

## Targeted GP Training Frequently Asked Questions

### A: Eligibility and pre application

#### A1Q: Will there be any pre-selection / eligibility requirements?

A: You will need to be able to demonstrate at application that you fulfil the eligibility criteria

- Be a previous GP National Training Number (NTN) holder
- Left GP training between August 2010 and January 2018<sup>1</sup>
- Have satisfactory Workplace based Assessments
- Have passed one of either Applied Knowledge Test (AKT) or Clinical Skills Assessment (CSA)
- Have taken but not passed the other exam

As evidenced by an Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP) outcome 4 with a U5 code (single exam failure) or U6 code (continual exam failure).

- Have current General Medical Council (GMC) registration with a [licence to practise](#)
- Been in medical practice within the last two years

#### A2Q: I have been out of medical practice. Can I apply for Targeted GP Training?

A: You will be required to have been in medical practice within the last two years and have GMC registration with a licence to practise at the point of application

#### A3Q: Can I apply if I have had my licence to practise suspended, been erased or suspended from the GMC register?

A: You cannot apply or take up a post under these circumstances

#### A4Q: I believe I was given an unsatisfactory Workplace based Assessment solely because I didn't pass the exam.

A: It would be expected that doctors who have exited training for exam reasons only would have been issued an Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP) outcome 4 with a U code 4 or 5. Details of the U codes issued for all outcome 4's can be found in the Gold Guide<sup>2</sup> Appendix 3.

If in the very exceptional circumstances doctors have evidence that they were marked down on their Workplace based Assessments for exam failure only, then this should be submitted as part of the application process and it will be considered against evidence within the eportfolio and from your HEE local office.

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<sup>1</sup> The increase in available extension to training was introduced with effect from 31 January 2018

<sup>2</sup> [A Reference guide for Postgraduate Specialty Training in the UK seventh edition](#)

**A5Q: I left training having successfully completed Workplace based Assessments but didn't take the Applied Knowledge Test and didn't pass the Clinical Skills Assessment. Am I eligible to apply?**

A: No. The purpose of the Targeted GP Training scheme is to focus on doctors who have passed two of the three assessment requirements (with success in Workplace based Assessments being a prerequisite)

**A6Q: Does it matter how many exam attempts I have had previously?**

A: The change in exam rules will enable doctors who re-enter training through the Targeted GP Training scheme to re-sit. This will not be affected by the number of attempts already had.

**A7Q: I left training after January 2018, will I be eligible?**

A: No. The Targeted GP Training scheme is available to those who left training BEFORE the increase in extensions to training was introduced.

So if you were in training after January 2018, even if this was a period of extension, as the period of additional extension was available for you; you are not eligible for Targeted GP Training.

## **B: Selection**

**B1Q: Will I have to go through the GP training selection process again?**

A: Yes.

- The selection process has gone through a number of changes over the last few years
- You will have gained further experience since you last applied
- You will be competing for a training placement
- The outcome of your selection will inform your person specific training programme so that you receive the most appropriate support

**B2Q: Will I have to demonstrate foundation competences if I have been through recruitment previously?**

A: Yes, except doctors who are currently in a training post (with a National Training Number or Deanery Reference Number (DRN)) who will need to complete an [Alternative Certificate of Foundation Competence](#) (section 9)

**B3Q: If I have already accepted a post in round 1 can I apply for Targeted GP Training in round 2?**

A: Yes, absolutely.

Regardless of whether your round 1 application was successful or not, you can still make an application in round 2.

If you accept a post in round 1, re-apply and go on to accept a second post offer in round 2, you will need to release one of your accepted posts by notifying the region.

**B4Q: If my application is unsuccessful can I apply again?**

A: Yes. Entry into Targeted GP Training closes for doctors entering training in August 2021.

**C: Exams, Workplace based Assessments and training content**

**C1Q: How many further attempts at the exam will I have?**

A: The Royal College of General Practitioners will be submitting a request to the GMC for an amendment to the current exam regulations to enable those on the Targeted GP Training scheme to have further attempts at the exam they have failed and also if the exam they have passed is no longer current.

**C2Q: Do I have to take the Clinical Skills Assessment and/ or Applied Knowledge Test examination if I have already passed it?**

A: Trainees on this scheme are required to demonstrate current fulfilment of the requirements of the GP Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) curriculum. This includes success in the Clinical Skills Assessment, Applied Knowledge Test and Workplace based Assessments.

The GMC currency of exams will be used for doctors on the Targeted GP Training scheme – that exam success remains current for a period of seven years. You may therefore have to take again an exam that has expired.

**C3Q: If I passed the Applied Knowledge Test / Clinical Skills Assessment more than seven years ago, will I still be eligible for Targeted GP Training?**

A: Yes. Although your exam success is no longer acceptable for demonstrating current curriculum competence, it still counts towards eligibility. You will need to pass it again within the Targeted GP Training scheme.

**C4Q: Is the 12 month period before I can apply to sit the exam the same for full time and less than full time doctors?**

A: It is whole time equivalent and is a minimum. Each trainee will also need to be considered ready to sit the exam by their trainer(s) before able to apply.

**C5Q: Why do I have to wait for the 12 month Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP) outcome before I can apply for the Clinical Skills Assessment / Applied Knowledge Test?**

A: This period is aimed at acclimatising you back into general practice and training without the pressure of attempting the exam. It is considered important to have sufficient time to prepare, to put you in the best position to be successful.

**C6Q: Will I have to demonstrate all the curriculum competences again even though I left training with satisfactory Workplace based Assessments and e-portfolio?**

A: You will be applying for GP registration and the GMC will require confirmation that you demonstrate current curriculum competence. Throughout your Targeted GP Training scheme you will need to maintain satisfactory Workplace based Assessments for ST3.

**C7Q: I have already got satisfactory Workplace based Assessments will I still need to complete these during the Targeted GP Training scheme?**

A: Yes. You will be at ST3 level throughout the time you are in the Targeted GP Training scheme, details of the Workplace based Assessment requirements for ST3 can be found on the Royal College of General Practitioners [website](#).

In order to be able to apply for a Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) or Certificate of Eligibility for GP Registration Combined Programme (CEGPR(CP)) at the end of your training you will need to demonstrate up to date competences in all areas of the GP curriculum and this includes Workplace based Assessment.

**C8Q: How much training will I need to do?**

A: The training programme is 18 months with a further exceptional six months. Doctors on the Targeted GP Training scheme will be given an expected end of training date set at 18 months (whole time equivalent) from the date they enter training.

To apply for GP Registration, you will need to demonstrate current competence of the curriculum requirements and current success in both the Applied Knowledge Test and Clinical Skills Assessment. Once you have been awarded an Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP) outcome 6 you may apply for GP Registration. You do not have to wait until the completion of the 18 months training period.

## **D: Process**

**D1Q: What is the application process?**

A: Details of the application process will be provided on the [GP National Recruitment Office](#) (GPNRO) website.

**D2Q: Should I do anything in preparation of an application?**

A: You will need to

- Prepare for selection
- Have current Foundation competences (see B2Q)
- Have evidence that you have passed one of the two exams and taken but failed the other
- Have evidence that you left training with satisfactory Workplace based Assessments (Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP) outcome 4 with U5 or U6 code)
- Have evidence of which route of training you were following

**D3Q: I don't have my last Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP) outcome document / it doesn't include a U code. What should I do?**

A: You will need to contact your previous Health Education England (HEE) local office to ask them for a copy or a letter/email indicating you were awarded an Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP) outcome 4 and that you left with satisfactory Workplace based Assessments and were allocated a U4 or U5 code.

**D4Q: Will I need to supply evidence of my exam outcomes?**

A: Yes.

## **E: General questions**

**E1Q: How much will I get paid?**

A: Those who have given continuous service in a career grade post or posts for at least 13 months immediately prior to re-entering training will be eligible for pay protection for as long as it is more favourable<sup>3</sup>

Doctors who do not fulfil the above will be on the usual trainee terms and conditions.

**E2Q: Can I continue in my current role part time and train?**

A: No. It is essential that doctors on the Targeted GP Training scheme have sufficient continuity of training, appropriate presence in the training place and coverage of different aspects of the curriculum. This also enables trainees to focus on the achievement of the GP curriculum competences in the limited period of training

This does not affect your rights to apply for less than full time (LTFT) training for statutory reasons.

**E3Q: Can I be on Targeted GP Training and work less than full time (LTFT)?**

A: Those on the Targeted GP Training scheme may work less than full time (LTFT) for statutory reasons only and at no less than 50% throughout.

**E4Q: Can I choose where I do my training?**

A: All programmes in England will be open for those on the Targeted GP Training scheme. You will be competing with other applicants.

Doctors based outside England may apply for the Targeted GP Training scheme in England.

**E5Q: The area where I want to work is not advertised for Targeted GP Training – why not?**

A: There will not be a separate advertisement for the Targeted GP Training scheme as all programmes in England are open for this scheme.

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<sup>3</sup> [Terms and Conditions of Service for NHS Doctors and Dentists in Training \(England\) 2016 paragraphs 49-52](#)

If a programme is not advertised this is because there are no vacancies. For example round 2 recruitment advertises where programmes have not been filled in round 1.

**E6Q: Will I get support for the costs of training, such as exam or GP registration fees?**

A: No. As with all trainees you will be expected to cover these.

**E7Q: What certificate will I get when I complete training?**

A: When you satisfactorily complete the curriculum requirements you will be eligible to apply for the certificate route that you were on when you were initially in training. This route will be confirmed by the HEE local office where you did your initial training.

**E8Q: How will I apply for my Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT)/ Certificate of Eligibility for GP Registration Combined Programme (CEGPR (CP)) when I have finished training?**

A: The application process for those on the Targeted GP Training scheme will be the same as for other trainees.

**E9Q: Will I have to commit to remaining in the UK/ General Practice if I follow this scheme?**

A: You will be treated exactly as any UK trainee, there are no such requirements.

**E10Q: Am I allowed to apply for an out of programme training (OOPT) post?**

A: No. The opportunity for OOPT was for your initial training.