**Acting Up**

Up to a maximum of three months whole time equivalent (for LTFT trainee the timescale is also three months, Gold Guide 6.105) spent in an ‘acting up’ consultant post may count towards a trainee’s CCT as part of the GMC approved specialty training programme, provided the post meets the following criteria:

- The trainee follows local procedures by making contact with the Postgraduate Dean and their team who will advise trainees about obtaining prospective approval
- The trainee is in their final year of training (or possibly penultimate year if in dual training)
- The post is undertaken in the appropriate CCT specialty
- The approval of the Training Programme Director and Postgraduate Dean is sought
- There is agreement from the employing trust to provide support and clinical supervision to a level approved by the trainee’s TPD
- The trainee still receives one hour per week education supervision either face to face or over the phone by an appropriately accredited trainer
- Trainees retain their NTN during the period of acting up
- **Full time trainees should ‘act up’ in full time Consultant posts wherever possible.** All clinical sessions are should be devoted to the ‘acting up’ consultant post (i.e., there must be no split between training and ‘acting up’ consultant work).
- **In exceptional circumstances, where no full time Consultant posts are available, Full-time trainees cannot ‘act up’ in a part-time consultant post, but must continue to make up the remaining time within the training programme.**
- The post had been approved by the RA in its current form
- If a trainee is on call there must be consultant supervision
- If the period is sat the end of the final year of the training programme, a recommendation for the award of a CCT will not be made until the report from the educational supervisor has been received and there is a satisfactory ARCP outcome

If the post is in a different training programme*, the usual Out of Programme (OOPT) approval process applies and the GMC will prospectively need to see an application form from the deanery and a college letter endorsing the AUC post.
*A programme is a formal alignment or rotation of posts which together comprise a programme of training in a given specialty or subspecialty as approved by the GMC, which are based on a particular geographical area.