



Allocation of Training Places - Higher Surgical Training Programmes 2026

In order to comply with national policy relating to the recruitment, training, retention and development of specialist medical practitioners, it has been determined that the following process will apply to the recruitment and selection of new specialist trainees:

1. Available specialist training places will be allocated by the RCSI in the first instance to those candidates who, at the time of application, are:-
 - a. citizens of Ireland;
 - b. nationals of another Member State of the European Union;
 - c. UK nationals; and
 - d. all persons currently holding a Stamp 4 immigration permission (including holders of a Stamp 4 EUFAM permission).

Nationals of the United Kingdom are included in the category of persons to whom available specialist training places will be allocated in the first instance. Following the UK leaving the EU, UK nationals continue to be treated on a par (or on a reciprocal or equal basis) with Irish nationals in the context of all general rights and privileges to move freely and take up residence and employment within the Common Travel Area as reaffirmed in the Memorandum of Understanding between the UK and Irish Governments of May 2019.

2. All such appointments under paragraph 1 will be made in order of merit, and are subject to the applicant meeting the conditions and standards prescribed by RCSI.
3. Should training places on the specialist training programme remain unfilled following the initial round where qualified candidates (as outlined above) are offered training places, the RCSI may allocate any remaining training places to candidates who, at the time of application, were otherwise qualified save for meeting the conditions specified in paragraph 1 above.
4. All offers made under paragraph 3 above will be made in order of merit, and are subject to an applicant meeting the conditions and standards prescribed by RCSI.
5. To manage this allocation process, all applicants at the time of application are required to submit to RCSI a colour copy of their passport. The colour copy submitted must be legible and include the passport identity page. In addition, applicants should submit a copy of document(s) such as a Certificate of Naturalisation as issued by the Department of Justice and Equality or their Stamp 4 permission (or Stamp 4 EUFam

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card) or such other document, as may be required in order to be considered for the purposes of paragraph 1 above.

6. An applicant's immigration or citizenship status is a matter entirely between the applicant and the relevant national authorities. The RCSI will not entertain or take account of applications for variation/renewal of immigration status or for naturalisation that are pending with the relevant authorities. All required evidence must be provided at the time of application.

September 2025

No changes since Nov 2021