

Intending Trainers Course 2014

ITC 7 - Frequently Asked Questions

Thank you for your interest in the Intending Trainer's Course for 2014. Below you will find the answers to a number of the most commonly-asked questions. If there is something you can't find the answer to, feel free to drop us an email at Susan.Convery@nhs.net.

How long would I need to be a qualified GP before I can apply to be a trainer?

By the start of the intending trainer course (usually April each year) you will need to have been working as a GP in practice for 18 months at a minimum of 5 sessions a week.

Can I be a salaried doctor or retainer and become a trainer?

Being a salaried doctor or retainer is not a barrier to training to be a trainer

Is MRCGP required?

Yes, but if you do not have this qualification passing the AKT that is part of the nMRCGP would be acceptable. Details of this are available on the RCGP WEBSITE. Click on GP training, GP curriculum, and then MRCGP for details about this test and when and how to sit it.

Can I train if I am part time?

Absolutely. You will need to work alongside your trainee at least 2 clinical sessions a week, and be able to provide seminar and time to prepare for training - so a minimum of 4 sessions a week is necessary.

Can I train to be a trainer if I have just joined a practice or if I am a locum looking for a practice?

Yes - but you will need to have been settled into a practice for at least 6 months prior to appointment (spring the year after you start the course).

If I successfully complete the course – what are the fees I would receive?

In 2012, a trainer would receive the GP Trainer grant of £7674 per trainee plus a £750 CPD grant per annum.

In addition for each educational supervisor meeting you hold with your trainee who is not currently in your practice you receive £210, so usually that will be £603 per year

in they are not based at your surgery. There is of course the opportunity to get involved in recruitment and selection (£401 a day plus petrol) and other Postgraduate School of Primary Care activities as you become more experienced.

Why do I have to do all these pre-course tasks? How much work are they?

The pre-course tasks have been very useful as we are now finding that our applicants are much more likely to get appointed at the end of the training course and they are much more motivated to remain as trainers as they have made more of a commitment to the process. The tasks are designed to be straightforward - one of them is part of the annual NHS appraisal process (8 point audit.) The second is a short recording showing your comfort with patients. Detailed hints and guidance are given in the instruction pack and [Susan Convery](#) is more than happy to answer any queries if you get stuck.

Can I submit an old audit?

The audit needs to have been completed within the last 2 years, to ensure skills are fresh.

When do I need to submit the pre-course tasks?

As soon as possible!! The sooner you submit, the sooner we can get it marked and give you the result! This way if anything needs changing you have plenty of time. If you leave it till the end and submit on the closing date (and a lot of people do this) it will take longer for your submission to be marked leaving you less time to make changes if required. Details of closing dates are stated in the course guide.

What is the appointment viva like?

The viva takes place in March each year. The viva normally lasts around 30 minutes. You will be asked a range of questions related to training issues. These are not related to your reflective account submission or audit and you should not need to revise. We aim to assess your approach to training dilemmas and knowledge of some of the key themes from the intending trainer course. The panel will usually be chaired by a lay representative and there will be a trainer, senior educator and GP registrar present. Sometimes there may also be an additional observer. The panel members will take notes during the viva to provide evidence for their decision making. The reports from your practice visit (if applicable), course tutors, supervisory trainer and your application form are all used to ensure a fair decision is made about your suitability to train GP registrars.

The outcome of the viva is normally relayed to you within 48 hours by email or phone and then followed up by an official decision letter.

What happens if I fail to get through?

If you unfortunately fail to pass the process you will be given clear reasons why and if appropriate an opportunity to address any outstanding learning needs before reapplying.

What if I feel unhappy with the process and wish to complain?

If you feel the process has been unfair and wish to complain we have an official complaints policy. In the first instance please contact hazel.ellis@ne.hee.nhs.uk