



Dental Specialty Fellowship Examinations

Applications to join the examiners panel for the Dental Specialty Fellowship Examinations

December 2025

The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (the three Colleges), are working together to introduce a tri-collegiate approach to specialty curricula assessment. This will cover 10 specialties (as listed below), supporting trainees to demonstrate the specialist knowledge, skills and capabilities required for progression. The new examinations will start in late 2026. The examiners' role is vital and may be varied as we progress, including supporting the development of material for the examinations and working with the team supporting the delivery of the new exams.

The panel of examiners will comprise individuals who can undertake assessment of the candidates for the Dental Specialty Fellowship Examinations.

The first phase of recruitment for examiners has now completed, but we are continuing to accept applications from those who are currently practising in the UK or Ireland to join the examiners panel waiting list. Applications for examiners who practise outside the UK and Ireland will be accepted when the rollout of international examinations begins; we encourage you to continue to check our website at www.dsfe.org.uk for updates on this.

We therefore invite applications via [Microsoft Forms](#).

Applications for examiner recruitment are ongoing. Your application will be held on a waiting list to be considered on a rolling basis.

Person specification

- Applicants should be a Dental Member or Fellow of one of the Royal Colleges in the United Kingdom.
- The applicant will have held a primary dental qualification recognised by the General Dental Council or Irish Dental Council for a period of not less than 7 years and will have been registered to practise in the relevant specialty in the UK or Republic of Ireland for a minimum of 3 years at the point of application.
- The applicant can demonstrate experience contributing to postgraduate assessment through responses to the questions noted in the application form.

The Secretariat reserves the right to request references if required later.

Responsibilities

- Report to the Dental Specialty Fellowship Examinations Chairperson, and the Specialty Exam Board Chair.
- Participate in the development of the examinations by contributing to question writing, planning, and discussions on policy and processes where needed.



- Be available to participate in diets of the examination as requested by the Specialty Exam Board Chair.
- Prepare and develop examination materials and model answers on an ongoing basis.
- Participate in meetings of the Examiner Panel as required by the Specialty Exam Board Chair.
- Actively participate in ensuring that the examinations are of the highest standards.
- Assess candidates following the principles outlined in training courses (mandatory completion required) and guidance documents.
- Complete all marking and any related documentation in accordance with guidelines.
- Observe strict confidentiality about the performance of candidates.
- Act to promote the examination on behalf of the Colleges.
- Abide by the principles set out in the Examiner Code of Practice.

Training

- The Secretariat will provide training for all examiners.
- All appointed examiners will be expected to contribute to the development of the question bank and attend appropriate further training.
- Examiners must attend an online training course and observe a relevant College specialty examination before being permitted to examine. Regular training dates will be made available to examiners when they are appointed.
- All examiners are required to complete ongoing training every two years to ensure continued alignment with current standards and best practice.

Commitment required

The term of engagement will be for three years subject to extension. Successful applicants will be required to attend up to 5 days of meetings/exams per year.

Specialties

The following specialties will be examined by the Secretariat:

- Dental Public Health
- Endodontics
- Oral Medicine
- Oral Surgery
- Orthodontics
- Paediatric Dentistry
- Periodontics
- Prosthodontics
- Restorative Dentistry
- Special Care Dentistry