Clinical Excellence Awards (CEAs) for Paediatrics

**Governance team**
CEAs are fixed term awards given to recognise and reward the exceptional contribution of NHS consultants - over and above that normally expected in a post - to the values and goals of the NHS and to patient care. Awards are time limited, usually for five years, and are renewable by competitive application. This page explains the process. The College citation application window is now closed for the 2020 round but you can still apply for a CEA - a significant number of paediatricians achieve a CEA each year without one of the limited number of RCPCH citations!

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### Systems in the UK

**England** - Applications at the national level are assessed by the Advisory Committee on Clinical Excellence Awards (ACCEA), administered by staff of the Department of Health and Social Care (England).

**Wales** - The Welsh Government has arranged that national level applications for CEAs are also assessed by the ACCEA.

**Northern Ireland** - National level applications are assessed by the Northern Ireland Department of Health. However, the Northern Ireland process is currently suspended. There is currently no indication of when a CEA round will next be launched in Northern Ireland. The College continues to seek updates regularly. More information on any national round for
Northern Ireland will be found on the Northern Ireland Department of Health website.

Scotland - No current national CEA process for new applicants.

**Application process**

As communicated to members, the DHSC has indicated its intention to run a 2020 ACCEA Round. Their preparations are underway to do this.

The College citation application deadline for the 2020 Round has now passed, but applications to the DHSC without one of the very limited number of RCPCH citations is still possible and with a good chance of success.

If you have submitted a draft application seeking a College citation you can continue to work on your final application text until the DHSC ACCEA’s own deadline.

During a round, applications are made by individual consultants either to their employer locally for local awards at levels L1-L9, or at the national level for CEAs at the Bronze (L9 equivalent), Silver (L10), Gold (L11) or Platinum (L12) levels.

Consultants can choose to seek support from their Medical Royal College for their application for a national level award in England or Wales. For Bronze, Silver or Gold Awards this would be a citation to the ACCEA. For Platinum level this is in the form of a recommendation to the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges which produces citations to the ACCEA for Platinum Awards.

Applications should be drafted using the latest available DHSC ACCEA forms and guidance - currently the [2019 Application Forms](#) and [2019 Guidance](#).

When applying to a Round in Northern Ireland, a request to the Northern Ireland Department of Health to seek a citation from the applicant’s Medical Royal College must be indicated on the application to the DH-NI. Citations would only be sought by the DH-NI for applicants at Gold (L11) and Platinum (L12) level.

**New Bronze, Silver and Gold applications (England and Wales)**

During a round, the College is permitted to submit a very limited number of College citations to the ACCEA for new Bronze, Silver and Gold awards in the ACCEA Round in England and Wales. In 2019 a total of 3 Gold, 4 Silver and 23 Bronze citations were permitted to the College by the ACCEA for all members applying from across England and Wales.

**How applications for College citations are assessed**

Applications are assessed by the College Area Ranking Committee (ARC). Each ARC is permitted to put forward a limited number of Bronze, Silver and Gold applicants for assessment in the second round by the College National Ranking Committee (NRC).

For more details, see [Application process](#) above.
New Platinum applications (England and Wales)

The Academy of Medical Royal Colleges competition for Platinum Level Award citations involves the RCPCH acting as the Paediatrics Platinum Ranking Committee of the AoMRC.

How to seek College support

Application forms and guidance are published by the ACCEA on their web pages (see below). Applications on the previous year's application forms are accepted.

Renewal applications

The ACCEA now accepts College citations in support of renewal CEA applications. During a round, the College will provide a citation in support of a renewal application for a National Award to every College member who requests one during the ACCEA Round provided they meet the College criteria for 'Good Standing' (see below link) and that they have not made any inaccurate statements in their draft application submitted to the RCPCH. Citations will be provided by members of the College National Ranking Committee.

Applying for a higher award

Members are reminded that those applying for renewal of an existing award can at the same time apply for a new higher level of National Award. (For example, a renewal applicant for a Silver Award can at the same time seek a new Gold Award.)

External links

- England and Wales CEA Process
- Northern Ireland CEA Process
- DHSC ACCEA Application Forms
- DHSC ACCEA Guidance Documents
- RCPCH Good Standing Criteria Statement

Downloads

- Final guidelines for RCPCH ACCEA Area Ranking Committees for England and Wales 256.33 KB
- Final guidelines for RCPCH ACCEA National Ranking Committee for England and Wales 258.65 KB
- Final guidelines for RCPCH ACCEA Paediatrics Platinum Ranking Committee for England and Wales 86.38 KB
- Recommendations to paediatric Specialty Groups and Special Interest Group ACCEA Process Ranking Committee Administrators 245.91 KB