

Applying to CTI / STI Webinar 8/11/2023

Questions and Answers

Question	Answer
1 Hi, sorry didn't realise seminar was specific to England- is the process similar for the rest of the UK?	The NHS England recruitment team recruit to posts from England, Scotland and Wales. For information on how to apply in Northern Ireland please visit https://www.nimda.gov.uk/recruitment/hospital-specialty-recruitment/
2 scotland 1-41 range??	It will depend on who passes MRCPsych and continues onto HT. So, they won't know this until after CASC exams next year.
3 Even though it's indicative, if STI CAMHS shows as 0-0 does this mean it definitely won't change? (Seems obvious but the region I'm asking about has had this STI post for the last few years)	This may well be because the current trainee is LTFT so will take longer pro rata to complete Core training.
4 Are ACF posts also via national recruitment/interviews or locally led?	ACF posts are recruited to locally, not via National recruitment. You would need to apply locally for ACF posts, but also you would be required to apply via the national CTI process in order to be clinically benchmarked as part of the ACF process.
5 Is there a map, or document, which explains deanery boundaries?	Yes there is, if you email us at psychiatrytraining@rcpsych.ac.uk we can send it to you. There will be a central map at HEE, but each Deanery office will be aware of its own boundaries, so depending on what you want to know, you're best off contacting the Deaneries you're interested in applying to.
6 I'm wondering if there will be any more information about ACF psychiatry application? or will I be able to contact someone via the college?	ACF recruitment is advertised locally by individual regions and is not recruited to nationally. You would need to contact regions directly where you wished to work to enquire as to their ACF numbers/vacancies etc. If you submit an ACF application form you are also required to submit a CTI application via the national process in order to be clinically benchmarked as part of the ACF process
7 If you apply this cycle and receive an offer but then decide to take a year out and decline the offer, will this be known in future cycles/will this disadvantage you in any way?	No action taken in this round will be "used against" an applicant in future rounds. All previous applications are ignored as part of a new round.

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8	so is passing MRCPsych a requirement to apply for CT?	No, passing MRCPsych is for Higher Training not CT.
9	Is MRSA only, with no interview/portfolio, likely to continue across the next couple of years, even with a rising competition ratio? Many thanks.	We can only confirm the current recruitment process for the forthcoming round. Any update or change will be communicated to potential applicants via our website ahead of applications opening.
10	so is passing MRCPsych a requirement to apply for CT?	No, it is done in core training
11	If you have applied for ACF, can you also apply for LTFT core training? Such that if successful for ACF you do full-time ACF core training, but if unsuccessful you can opt to do LTFT standard core training?	live answered
12	is there any possibility to still dual train as a run through trainee?	Yes, but you would need to enter ST4 recruitment. RT in only one specialty at the moment.
13	To my understanding, the face-to-face interview was stopped due to the pandemic. Now shortlisting is completely decided based on MSRA results. Why is passion for psychiatry no longer deemed an important criteria for short-listing applicants? Especially consider the increasing competition for specialty training spots and the fact many people apply for Psychiatry CTI as "back-up" but otherwise do not care for the career?	Face to face interviews are regularly reviewed at meetings, but at the moment there is no change to the outcome.
14	What's the DRN?	Dean's Reference Number / Deanery reference number.
15	So if you are currently not in training e.g. locum or trust grade post, do you still need a CREST even if you competed FY2 less than 3.5 years ago?	A satisfactory FY2 certificate that is from within 3.5 years of the advertised post start date will demonstrate Foundation competencies.

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16	Given the rising competition ratio - presumably driven by applications to multiple specialties? - is it known how many people who only applied to CTI psychiatry were unsuccessful in gaining a post last year?	We have found that the rising competition ratio is not solely driven by just applications to multiple specialties. There are still a large number of applicants who apply to just Psychiatry. As it is MDRS policy that applicants are able to apply to as many specialties as they wish and there is no limit on this, the stats you have enquired about are not ones that are routinely run, but we do have the resources to be able to find out that information if needed.
17	If in LTFT FY2 posts, should applicants still apply at this round if not finishing at the same time as usual for F2, or is there a mid-year application round?	There's another application round for Feb intake too.
18	Can you transfer your MSRA score from one round to another if it is within the same year?	Yes, as long as it is in the same recruitment year.
19	Can the CREST form be completed from a consultant outside the UK? Is it compulsory for the signing consultant to hold GMC registration if they practice in other countries?	The CREST form outlines who can complete the form. Non-GMC registered specialist consultants will need to include a copy of their specialist registration information.
20	can you sit an MRSA as an F1 to understand how the examination works? (even if the score isn't carried over?)	Unfortunately you wouldn't be able to sit the MSRA unless you have submitted an application for CTI Psychiatry and been successfully longlisted, which you would need to meet all the eligibility criteria for
21	is the MSRA free to sit?	Yes, the MSRA is free to sit
22	Can I just confirm I've understood: it sounds as though we potentially rank every post in the UK? It doesn't sound as though there is a 'deanary' allocation stage, as with Foundation?	Applicants will have the opportunity to rank all available training posts in order of preference between further along in the recruitment process, from February 2024.
23	How can we show evidence for the required/desired criteria in the application? Are there relevant questions in the application form?	The application form only provides space for the essential criteria in the person specification.
24	Can I submit my CREST form after the application? Before the post starts but after MSRA? OR do I have to submit it before I am called for the MSRA exam?	A satisfactory CREST must be submitted with the application. Invites to MSRA exams are only offered to applicants who satisfy longlisting requirements

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25	Is there a resource/website which outlines the difference psychiatry deaneries with information on placements included and general information?	There's no one resource or website that collates/ curates this information. You would have to visit each different website separately. I would also strongly encourage you to speak to trainees in each deanery to see what it's like to work in the different rotations.
26	Me and my partner both want to apply for Psych CTI. Any tips as there is no way to link applications?	It is not possible to link applications, unfortunately. Special circumstances regarding specific child care is possible for applicants, but not relationships.
27	Is it mandatory to provide a CREST from from the UK if I have worked more than 3 months in the UK? I have a valid CREST form from a foreign country which was accepted previously, but I have now been working in the UK for 4 months.	I am not certain what you mean by a valid CREST form from a foreign country as National Recruitment only accepts CREST documents from the UK. You will need to provide a valid CREST 2024 form.
28	Do you have time/encouraged to do research/audits in the SY training programe?	Yes definitely :-)
29	I am enquiring about the application process for Northern Ireland. Is it solely dependant on the MSRA result as well?	The NHS England recruitment team recruit to posts from England, Scotland and Wales. For information about how to apply in NI please contact Psychiatry.nimdta@hscni.net https://www.nimdta.gov.uk/recruitment/hospital-specialty-recruitment/
30	I'm still in Medical School but am keen to pursue a career in Psychiatry and learn about the application process. Is there anything I should be doing at the moment to help with my application?	Hi Lily, lovely to see your enthusiasm! If you're not already a Student Associate, then I would encourage you to become a Student Associate of the College. Also, consider the PsychStar scheme which is especially for medical students interested in psychiatry. Visit the RCPsych website to find out more. Also, your local/ regional office, will run events for medical students.
31	In the recent application period there were only ACF posts for core training in Cornwall and a few more places - is there not an ACF programme available in every deanery?	ACF posts are not recruited to nationally, they are recruited to locally by each region sperately and so you would need to look at all the different regions in Oriel for their ACF posts

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32	I get that the MSRA predicts future progression and success at MRCPsych, but does that necessarily mean these are the best psychiatrists?	Both MSRA and high CASC scores have been shown to reliably predict future performance in both Core & higher training respectively. There is a strong positive correlation between those candidates achieving high scores in the MSRA and those that go on achieve positive ARCP outcomes and high CASC scores
33	If we are due to start training in February, can we still apply for the 2024 August intake on Oriel?	You can apply again for August 2024, but you would need to withdraw from the Feb 2024 offer. Your previous withdrawal would have no adverse effect on your August 2024 application.
34	How can we become more involved and active in RCPsych?	There are many ways to become involved - check our website and social media. Consider joining the PTC https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/training/your-training/psychiatric-trainees-committee-supporting-you or contacting your local division/ devolved nation office
35	Question for Dr Laura Thorn, how would you rate core training in Cardiff? I am a south wales FY2 hoping to complete CT training in cardiff	live answered
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36	please could you share the email again	the email to contact the College's Psychiatric Trainees' Committee is PTCsupport@rcpsych.ac.uk
37	I'm planning to apply to psychiatry and i have hearing loss, is there any support/ group within RCpsych for trainees with disabilities?	Depending on what support you need, you can seek this as needed within the College, e.g. when taking exams you can request this. Support within your training programme should be discussed with your training programme director. You may also be interested in our podcast about support for trainees with disabilities (not specific to hearing loss). transcript here ; You Are Not Alone - Ep 3 - Transcript Royal College of Psychiatrists (rcpsych.ac.uk)

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38	Question for anyone- what are the options if you do not get a higher training job in the region where you would like to work?	This is a very personal decision. You can consider applying to a different (neighbouring?) region or applying in a future round. You might also consider non-training posts.
39	Question got Natalie- How far are you expected to travel working in South Yorkshire?	Please contact the Yorkshire deanery
40	Is Core training competence based - as in if one was to do LTFT at 80% but passed all the required competencies within 3 years, would they still have to extend training or would that suffice.	Your progress would be assessed at your ARCP (annual review of competency progression) and if you had achieved all competences satisfactorily you would be able to progress.
41	Is there any available data on which deaneries are more popular within core psychiatry application? Or any comparisons made such as satisfaction etc? thanks	We have statistics on which individual posts are preferred the most by candidates in each recruitment round and can put these together into Deanery groups. There are no comparisons run on satisfaction statistics centrally, these are measures taken local by each region.
42	With the 3.5 years from finishing FY2 to starting Psych CT1 - is maternity leave exempt from that? ie would your maternity leave still be included within the 3.5 years time frame?	The 3.5 year window is to do with the time between the post start date and the completion of FY2. Were you to apply for August 2024, you would need to have completed Foundation by earliest February 2021. Maternity leave would not have any impact on this timeframe.
43	for CAHMS runthrough training do trainees have any cross over with core trainees or are they mostly alone as there only seems to be minimum 1 post per deanery?	If you accept a CAMHS run through post you will complete all required Core Training initially and then run through into your CAMHS higher training. There is also a small network set up for all run through trainees separately as well
44	Can you please tell about dual speciality training?	Hi, you can find out about Dual Training here: https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/training/curricula-and-guidance/dual-training
45	Can you do a masters during maternity leave when in training?	Yes, if you feel you are able to manage this while on maternity leave you can apply to do so.
46	How can we apply to shorten our core training time by providing evidence of 1 year past experience working in psychiatry (assuming we manage to get psychotherapy done in the remaining core training period)	This would be assessed at your ARCP (annual review of competency progression)

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47	Do you need to have a robust portfolio in research to apply for ACF ?	ACF posts are recruited to locally via individual regions. Whilst you have apply via the CT1 route nationally as well in order to be clinically benchmarked, any queries about what would be assessed in the Academic elemnt of the interview process would need to be directed to the local region in which you would be interested in applying/have applied.
48	Can you say something about training in Birmingham please ?	PLease visit the WM deanery webiste and consider contacting your local PTC rep https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/training/your-training/psychiatric-trainees-committee-supporting-you/your-ptc-representatives
49	Do we have to apply for ACF at the beginning of core training or can we apply for it in CT2 or CT3?	You can apply for ACF posts at any point during your Core Training. Academic posts are recruited to locally and not nationally like CT1 recruitment, so you would need to contact the region you would be interested in applying to with any queries you may have about ACF posts and which level they may be advertised at.
50	Is it as simple as the higher scorse you get in the MSRA the more likely you are to get your first choice?	Offers are made on the basis of MSRA scores, but posts in some regions are much more popular than others. If you want to work in one of the regions that is not quite as popular you may not have to score quite as high to secure an offer in your first preference
51	Any opinions on Greater Manchester core training?	PLease visit the NW deanery webiste and consider contacting your local PTC rep https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/training/your-training/psychiatric-trainees-committee-supporting-you/your-ptc-representatives