The Royal College of Emergency Medicine

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International Sponsorship Scheme for MTI - Guidance for applicants

Information about the scheme

The Royal College of Emergency Medicine is one of the Medical Royal Colleges taking part in the Medical Training Initiative (MTI). The MTI is a government authorised exchange under Tier 5 of the Points Based System allowing overseas trainees to obtain training in the UK for up to two years. More information can be found here – www.aomrc.org.uk/mti/medical-training-initiative.html

The Royal College of Emergency Medicine’s International Sponsorship Scheme offers Emergency Medicine training opportunities within the MTI.

Successful applicants can obtain full GMC registration with a license to practice, without taking the Professional and Linguistic Assessment Board (PLAB) test.

Posts are available for between 6 and 24 months. At the end of their training period in the UK trainees have to return to their home country.

There are two routes on to the scheme -
- IMGs that have already offered a post.
- IMGs that will be matched to a post by the College.

Please be aware that, even if eligible, participation in the scheme is dependent on an appropriate post being available. The likely time-frame for the process is approximately 3-4 months.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for sponsorship you must be one of the following:

- a current trainee in an overseas Emergency Medicine training programme (You should have the support of your employer for your plan to spend a period of time training in the UK)
- a consultant who has completed a specialist training programme in Emergency Medicine (You should have the support of your employer for your plan to spend a period of time training in the UK)
- a consultant who has trained in a specialty other than Emergency Medicine with at least 12 months experience in Emergency Medicine (You should have the support of your employer for your plan to spend a period of time training in the UK)

Candidates must:
- Not (normally) hold EEA citizenship or EEA rights of residency.
- Hold a Primary Medical Qualification acceptable to the GMC for full registration.
- Be able to provide a Certificates of Good Standing (CGS) from the medical regulatory authorities of any countries where you have practised or have held registration, or a licence in the last five years, even if you have not practised there.
The CGS must confirm that:
- you are entitled to practise medicine in the appropriate country AND
- you were not disqualified, suspended or prohibited from practising medicine AND
- the regulatory authority is not aware of any matters that call into question your good standing.

More details can be found here -
www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/registration_applications/registrationftpevidence.asp

- Have been in clinical practice for at least 3 out of the last 5 years including all of the most recent 12 months leading up to your application being approved (please note that the GMC do not count clinical attachments and observerships towards this 12 months)
- Have completed at least 3 years postgraduate training, including an internship.
- Have an institutional sponsor in their home country, specifying the post they will return to.
- Provide evidence of satisfactory progression through training. Acceptable evidence would be documentation of passing any required postgraduate exam, a logbook or training portfolio (if applicable), evidence of clinical governance activity, appraisal documentation. Evidence should cover both generic Emergency Medicine and acute specialties. Any evidence should be validated by the overseas sponsor.
- Be certified in at least one life support course – ALS, ATLS, APLS (or equivalent)
- Have achieved a minimum score of 7.0 in each section (speaking, listening, reading and writing) of the academic module of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) and an overall minimum score of 7.5.
- Provide contact details of two referees. If you are a trainee these should be your current educational supervisor and one other Emergency Medicine specialist currently or recently involved in your training. If you have already completed your specialty training and are now a Consultant, you should give contact details for two Senior Consultants who are currently working with you. Your referees will be contacted directly by the Royal College.

Please note –
- Doctors who have failed the PLAB are not eligible for sponsorship
- Doctors who have already participated in the scheme cannot reapply within 5 years
- Sponsorship for GMC registration cannot be provided for those not intending to make an application for an approved MTI post
- Service posts with no training component will not be approved for the scheme

Translations
You must submit a complete and accurate translation of every document that is not in English, along with the document in its original language. More details can be found here –
www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/registration_applications/translations.asp

Assessment of your application
An assessment of your application can only be made once all of your evidence has been received.

The GMC must be satisfied that the doctor has been selected under quality assurance arrangements designed to safeguard the interests of patients and to provide support for the trainee before granting registration.
Once your application has been approved by the Royal College you will need to complete an online application for registration on the GMC website. It is advisable to read the GMC guidance on what evidence should be provided to support the application - [www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/applications.asp](http://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/applications.asp)

If successful, you will need to produce original documentation to the GMC on arrival in the UK to confirm your registration.

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**Immigration**

The Medical Training Initiative is a government authorised exchange operated under Tier 5 (Temporary Worker) of the Points Based System. The Academy of Medical Royal Colleges will issue a certificate of sponsorship for each successful applicant. This certificate supports application for entry to the UK under Tier 5. For more details see: [http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/workingintheuk/tier5/governmentauthorisedexchanged/](http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/workingintheuk/tier5/governmentauthorisedexchanged/)

**Administration Fee**

The fee for the administration of an individual application is £215 or £115 for applicants based in lower and lower middle income economies (as defined by the World Bank; see: [http://siteresources.worldbank.org/DATASTATISTICS/Resources/CLASS.XLS](http://siteresources.worldbank.org/DATASTATISTICS/Resources/CLASS.XLS)).

The college will request this fee if your application is successful and will provide you with details on how to pay.
Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I am not currently in an Emergency Medicine Training Programme. Can I apply?
A: The scheme is open to Trainees in a current EM Training Programme, Consultants in EM, or Consultants in another specialty that have at least 12 months of EM experience. **If you do not fit this criteria you cannot apply.**

Q: I am an International Medical Graduate currently in the UK. Can I apply for sponsorship?
A: Yes. However, you must comply with the GMC Recency of Practice Rule whereby applicants must have been in continuous medical practice for the 12 months leading up to your application. Clinical attachments and observerships are not counted as medical practice. In addition to this, applicants must return to their home country in order to apply for their Tier 5 Visa (assuming that their application for sponsorship for GMC registration, GMC Registration application and MTI application are approved).

Q: I have failed the PLAB test. Can I apply for a place on the International Sponsorship Scheme?
A: No. Doctors who have been offered a place on the International Sponsorship Scheme can obtain GMC registration without taking the PLAB test. The International Sponsorship Scheme is NOT a route to GMC registration for doctors who have taken and failed the PLAB test.

Q: How do I find a post?
A: If your application is successful the Royal College of Emergency Medicine will find a post for you.

Q: I want to emigrate to the United Kingdom. Can I apply for a place on the International Sponsorship Scheme?
A: No. The International Sponsorship Scheme allows overseas trainees to train in the UK for up to 2 years within an approved MTI Post. After which they must return to their home country.

Q: I want to work in another specialty than Emergency Medicine, can I apply for sponsorship for GMC registration?
A: No. The College’s International Sponsorship Scheme only provides sponsorship for International Medical Graduates that are joining an Emergency Medicine post that has been approved for the MTI Scheme.