

RCP General Medical Council (GMC) sponsorship

What is the RCP GMC sponsorship scheme?

The RCP GMC sponsorship scheme has been designed for internationally qualified physicians seeking short-term professional development opportunities in the UK. The sponsorship route offers an efficient alternative to GMC registration without the need to complete PLAB or full MRCP(UK). This route is aimed at physicians who are committed to, or who are already advanced in, their chosen specialty.

Is the RCP GMC sponsorship scheme a good fit for our hospital?

- > Are you a hospital looking to grow your international portfolio?
- > Do you have recurring vacancies, for which you would consider recruiting experienced international medical graduates (IMGs) seeking short-term UK NHS experience?
- > Do you often have experienced IMGs applying for posts at your hospital who are not interviewed because they do not have GMC registration?

If you answered 'yes' to any of these questions, the RCP GMC sponsorship scheme may be an excellent solution to enhance your hospital workforce.

What does the RCP GMC sponsorship scheme offer?

The scheme is designed to support hospitals in welcoming IMGs to their teams through:

- > support with identifying eligible doctors
- > administrative support via our experienced team to help oversee key steps from when the candidate attends interview and them starting their post, streamlining the onboarding process
- > RCP-led induction to complement that provided by NHS organisations, with the aim of enhancing integration and to signpost networking opportunities
- > free RCP membership for the first year and a discounted rate for the second year. This includes additional benefits and discounts on RCP conferences, events and training courses
- > free access to NHS ePortfolio for the duration of the training (up to 2 years)
- > impartial pastoral support for any personal or professional concerns (offered to doctors as well as NHS organisations)
- > RCP certificate of completion at the end of training.



**Royal College
of Physicians**

Requirements

Candidate requirements	Hospital requirements
Primary medical qualification recognised by the GMC and verified by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG)	Duration of the post is between 6–36 months
Postgraduate medical qualification (MRCP part 1, MD or higher degree)	Posts must be equivalent to IMT posts or above, up to CCT (does not include consultant posts)
3 years post-qualification experience, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">> 1 year internship> 1 year in specialty in which the applicant intends to train in the UK	The post must be funded by the NHS hospital (the candidate should be in receipt of salary from the employing hospital)
Have not taken and failed any part of PLAB previously, unless subsequently passed it	Candidates must receive education and training, equivalent to that of a UK resident doctor
Engaged in clinical practice for 3 out of the last 5 years, including the 12 months prior to GMC registration	MTI candidates must be assigned an educational supervisor and ideally a separate clinical supervisor
Remains in continuous medical practice during the most recent 12 months prior to GMC registration. Observership and clinical attachments do not count towards this	The RCP can provide sponsorship for doctors working in research posts that contain a clinical element (where GMC registration would be required)
Possess the skills, competencies and understanding of medicine at least equivalent to a UK graduate at the end of their IMT1	Recommended doctors attend a local induction and are offered a supernumerary period of at least 4–6 weeks
Passed (in last 2 years) International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic with overall score of 7.5 and 7.0 in all categories OR Occupational English Test (OET) Medicine with minimum grade B in all categories	The post must have the approval of the training programme director, director of medical education or the departmental education lead

To find out more about the GMC sponsorship scheme, visit our website:

<https://www.rcp.ac.uk/membership/rcp-community/global/general-medical-council-sponsorship-scheme/>

If you have any queries or would like to learn more, please email MTI@rcp.ac.uk or call 020 3075 1631.



**Royal College
of Physicians**