

#Be a GP

GP Trainee Selection

Guide to Applicants

2027



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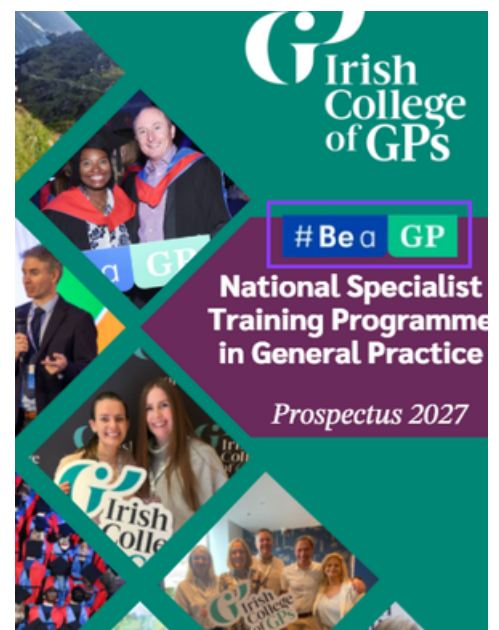
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This document should be read in conjunction with The National Specialist Programme in General Practice Training Prospectus.



The College reserves the right to amend the process outlined within.

Section 1: Application Process

Selection to General Practice training in Ireland is a competitive process which is managed by the Irish College of GPs.

Prior to submitting an application, applicants are required to review the Person Specification to ensure that they will meet all requirements.

Applicants must

- Hold a primary medical degree or equivalent medical qualification
- Be eligible for registration on the Trainee Specialist Division of the Irish Medical Council.
- Meet the HSE English Language Competency Requirements.
- Be eligible to work in Ireland at time of application (Part A).
Evidence of Irish/EU/EEA/UK nationality or a current work permit must be submitted at the time of application - Stamp 1, Stamp 1G, Stamp 1H, Stamp 4, Stamp 4 EUFAM.
- Have completed a minimum of nine months of paid, full-time (or equivalent) postgraduate acute hospital-based clinical experience. *Clinical posts must be a minimum duration of 3 months each (the only exception to this is where they are part of a structured intern programme) and*
- Have completed a minimum of 9 months of paid (in-person) clinical experience within the last 3 years, by July 2027
- Successfully undertake and achieve the required standard in the:
 - Situational Judgement Test (SJT)
 - Clinical Problem-Solving Test (CPST)
 - Scenario-Based Competency Assessment (SBCA)
- Be fully competent and capable of performing the duties associated with participation in a GP Training Scheme.
- Be in a state of physical and mental health that indicates a reasonable prospect of rendering regular and efficient service in training posts.

Note: Trainees' physical and mental health must enable them to meet the expectations of the training position, appropriate to the stage of training. This includes consideration of personal, financial, or other stressors impacting wellbeing, as well as disability and illness.

Applicants must not:

- Be currently registered on the Irish College of General Practitioners (ICGP) IMG Rural GP Programme.
- Hold or be eligible to hold a Certificate of Specific Training/Acquired Rights in General Practice from the Irish Medical Council.
- Have exited a postgraduate training programme in any country before full completion without reviewing the Exit from Training Policy to confirm eligibility.

Application Stages:

1. Application A

Applicable to doctors, who at the time of application are:

- Irish/EU/EEA/UK citizens
- Holders of a current/valid Irish work permit (Stamp 1, Stamp 1G, Stamp 1H, Stamp4, Stamp4 EUFAM)

Applicants are required to provide some basic information, upload a copy of their passport or work permit, consent to the [Terms & Conditions](#) of application and pay the non-refundable application fee of €150.

Deadline for completed applications is **Wednesday 7th October 2026 @5pm**.

Mandatory technical checks must be completed by all eligible applicants in advance of test day.

Applicants who meet all of these requirements will be invited to sit the SJT/CPST.

[Situational Judgement Test \(SJT\) and Clinical Problem Solving Test \(CPST\)](#)

2. Application B

Open only to applicants who achieve the minimum standard required in the SJT/CPST tests.

The application will be open from **Friday 20th November - Friday 4th December @ 5pm**.

At this stage of the process applicants will be required to provide evidence of:

- HSE English language competency requirements
- Eligibility for the trainee register of the Irish Medical Council
- Details of postgraduate, acute hospital-based, clinical experience:

The College requires applicants to have completed a minimum of 9 months of paid, full-time (or equivalent) postgraduate acute hospital-based clinical experience and to have completed a minimum of 9 months of paid (in-person) clinical experience within the last 3 years, by July 2027.

- References - Applicants will be given two Microsoft Forms links to populate with the details of their chosen referees. This must include their work email address. An automated email will be sent directly to each of the referees to complete the second part of the reference (scoring/appraisal sections). The completed form will come directly to the College.
- RPL application for relevant applicants

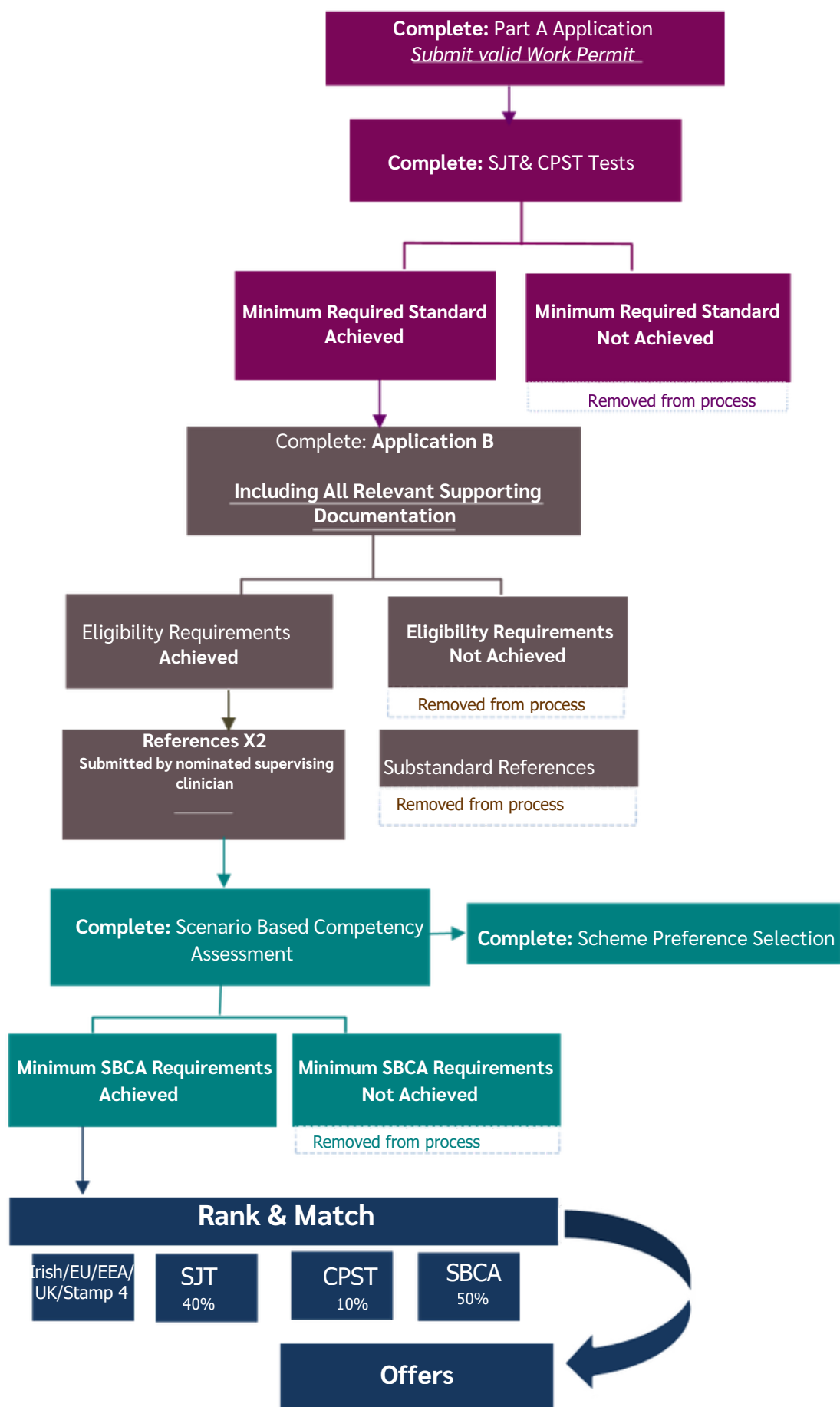
3. Scenario Based Competency Assessment (SBCA)

Open only to applicants who provide the required information on Application B, including completed references.

The SBCA will take place on **Wednesday 3rd & Thursday 4th February 2027**

[Scenario-Based Competency Assessment \(SBCA\)](#)

GP Trainee Recruitment 2027 Process



- No deferral - offers made in 2027 are for commencement on Monday 12th July 2027
- No exchange of places with other successful candidates
- Rejection of a training offer does not impact future application. If, however, a candidate accepts a training offer and withdraws without a valid reason having signed the GP trainee agreement, they may be referred to the Irish Medical Council for unprofessional behaviour. This may also impact on the success of future applications.

Section 2: Eligibility Criteria

Applicants that meet the required standard in the SJT & CPST tests are required to provide evidence of their eligibility for the trainee specialist register of the Irish Medical Council (IMC) and of HSE English language competency requirements.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that their documentation is up-to-date and meets the criteria below.

Eligibility for the Trainee Specialist Register

The Medical Council (IMC) have advised that the following candidates (A-F) can be automatically considered eligible for the trainee specialist division:

Criteria	Required Supporting Documentation to support TSR
A. Doctors who have graduated from an Irish Medical School and have successfully <u>completed</u> their internship in Ireland.	Certificate of experience from IMC <u>or</u> a copy of previous IMC intern registration certificate.
B. Doctors who have graduated from an Irish Medical School and will complete their internship in Ireland by July 2027.	Certificate of registration from Medical Council indicating intern registration & Irish Medical Degree.
C. Doctors who have graduated from Ulster University (UU) <u>or</u> Queens University of Belfast (QUB) and will compete internship in Ireland by July 2026	Medical Degree from UU or QUB and IMC internship registration certificate.
D. Doctors who have graduated from Ulster University <u>or</u> Queens University of Belfast and have completed FY1 at time of application	Medical Degree from UU or QUB and FY1 certificate.
E. Doctors who have graduated from a UK university and who will/have completed internship in Ireland or FY1 by July 2027.	Medical Degree from Uk and IMC internship registration certificate or FYI certificate
F. Doctors who are currently registered with the IMC in the General or Trainee Specialist Divisions.	Current IMC registration certificate.
G. Doctors who were previously registered with the IMC in the General or Trainee Specialist Divisions.	Previous IMC registration certificate.
H. Doctors who <u>have</u> confirmation of eligibility from the IMC for the General Register*	Email/letter from IMC confirming eligibility for the General register.
I. Doctors who have successful completed their medical Qualification in one of the following EU countries – Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Netherlands, Romania, Spain, Switzerland or Slovak Republic.	Medical Degree from one of the listed EU Countries.

*Please note that the Irish Medical Council can no longer provide individual emails for eligibility to the Trainee Specialist Division.

HSE English language competency requirements

HSE set the English language requirements for entry to specialist training programmes.

Criteria (Exemptions for IELTS/OET)	Required Supporting Documentation
A. Registration with the IMC prior to 1st January 2015	IMC certificate of registration (any division of the register) - dated prior 1st January 2015
B. Completion of medical degree through English in Ireland, UK, Australia, Canada, New Zealand or USA.	Copy of Medical Degree from Ireland, UK, Australia, Canada, New Zealand or United States
C. Completion of Irish state leaving certificate <u>or</u> A Levels (UK) and completion of a Medical Degree through English.	Copy of Irish state leaving certificate <u>or</u> A Levels (UK) Copy of Medical Degree. Confirmation from university that the medical degree was taught/examined solely in English.
D. Currently or previously employed as medical doctor by the HSE, whereby IELTS/OET was completed upon entering service to HSE.	Copy of IELTS/OET submitted to HSE (this does not have to be dated within 2 years of application but is required to meet the minimum scoring as outlined below). Provision of current/previous HSE employment posts as MD on the application form.
Applicants that do not meet any of the above criteria are required to submit one of the following:	
E. IELTS Certificate–International English Language Testing System*	IELTS certificate, dated within 2 years of the application to gp training. Overall score of 7 & min of 6.5 in reading, writing, listening & speaking.
F. OET Certificate –Occupational English Test*	OET certificate, dated within 2 years of the application to GP training. Minimum grade of B & min. of B in reading, writing, listening & speaking.

* IELTS (International English Language Testing System) certificate with an overall band score of 7.0 and a minimum score of 6.5 in each of the four domains – reading, writing, listening and speaking - on the academic test. The test must be undertaken no more than two years prior to the date of it being submitted at application stage.

Or

OET (Occupational English Test) certificate with an overall minimum grade of B and a minimum grade of B in Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking. The test must be undertaken no more than two years prior to the date of it being submitted at application stage.

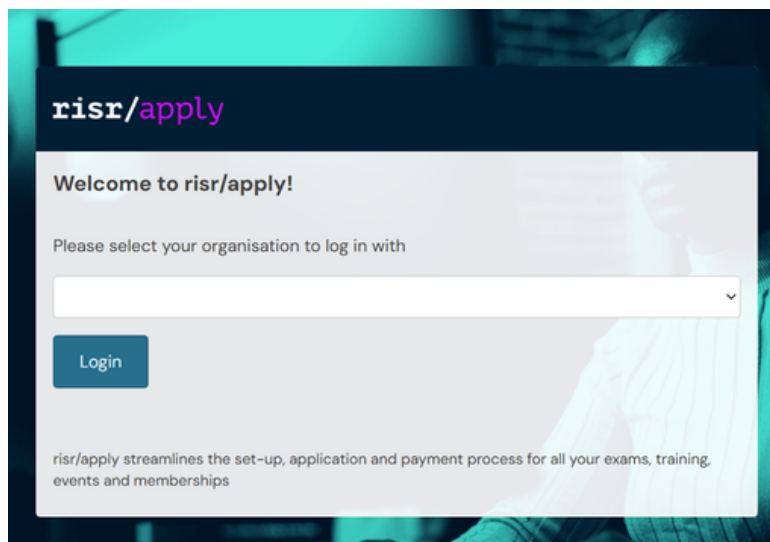
Section 3: Registration & Application Requirements

The application for GP trainee selection must be completed on the **Risr Apply** platform. The application process for previous applicants is slightly different to the process for first time applicants.

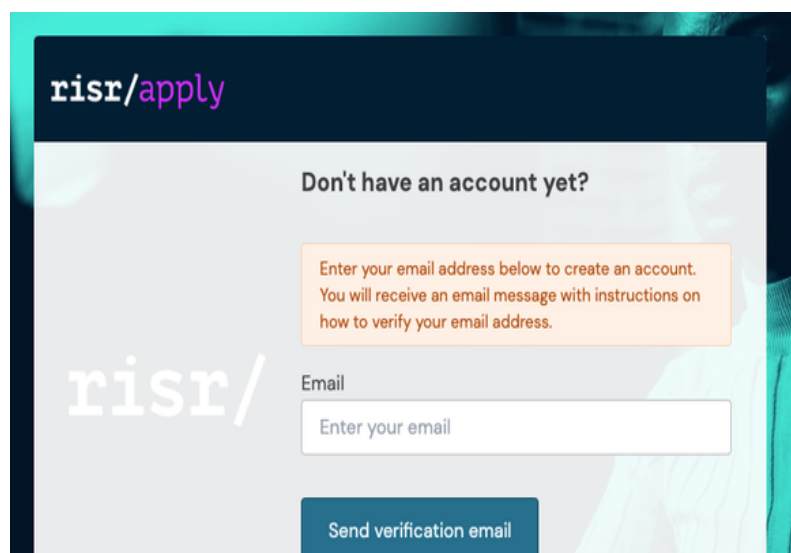
Please follow the steps outlined below as applicable to your situation.

First Time Applicant:

1. Create an account on **Risr**
2. Select Irish College of General Practitioners from the dropdown list on the welcome page



3. Create your account option is first asked to provide an email address.
Please ensure you provide an email address that is checked regularly.



4. A unique code is sent to this email address for the user to enter into the verification screen. This step ensures the email address is valid and one to which the user has access.

5. Enter the code that is emailed to you.

6. Once the email address has been verified, the user is asked to choose and confirm a username and password. This password must adhere to the password security rules, outlined in the next screenshot.

risr/apply

Complete your account

You've verified your [claire+2@risr.global](#) email address. Please complete your account registration.

Username

Your new password

Password strength: Strong

- ✓ At least 12 characters
- ✓ At least one lowercase letter
- ✓ At least one uppercase letter
- ✓ At least one number
- ✓ At least one special character

Confirm your password

✓ Passwords match

[Set my password](#)

7. Once your password is created you will be able to commence your application by selecting GP Training Recruitment - Part A application 2027 under Available Bookings

PROFILE



Roles: Pending user Primary email: [claire+2@risr.global](#)

[View profile](#)

GP TRAINING SELECTION 2027

Welcome to your GP Trainee selection application dashboard.

AVAILABLE BOOKINGS



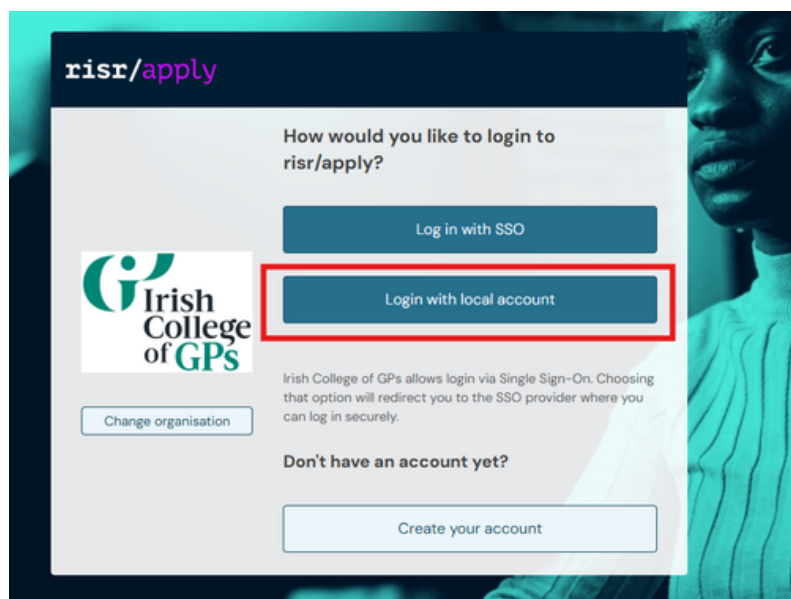
Found 1 result matching status Open and 1 filter

[All available](#)
[Open](#)
[Upcoming](#)

Title	Venue	Date
GP Training Recruitment - Part A application - 2027		

Repeat Applicant

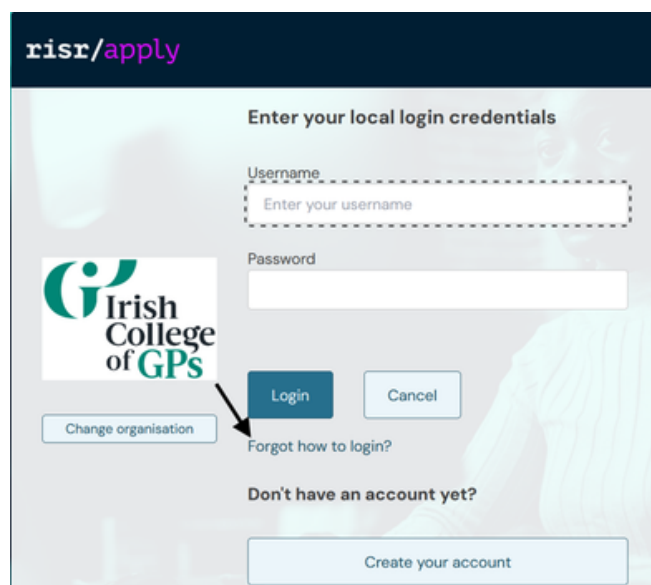
1. Log onto [Risr](#)
2. Select Log in with local account



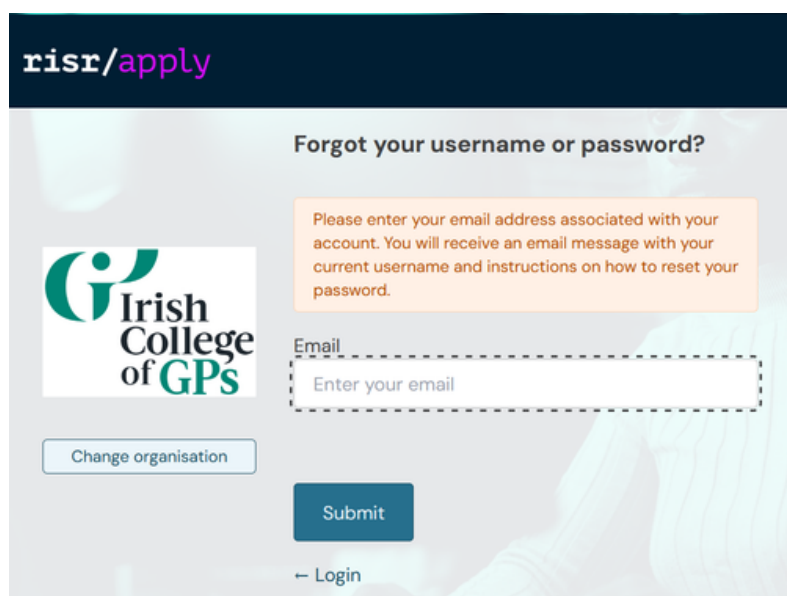
3. Enter Username* and password

**Your username is usually the start of your email address e.g. janesmith2@gmail.com the username is janesmith2*

4. If you cannot recall your details from the last process please select - *Forgot how to login*



5. Enter your email address (as previously used)



6. An email with your username and a link to reset your password will issue to your email address

7. On your application dashboard you will be able to access the link to the 2027 application form and also view your 2026 application.

PROFILE

OOG

Roles: Past GPT Applicant, Observer

Primary email: [redacted]@gmail.com

View profile

GP TRAINING SELECTION 2027

Welcome to your GP Trainee selection application dashboard.

Application Part A will open from Monday 7th September - Wednesday 7th October 2026.

Please be advised that submission of eligibility to work in Ireland at time of application is required.

AVAILABLE BOOKINGS

Search

Filters

Found 0 result matching status Open and 1 filter

All available

Open

Upcoming

Title	Venue	Date	Booking Window	Booking status	Availability
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MY BOOKINGS

Full name	View	Booking Option
[redacted]	View	GP Training Recruitment - Part A application - 2027
[redacted]	View	GP Training Recruitment - Part B application - 2026
[redacted]	View	GP Training Recruitment - Part A application - 2026

8. Complete the application details as outlined on page 10.

How will i know if my application has been received?

Applicants will receive a series of email confirmations from the system –

- Receipt from Ristr confirming payment
- Receipt from Stripe confirming payment
- Confirmation of receipt of application

If you are uncertain please email gptraining@icgp.ie

Application Form A

Open from **Monday 7th September 2026 - Wednesday 7th October 2026**

All fields with * are mandatory

- I have read/understand the Terms & Conditions of application*.
- First Name*
- Last Name*
- Date of Birth*
- Address*
- E-mail*
- Contact Number*
- Gender* - male, female, non-binary/other, prefer not to say
- Nationality*
- Country of PMQ*
- Language of PMQ*
- Confirm Current Work Permission in Ireland*

Irish/EU/EEA/UK Citizen -work permit not required, Stamp1, Stamp1G, Stamp 1H, Stamp4, Stamp4 EUFAM

- Upload confirmation of Irish/EU/EEA/UK Citizenship (Passport) or a copy of current work permit*
- Select preferred SJT/CPST test day & time*

Declarations*

- I resigned from a medical specialist training programme for personal reasons
- I resigned from medical specialist training prior to impending disciplinary or competency related action
- I was removed from medical specialist training for competency issues
- I was removed from medical specialist training for disciplinary issues
- I was removed from medical specialist training for other issues
- Based on medical grounds I will require additional time for the SJT & CPST test (Yes/ No)

Applicants that indicate Yes must email supporting documentation from a registered medical specialist by Wednesday 7th October @5pm.

- A non-refundable fee of €150 is required to complete the application.



Application Form B

Open from **Friday 20th November 2026 - Friday 4th December 2026**

Applicants who meet the minimum requirements in the SJT & CPST will be invited to complete application B.

This application requires more detailed information in relation to hospital experience, qualifications, recognition of prior learning, and the provision of appropriate supporting documentation.

The information requested is listed below. Fields with * are mandatory.

- Confirmation of Nationality*
- Confirmation of Work Permit – where applicable
- Passport sized photograph*
- Eligibility Requirements of the Irish Medical Council (IMC) and Health Service Executive (HSE)*
 - IMC – [Eligibility for the trainee specialist register](#)
 - HSE – [English language competency](#)
- Confirmation of Medical Degree*
- Undergraduate medical qualification*
- Hospital Experience - Applicants must include details (start date, end date, speciality, hospital site, supervising consultant) of their hospital/clinical experience, starting with current/most recent post.
- Postgraduate qualifications
- BST Qualification*
- [Recognition of Prior Learning \(RPL\)](#)
- Declarations*
- Referees*

References

Open from **Friday 20th November 2026 - Monday 4th January 2027**

The HSE require applicants to provide two references from supervising consultants with whom they have worked with (paid employment) within the 3 years prior to July 2027

- One must be from the current/most recent post. In cases where applicants are not currently working in a hospital and are employed in general practice, a reference from their current employer can be submitted.
- Referees/references from different supervising clinicians for the same post/time period will not be accepted, unless they have been in the same post for an extended period of time. In this case, references from different supervising consultants for the same post will be considered
- Reference submissions will open with Application B. Applicants will be given two Microsoft Forms links to populate with the contact details of their chosen referees. This must include their referees work email address. Those referees will then receive a reference form to complete, the details of which will come straight to the college.
- Applicants will receive confirmation when each completed reference is submitted to the College.
- It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the contact details for their chosen referees are correct and that they meet the above criteria. Should a referee refuse to provide a reference or not match the above criteria, then the applicant must provide an alternative referee to complete a reference by the submission deadline. The deadline is for receipt of a completed reference from both of the nominated referees. Extensions to this timeline will not be given.

Section 4: Shortlisting Criteria

Shortlisting is based on applicants' performance on a Situational Judgement Test and Clinical Problem-Solving Test. Applicants must also provide details of a minimum level of postgraduate clinical hospital experience.

Hospital Experience

- Have completed a minimum of 9 months of paid, full-time (or equivalent) postgraduate acute hospital-based clinical experience. Clinical posts must be a minimum duration of 3 months each (the only exception to this is where they are part of a structured intern programme).
- Have completed a minimum of 9 months of paid (in-person) clinical experience within the last 3 years, by July 2027

Situational Judgement Test (SJT) & Clinical Problem-Solving Test (CPST) System Requirements

Pre-Requisites for Online Test : Proctoring & Certification Support

Situational Judgement Test (SJT)

The SJT will consist of approximately 45 scenarios depicting situations which applicants would be likely to encounter in their work as a hospital doctor. The SJT will assess attributes such as professionalism, empathy, coping with pressure and integrity, and are a measure of pro-social behaviour. They will not measure clinical knowledge. Applicants will be asked to select from a range of options the most appropriate action to take in a given situation. Answer keys will follow two formats, either a ranking option, where the candidate lists in order of appropriateness, from 1 to 5, the options to take to address a situation, or multiple choice i.e. choose three appropriate options to take from a list of eight.

Scoring of the SJT assesses attitudes which best align to the work of a General Practitioner. As applicant numbers exceed the number of training places in any given year your score in the SJT will be used to shortlist those who progress to interview. SJT scores will also be carried forward to final ranking and assignment of training places.

Clinical Problem-Solving Test (CPST)

The CPST will assess candidates' clinical knowledge and will take approximately 60 minutes. It must be completed online in a single session, following the SJT. The CPST will consist of approximately 50 single best answer (SBA) questions, describing common clinical presentations that a recently qualified doctor might encounter in the hospital setting.

The questions will explore candidates' abilities to diagnose, investigate and manage these presentations. Applicants will be required to select the single most appropriate of five possible responses to each situation.

An SJT and CPST blueprint information document will be available on the College website in the coming weeks.

Scenario Based Competency Assessment (SBCA)

Formerly known as the Interview

Validation & SBCA Consent

Candidates who meet the application requirements as outlined in Application B and provide two suitable references will be required to consent to the SBCA terms and conditions prior to interview day.

The SBCA will take place on **Wednesday 3rd & Thursday 4th February 2027**

Further information on the SBCA, including the terms and conditions, can be reviewed [here](#)

Core Competencies of General Practice



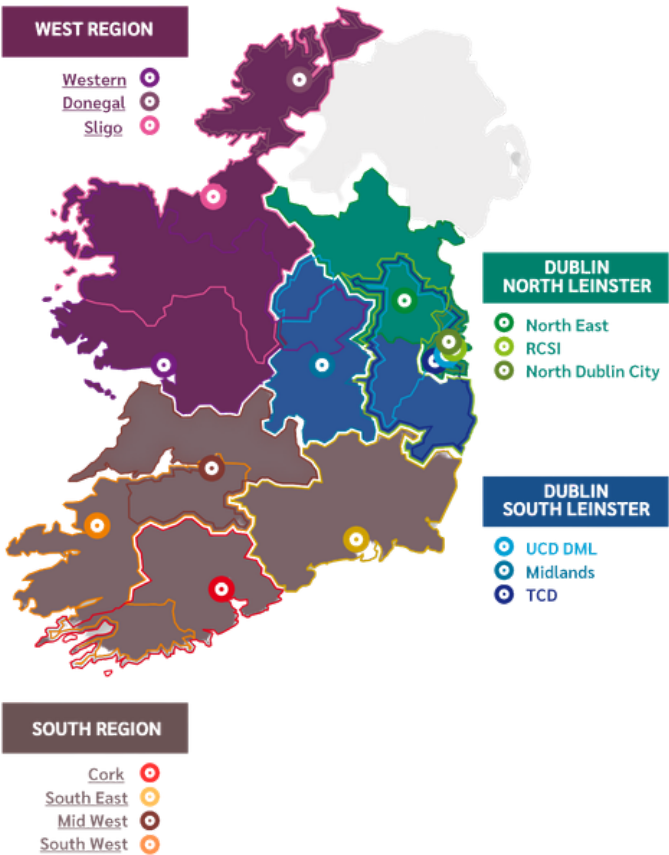
Patterson, F., Tavabie, A., Denney, M., Kerrin, M., Ashworth, V., Koczwara, A. and MacLeod, S., 2013. A new competency model for general practice: implications for selection, training and careers. *Br J Gen*

Section 5: Scheme Selection

Candidates deemed appointable at interview will be invited to make their scheme selection and can select all thirteen schemes but are asked to select **only** schemes that they are genuinely interested in and would accept, if an offer was made.

The map outlines the day release locations for each of the schemes across the country and further information on each scheme is available online.

Paired applications are being offered to pairs of candidates that would like their applications linked at offers stage.



GP Trainee Intake

- In 2026, 2033 applications were received for 350 training places.
- The intake per scheme for the 2027 process will be confirmed at a later date.

West	
Donegal	15
Sligo	15
Western	36

South	
Cork	36
Mid West	30
South East	30
South West	15

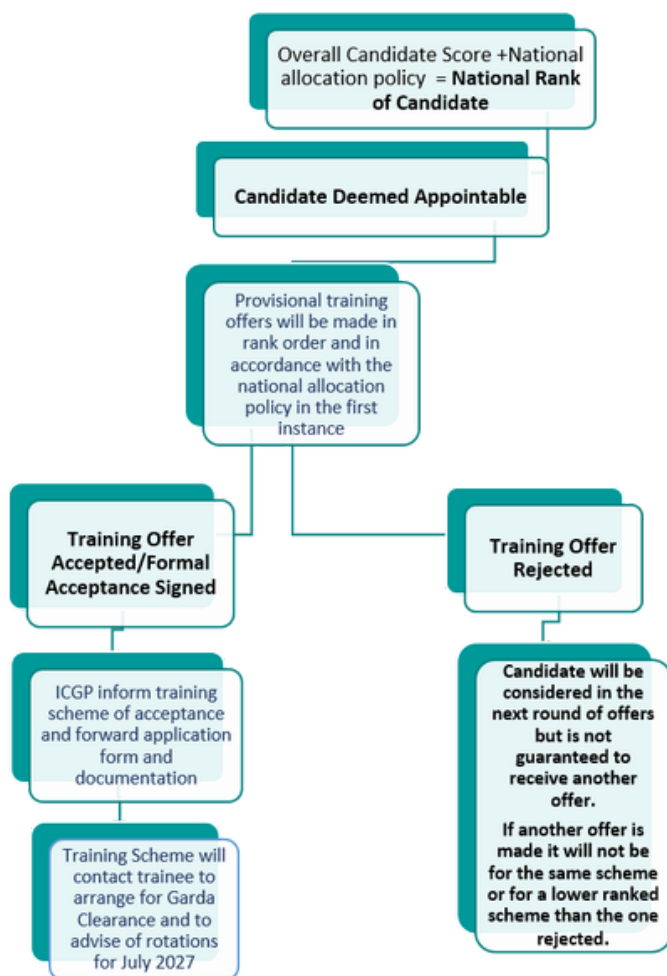
ICGP Central Key Support Functions

- Curriculum & Exams
- Recruitment
- Placements
- Conferences & Events
- Transformation
- ICT Support
- Blended Learning
- Training
- Governance
- Trainee Welfare

Dublin North Leinster	
North East	27
RCSI	27
North Dublin City	36

Dublin South Leinster	
Midlands	24
TCD	36
UCD	24

Section 6: Offers Process



- Any offers of training places made are subject to satisfactory references. Should an issue be raised at the reference review stage, the College reserves the right to rescind a training place offer.
- No deferrals to training places are permitted by the Health Service Executive.
- Training place swaps are not permitted.
- If candidates are tied across all scores and scheme selection, a random process for making offers to these candidates will be introduced.
- Offers will not be issued after Monday 31st May 2027.
- Paired applicants are required to comply with the [terms and conditions](#) of pairing.

Section 7: Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Recognition of Prior Learning is open to applicants that have or will have certification of BST in Medicine, Paediatrics or Emergency medicine and have passed the required examinations.

RPL MEDICINE

- Hold a Certificate of Completion of Core Specialist Training (CSCST) in Basic Specialist Training in Medicine with the Royal College of Physician of Ireland (RCPI) and
- Complete all appropriate assessments (MRCPI Examinations Part I & Part II - Written & Clinical) by Thursday 30 April 2027).

RPL EMERGENCY MEDICINE

- Hold a CSCST in Emergency Medicine with the Royal College of Surgeons and
- Complete all appropriate assessments (MRCEM Primary, MRCEM Intermediate SBA and MRCEM OSCE) by Thursday 30 April 2027.

RPL Paediatrics

- Hold a CSCST in Basic Specialist Training in Paediatrics with the Royal College of Physician Ireland (RCPI) and
- Complete all appropriate assessments (MRCPI Examinations) by Thursday 30 April 2027.

BST trainees currently in year 2 of training can apply for RPL but must submit all required examination results by Thursday 30 April 2027.

RPL application does not automatically confer eligibility for a right to either RPL or a place on a GP Training Programme.

RPL offers will be made based on training scheme's availability to accommodate RPL and on candidate rank.

All RPL decisions are final and are not open to appeal.

Section 8: Key Dates

2026

Monday 7 September	Application (Part A) - registration for SJT/CPST <u>OPEN</u>
Thursday 10 September	Application & Information Webinar 7pm
Wednesday 7 October	Application (Part A) - registration for SJT/CPST <u>CLOSE</u> (5pm)
Wednesday 4 & Thursday 5 November	SJT & CPST Test
Friday 20 November	Notification to applicants of SJT & CPST outcome Applicants that meet the minimum standard required in both tests will be required to complete Application (Part B)
Friday 20 November	Application (Part B) Open (Including access to reference link)
Friday 4 December	Application (Part B) <u>Close</u>
Friday 18 December	Notification to applicants following eligibility review(application B)

2027

Monday 4 January	Closing date for provision of completed references
Wednesday 3 & Thursday 4 February	Scenario Based Competency Assessment (SBCA)
Monday 8 – Monday 15 February	Scheme preference selection
Friday 26 February	First round offers (further rounds of offers will be made until all places are filled or 31st May, whichever comes first)
Friday 9 July	GP training induction session
Monday 12 July	GP training commences

Section 9: Helpful Tips

- Review all information on [GP Trainee Recruitment](#)
- Talk to current/recently graduated trainees and review the real-life stories on [Be a GP](#)
- Attend the ICGP Application Information Webinar on Thursday, 10 September at 7pm.
- Check that you have included all relevant documents before submitting your application
- Do not leave it until the last minute to complete/submit your application

Please email gptraining@icgp.ie if you have any queries following review of information available.

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