Eligibility for entry to Dental Specialty Membership Examinations

The entry requirements for each of the Dental Specialty Membership Examinations held by the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh state that candidates must have completed 36 months of full-time (or part-time equivalent) appropriate training in the relevant specialty to be awarded the Diploma upon successfully passing the examination. Candidates may enter the examination upon completion of 30 months of appropriate training in the relevant specialty.

The College no longer inspects or approves any training posts or programmes of training. We are therefore unable to provide a list of training programmes which are appropriate for entry to these examinations. Each application will be assessed on an individual basis.

(If any course claims to be approved by, or affiliated to, the College you are advised to verify this information with the College directly. We have no control over the information that training centres provide but are happy to answer direct enquiries from trainees).

Our Examinations Section holds information on training programmes which have been considered acceptable in the past and will use this in the first instance to assess the suitability of applicants for entry to the examinations.

If the Examinations Section staff are not familiar with the training being offered they may request further information such as a copy of the syllabus or curriculum (if the training was in a formal training programme). A copy of the trainee’s logbook may also be requested. This information will then be considered by the relevant Specialty Advisory Board of the College and a decision will be taken on the trainee’s eligibility. The College would usually expect any training to be broadly similar in content and scope to that undertaken by UK Specialist Trainees.

As the Specialty Advisory Boards only meet 2 or 3 times each year it may take several months for a decision on a trainee’s eligibility to be assessed. If you have any doubts about the suitability of your training you are advised to contact the Examinations Section well in advance of the diet of the examination you wish to apply for, with full information on your training. This will allow sufficient time for your eligibility to be assessed and a decision taken in time for you to apply for entry to the examination if you are found to be eligible.

It is very disappointing to have to return application forms to candidates because they have not allowed sufficient time for their eligibility to be considered. You are therefore advised to make contact with us during the second year of your training programme if you have any doubts over the suitability of your training.

Examinations Section 2012