



Appointment of Chair - MRCPsych Written Examinations Standard Setting Panel

A vacancy has arisen for a dynamic new Chair of the MRCPsych Written Papers Standard Setting Panel to take up office from as soon as possible following the interview date.

The post is voluntary, and the appointee should expect, with the agreement of his or her employer, to spend an average of 1 p.a./session per week in the role.

The MRCPsych Written Papers Standard Setting Panel Chair is responsible for all aspects of standard setting of the MRCPsych Papers A & B Written Examinations for approval by the Examinations Sub-Committee. There are a total of four written exams each year but this is planned to increase to six from 2023.

The post holder or their deputy must be able to attend each meeting of the MRCPsych Written Papers Standard Setting Panel which currently meets four times a year but is planned to increase to six from 2023. Additionally, the Panel Chair or their deputy is also expected to attend the Examinations Sub-Committee which currently meets six times each year.

The post will appeal to consultant psychiatrists who are current members of the MRCPsych Question Panels/Examinations Sub-Committee in any specialty who have both the experience and an interest in assessment processes and a commitment to ensuring our assessment methods meet the highest standards, or who have similar experience in related activity such as undergraduate education

Any member who would like to be considered for this post should submit a CV and a statement [no more than one A4 side] indicating expertise, experience and interest in this area of work to the Chief Examiner, Dr Ian Hall: E-mail examinations@rcpsych.ac.uk.

Applications should be received by 9AM on 17 January 2022. Interviews will be held remotely via Microsoft Teams on 1 February 2022.

Examinations Unit
December 2021

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS

PANEL CHAIR JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE:	MRCPsych Written Papers Standard Setting Panel Chair
TERM OF OFFICE:	5 years (commencing as soon as possible following confirmation of appointment)
RESPONSIBLE TO:	Chief Examiner, Director of Professional Standards
WORKING WITH:	Head of Examinations and Psychometric Analyst
MANAGEMENT:	Head of Examinations
ELECTED/APPOINTED:	Appointed
TIME COMMITMENT:	An average of 1 PA per week

JOB PURPOSE

The MRCPsych Written Papers Standard Setting Panel Chair is responsible for all aspects of the MRCPsych Written Papers Standard Setting of questions for approval by the Examinations Sub-Committee.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Chair the Panel and take responsibility for ensuring the Panel reviews the performance of questions for the MRCPsych Written Examination.

Work closely with the Chief Examiner, Director of Professional Standards, other relevant College staff and Working Groups to further develop/enhance the MRCPsych written examination when required.

He/she will work closely with the Examinations Unit to ensure the smooth running of the MRCPsych Written Examinations.

In doing so the MRCPsych Written Papers Standard Setting Panel Chair will:

- Review the statistical performance of all questions in the written papers and identify those which perform poorly to the ESC for consideration.
- Ensure the examinations are consistent with other assessment methods used in training and assessment of psychiatrists and other doctors.

Main duties include:

- Chairing the MRCPsych Written Paper Standard Setting Panel – four meetings per year.
 - Attendance at the ESC – Five meetings per year and not less than three.
 - Prepare question running order for the MRCPsych Written Papers Standard Setting Examination.
 - Working with the Head of Examinations and Psychometric Analyst
 - Answering queries related to the MRCPsych Written Examinations.
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PERSON SPECIFICATION

The successful candidate will demonstrate

- Experience in and knowledge of all aspects of the MRCPsych examination methods, standards and processes.
- Experience in the development and production of the MRCPsych Examinations.
- Familiarity with the Angoff method of standard setting.
- Familiarity with question performance statistics.
- An awareness of quality assurance issues in written examinations.
- Involvement in academic and scientific aspects of medical examinations.
- Involvement in undergraduate and/or postgraduate medical education.
- Experience in undergraduate and/or postgraduate training.
- Capacity to relate effectively to examination monitoring bodies.
- Ability to chair meetings and organise structures relevant to examination process.
- Knowledge of curriculum development.
- Awareness and knowledge of trends in post graduate medical assessments.

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