**Allocation of Training Places on Specialist Training Programmes 2020 Intake**

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 for the Core Specialist Training Programmes and Higher Specialist Training Programmes:

1. Available specialist training places will be allocated by the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) in the first instance to those candidates who at the time of application are citizens of Ireland or nationals of another Member State of the European Union. This includes non-nationals of a Member State but who are family members of nationals of a Member State and have the right of residence or permanent residence (i.e. holders of IRP Stamp 4 EUFAM or holders of IRP Stamp 4 by virtue of marriage or dependency. ¹) Please read footnote.

2. All such appointments 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 a 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 condition 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 the RCSI a colour copy of their passport. The colour copy submitted must be legible and include the passport identity page. Where appropriate, applicants should submit a copy of their Certificate of Naturalisation as issued by the Department of Justice and Equality if such is required for an applicant to be considered as a candidate specified in paragraph 1 above.

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

¹ It is the responsibility of the Stamp 4 applicant to supply the training body with documentation requested by the training body to satisfy that the applicant meets the criteria within the timeframes set by the training body. Such documentation may include (but is not limited to) some of the following: evidence of IRP stamp 4 EUFAM / IRP stamp 4, passport of spouse indicating nationality, valid marriage certificate, and a valid birth certificate.

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