical/news agency/printing press), applicant/the declared legal heir shall submit a True Copy of Court Order issued by a competent court of law with nomination of the applicant, wherein, rest of the legal heirs surrender their ownership right for the title in favour of the applicant to allow him/her to act as owner/publisher;
- (a) If the declared legal heir of a registered title of periodical/news agency does not meet the required eligibility criteria above-mentioned in clause (i), the Press Registrar may relax the academic and experience qualification criteria subject to the condition that the declared legal heir shall appoint a person as editor who meets the required conditions and shall supervise the periodical/news agency on behalf of the owner;
- (vii) An editor of periodical or news agency shall not be eligible to hold editorship of more than three titles;
- (viii) If editor of a periodical or news agency is required to be changed, the publisher/owner shall submit a request with the Press Registrar office;
- (ix) The academic and experience qualification criteria abovementioned in clause (i) shall stand exempted in grant of NOC for a title (fresh/transferred) of a printing press.
2. This shall be effective immediately.
3. This shall supersede this office's orders dated 12.07.2018 and 07.04.2022 regarding criteria for grant of NOC for a title;


(TARIQ MAHMOOD)
Press Registrar

All Designated Officers, Regional Information Offices, PID

Press Registrar's F.No.5(2)/2006-PR (Admn)(Pt.), dated: April 15th, 2022