Paediatric sub-specialty training - application guidance

Recruitment & Careers team

At Level 3 of training (ST6-ST8), paediatric trainees may sub-specialise in a specific area of paediatrics. Those who complete an approved programme of sub-specialist training are eligible to enter on the GMC Specialist Register as a paediatrician with a sub-specialty. This process is also known as the NTN Grid recruitment.

Applications are currently closed. Please see information, including key dates on the 2023 recruitment round below.

Last modified
4 August 2022

Post date
1 April 2018

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Timeline

These are the key applicant dates for the 2023 sub-specialty recruitment round.*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Stage of process</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Programmes advertised on RCPCH website with links to SharePoint</td>
<td>Wednesday 12 October 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applications open on Oriel</td>
<td>Wednesday 26 October 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmation of eligibility forms to deanery latest</td>
<td>Monday 7 November 2022**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applications close</td>
<td>12 noon Wednesday 16 November 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortlisting process</td>
<td>Wednesday 23 November 2022 - Wednesday 7 December 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invitations to interview and shortlisting outcomes via Oriel</td>
<td>From Wednesday 14 December 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortlisting feedback emailed out</td>
<td>Wednesday 21 December 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortlisting complaints deadline</td>
<td>Wednesday 4 January 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virtual sub-specialty interview period</td>
<td>Thursday 19 January - Friday 3 February 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for confirmation of preference choices</td>
<td>Friday 3 February 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matching process</td>
<td>w/c Monday 6 February 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offers will be made on Oriel</td>
<td>From Tuesday 14 February 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hold deadline</td>
<td>Tuesday 21 February 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage of process</td>
<td>Date</td>
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<td>---------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upgrade deadline</td>
<td>Thursday 23 February 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clearing round</td>
<td>From Friday 24 February 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview feedback uploaded to e-portfolio</td>
<td>Wednesday 15 March 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview complaint deadline</td>
<td>Wednesday 29 March 2023</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*All dates are subject to change up until 31 August 2022.

**The deadline of Monday 7 November 2022 is for confirmation of eligibility forms to be sent to the deanery. The deadline for the forms to be submitted to subspecialty@rcpch.ac.uk is the same deadline for submitting the Oriel application by 12 noon Wednesday 16 November 2022.

Interview dates

The interview dates for 2023 are Thursday 19 January - Friday 3 February. The interview dates for each sub-specialty will be published in due course.

What sub-specialties can I apply for?

We recruit to the following sub-specialties and trainees can apply to up to two in each round:

Child Mental Health*
Community Child Health (CCH)
Neonatal Medicine
Paediatric Allergy
Paediatric Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics*
Paediatric Diabetes & Endocrinology
Paediatric Emergency Medicine (PEM)
Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition (PGHAN)
Paediatric Immunology & Infectious Disease
Paediatric Inherited Metabolic Medicine
Paediatric Intensive Care Medicine (PICM)
Paediatric Nephrology
Paediatric Neurodisability
Paediatric Neurology
Paediatric Oncology
Paediatric Palliative Medicine
Paediatric Respiratory Medicine
Paediatric Rheumatology

*These sub-specialties will not be recruiting in the 2023 round.

**Who can apply for sub-specialty training?**

It is open to:

- UK trainees holding an NTN (National Training Number)*, or
- Trainees in an equivalent programme in the Republic of Ireland

*With the implementation of the Progress + curriculum in September 2023, UK trainees applying in autumn 2022 to train in a sub-specialty still need to have level 2 signed off before they start in post in August/September 2023. Trainees can apply from ST4 if they have completed MRCPCH examinations in full by the point of interview and level 2 by the start of their sub-specialty post. Please speak with your supervisor and your local Training Programme Director or Head of School to check if you are eligible to apply.

Anaesthetic, intensive care medicine and emergency medicine trainees can apply for Paediatric Emergency Medicine (PEM) and Paediatric Intensive Care Medicine (PICM). To check the eligibility criteria, contact us at subspecialty@rcpch.ac.uk.

Applications from those outside of a UK/Republic of Ireland training programme are not eligible to apply. If someone has training, qualifications and experience in paediatrics but has gained these partly or completely outside of an approved CCT training programme (for example, they have trained outside the UK or Republic of Ireland, moved abroad or taken a career break) and they are looking to join the GMC Specialist Register, they may be eligible to apply for CESR.

Trainees from outside of a UK/Republic of Ireland training programme may be eligible to apply to core paediatric training and then apply to sub-specialty training once in the UK training programme.

**How long do I need to complete sub-specialty training?**
Sub-specialty training is capability based. Typically a sub-specialty programme takes 24 - 36 months indicatively to complete. Applicants must ensure they have enough time left in training before their agreed CCT (Certificate of Completion of Training) date. CCT dates cannot be changed to accommodate sub-specialty training.

How many times can I apply to do sub-specialty training?

As of 17 March 2021, RCPCH agreed that trainees will not be limited in the number of attempts that they can apply to sub-specialty training, subject to having enough time left before their CCT date and can count up to one year WTE towards training.

How many sub-specialties can I apply for?

Applicants can apply for a maximum of two sub-specialties in each round. Separate application forms must be submitted for each sub-specialty.

Which posts are available?

Sub-specialty programmes in the 2023 round will be available to view on Wednesday 12 October 2022 in the downloads section at the bottom of this page.

What do I need to do before I apply?

RCPCH (UK) trainees

Applicant's local deanery need to complete the Confirmation of Eligibility Form, including the applicant's name and sub-specialty(s) they are applying for. This confirms that the applicant is eligible for sub-specialty training. Once completed this needs to be emailed to the sub-specialty recruitment team and uploaded to the trainee's Oriel application. Any applications missing this form are automatically longlisted out of the process.

Trainees from the Republic of Ireland
Trainees from the Republic of Ireland will need to complete the Certificate of Level 2 Paediatrics Training for Republic of Ireland Trainees, demonstrating completion or expected completion of level 2 training by the time of entry to the sub-specialty programme as outlined in RCPCH Progress curriculum.

**Anaesthetic, intensive care medicine and emergency medicine trainees**

Anaesthetic, intensive care medicine and emergency medicine trainees need to upload a completed Confirmation of Eligibility Form for Anaesthetic, ICM and EM Trainees to their application. This needs to be filled out by their local deanery and confirms they are eligible for sub-specialty training.

**How do I apply?**

All applications to sub-specialty training are made via the NHS Oriel recruitment system. Following the introduction of a new Oriel system in 2020, all previous applicant accounts were erased, so trainees will need to register again, even if they had a previous account from joining the programme through National Recruitment. NB. This does not apply to those that set up an account in the 2021 or 2022 round. Applicants are recommended to submit their application at least 48 hours before the closing date to allow for any technical problems. Late applications are not accepted under any circumstances.

**What criteria will applications be marked on?**

Shortlisters mark applications to sub-specialty training using the RCPCH sub-specialty shortlisting scoring criteria. Applicants should refer to this when making their application.

Shortlisting scores will no longer contribute to the final score. They will determine if an applicant goes through to the interview stage and will be used in the situation of a tie-break. Applicants will be appointed based on their interview score and their preferences.

**What other information do I need to submit with my application?**
Applicants need to provide:

- Confirmation of eligibility form for UK trainees and a separate version for anaesthetic/ICM/EM trainees - completed by their local deanery
- Fitness to practice declarations if necessary
- Confirmation of approval of level 3 experience from the CSAC chair, if applying with less than the indicative training time left before their CCT date*
- Certificate of Level 2 Paediatrics Training for trainees applying from the Republic of Ireland

**Sub-specialty recruitment events**

**Paediatric sub-specialty careers event – 5 July 2022**

This online event was about the recruitment process into sub-specialty training and how to apply for SPIN modules. It was also the opportunity to meet representatives from the different sub-specialties to find out more and ask questions. The event was held over two sessions, and this recording is from the first hour of each session. The sub-specialty breakout rooms were not recorded.

The recording starts with a presentation from the RCPCH Recruitment and Careers team on the application process into sub-specialty training and SPIN modules. There were three trainees from different sub-specialties (Community Child Health, Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition and Paediatric Immunology and Infectious Diseases) who spoke about their experience of applying and training in their chosen sub-specialty, and the event concluded with a Q&A.

**Contact us**

If you have any questions, please contact the RCPCH sub-specialty recruitment team:

- Email: subspecialty@rcpch.ac.uk
- Phone: 020 7092 6139

Downloads

- Specialty Circumstances Request (updated 2 August 2021).pdf 733.18 KB
- Statistics from the sub-specialty training recruitment round 2021/2022 217.53 KB
- Reasonable Adjustment Request (updated 2 August 2021) 282.56 KB