

Mapping initiatives to Enhance Junior Doctors' Working Lives across the UK

RCPATH response:

The Royal College of Pathologists is committed to enhancing Junior Doctors' working lives - from medical school, through specialist training and to CCT, support and advice is available to trainees along with a range of benefits and opportunities.

Undergraduate and Foundation Training

Even before entering a pathology specialty training programme, the College offers a range of free opportunities for undergraduates and Foundation trainees to find out more about pathology and to support their CV. This includes:

- [free undergraduate membership of the College](#)
- [free attendance at the RCPATH Pathology Summer School and Foundation training taster day](#)
- [opportunities to submit entries for the undergraduate and Foundation essay prizes for medical students and Foundation trainees](#)
- [publication of an Undergraduate and Foundation Training Strategy](#)
- [a specific undergraduate pathology curriculum which was published in 2014 and is currently being reviewed and updated](#)
- the on-going development of a range of free e-learning sessions to complement the revised curriculum
- [comprehensive web-based information about careers opportunities](#)

Costs of Training

The RCPATH has a dedicated area of the College website which sets out the principles that the College have agreed should underpin the College approach to apportioning the costs of training, assessment and examination. These are:

- transparency, accountability and collegiality
- a commitment to providing a [breakdown of how the training, assessment and examination departments are funded](#), a [breakdown of the costs of running the examinations](#) and the [ways in which the College actively minimises costs for trainees](#)
- [recognition by HMRC of the FRCPath examination fees for both medical and Higher Scientific Specialist Training \(HSST\) trainees as a tax deductible expense](#). The trainee registration fee is also tax deductible.

Benefits received by trainees

Trainees that register with the College receive a wide range of benefits which include, but are not limited to:

- New Trainee Welcome Day (free of charge)
- access to an ePortfolio
- regular receipt of the RCPATH College Bulletin (which includes a regular trainee section that they can contribute to)
- reduced rates at College scientific meetings
- ability to publish research on the College's research platform

- access to a TOTUM card (NUS) which offers discounts across a range of over 200 retailers
- range of prizes and bursaries that trainees can apply for, including research medals and the Furness prize for Science Communication.

Trainees Advisory Committee (TAC)

The TAC works closely and collaboratively with, amongst others, the President and Vice Presidents, Clinical Directors of Training & Assessment and Examinations and the Director of Learning. Trainees are represented on all Specialist Advisory Committees, College Specialty Training Committees, the Examinations Committee, curriculum working groups and Council; ensuring that their views are represented and taken into consideration in any decisions made by the College. It is common for trainees to be surveyed for their views when there are major changes to curricula and the ePortfolio for example. Prior to each meeting of the TAC, all pathology trainees are asked for their questions and feedback for the College and these are dealt with openly in each meeting with the Director of Learning.

The College is committed to actively keeping the wellbeing of Junior Doctors under review. It has recently signed up to support the RCSEd *Let's Remove It* (anti-bullying and harassment) and the RCAnaes *Fight Fatigue* campaigns in order to demonstrate support for trainees (and all pathologists) on these important issues.