Become a World-Class Specialist

The Royal College of Physicians of Ireland is an internationally recognised postgraduate college dedicated to the education and training of medical doctors.

Training doctors to become world-class specialists is at the heart of what we do. We believe that being a doctor is one of the most rewarding and important professions there is and we are committed to helping you reach your full potential.

We offer postgraduate specialist training programmes, examinations, diplomas and educational courses to equip doctors with the skills and knowledge they need to care for patients and run safe and efficient healthcare systems.

Our training programmes incorporate both clinical and non-clinical training, and are designed to produce skilled, confident doctors who can provide world-class medical care and handle the everyday challenges of a busy health service.

Hands-On Structured Training

Ireland has a long-standing tradition of providing Postgraduate Specialist Medical training to International doctors. RCPI has, in collaboration with the Health Services Executive of Ireland, recently developed a range of programmes designed specifically to meet the needs of international medical graduates.

The International Clinical Fellowship Programme (ICFP) provides a route for overseas doctors wishing to undergo structured and advanced postgraduate medical training in Ireland. The ICFP enables suitably qualified overseas postgraduate medical trainees to undertake a fixed period of active training in clinical services in Ireland. The programme is offered over one to two years of clinical training, after which the overseas doctors will return to their country of origin. In certain circumstances, the period of training may extend to three years.

The purpose of the ICFP is to enable overseas Trainees to gain access to structured training in active clinical environments that they cannot get in their own country, with a view to enhancing and improving the individual’s medical training and learning and, in the medium to long term, the health services in their own countries.
International Clinical Fellowships Available in:

- Clinical Genetics
- Cardiology - General Cardiology
- Cardiology - Interventional Cardiology
- Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics
- Dermatology
- Endocrinology & Diabetes Mellitus
- Gastroenterology
- Geriatric Medicine
- General Internal Medicine
- Infectious Diseases
- Medical Oncology
- Nephrology
- Neurology
- Palliative Medicine
- Rehabilitation Medicine
- Respiratory Medicine
- Rheumatology

Train with a Consultant

This Programme will allow you to access a structured period of training in leading training hospitals around Ireland. You will follow a structured curriculum and will be attached to a Consultant Trainer and fully participate in the clinical work of the Consultant’s team.

Participation in on-call is viewed as a key component of training and therefore Trainees on the International Clinical Fellowship Programme are advised that they may be required to participate in the on-call rota of their department.

Structured Educational Programme

As well as workplace based learning you will have the opportunity to gain additional learning through our formal educational programmes including:

- Study days
- Mandatory and optional courses
- Society Meetings and Conferences
- Lectures
- Journal club
- Audit
- Research

These elements of the training programmes give doctors an opportunity to expand their knowledge base within their speciality as well as honing their core knowledge and clinical judgement skills needed to enhance their career and take up senior positions.

“I liked many things about the programme but in particular I liked the good balance between work, personal development and social life, which I found brilliant! I found people here in Ireland very accepting and that made my life easier because the most important thing is to feel part of the family of the hospital - and I feel so.”

Dr Safi Al Qatari, Clinical Fellowship Trainee in Rheumatology
Supporting your move to Ireland

We know that moving to another country involves a lot of preparation and paperwork. We are committed to making this process as easy as possible for you, once you have been accepted onto our International Training Programme.

The support we offer in association with Castel Education, an agency that specialise in supporting international students coming to Ireland, includes:

- Visa and immigration assistance, including liaising with the Irish Embassy on your behalf
- Helping you apply for registration with the Irish Medical Council
- Helping you make travel arrangements
- Collecting you at the airport in Ireland
- Helping you find suitable accommodation
- Helping your family members move to Ireland, e.g. finding suitable schools
- Assistance with setting up banking and mobile phone accounts
- Emergency telephone support

“When I came here I got support from everyone including the RCPI, the Saudi Bureau, Castel Education, my colleagues in the hospital as well as my trainer. I think I found another family in this country which made my life easier.”

Dr Safi Al Qatari,
Clinical Fellowship Trainee in Rheumatology

Hospital Group Regions

Saolta Hospital Group
University of Limerick Hospital Group
South/South West Hospital Group
RCSI Hospital Group
Dublin Midlands Group
Ireland East Hospital Group
Children’s Hospital Group
Who is this programme for?

**Designed for**  
Doctors who have completed their four/five-year National Residency Programme and examinations.

**Duration**  
Two years with possibility of a third year if a candidate holds MRCPI or its equivalent.

**Entry requirements**
- Completed primary medical degree through English
- Completed a structured internship
- Completed four/five-year National Residency Programme and incorporated examinations
- Completed Saudi/Arab Board Examinations
- Have at least one year’s experience post-residency training in your chosen specialty (Desirable)
- Eligible to be registered with the Irish Medical Council (Supervised Division)
- Sponsored by your National Training Body
- IELTS with an overall band score of 7.0 and a minimum score of 6.5 in each of the four domains

**Priority will be given to candidates who also hold MRCPI or MRCPUK.**
- The entry requirement IELTS score is not required to be eligible for interview but is mandatory to achieve as soon as possible once an offer on the programme is made. Our English language partners Castel Education offer individually tailored online courses to help them achieve the mandatory score in a timely fashion ahead of their arrival to Ireland. Trainees are recommended to gain their IELTS score by 19 April 2019 or sooner.

In addition to the general requirements outlined above applicants in certain specialties will also be required to meet specific requirements. See our website (www.rcpi.ie) for further details.

**Certification**
Certificate of Completion of Clinical Fellowship Training in chosen specialty issued by the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland.

Application Process Timeline

- **July 2018** Applications open
- **Sept-Nov 2018** Interviews
- **December 2018** Offers made
- **July 2019** Start at clinical site

How to Apply

If you are interested in applying for our International Clinical Fellowship Programme please contact the RCPI at internationalaffairs@rcpi.ie and submit the following:

- **Curriculum Vitae outlining your training and clinical experience in detail**
- **Evidence of sponsorship by your National Training Body**

AND

- **Please complete an online application form**  
  (http://tinyurl.com/INTCLAPPLY2019)

**CLOSING DATE**

The closing date for submitting applications is on **12 August 2018**. If your application is shortlisted you will be invited for an interview which will be held between September and November 2018.

* your CV must show that you meet the entry requirements for your chosen training programme and specialty.
IRISH COMMITTEE ON HIGHER MEDICAL TRAINING

The Irish Committee on Higher Medical Training (ICHMT) is the national training body for General Medicine in Ireland. It has over 700 trainees, making it the largest postgraduate medical training body in Ireland. So they are well positioned to continually pursue excellence in the delivery of healthcare.

It is accredited by the Medical Council of Ireland and are proud to meet the strict standards required to deliver postgraduate specialist training in 16 specialties. ICHMT develop and monitor training programmes in these specialties and work to maintain the highest standards throughout the continuum of training and educational development.