

Examiner Role Description

Role title	Final FRCR Part B Examiner
Exam	Clinical Oncology Final FRCR Part B (CO2B)
Preferred specialties	GU, Lower GI, CNS, Lymphoma, Skin
Term duration	6 years
Application closing date	See RCR website

RCR exams are an internationally recognised benchmark of excellence as well as a vital element of UK training. The [Final FRCR Part B exam](#) builds on the First exam, and the Final Part A exam, to assess the knowledge and skills developed during clinical oncology training.

Examiners join the board which is responsible for ensuring that the exam meets the needs of the approved clinical oncology training curriculum and meet standards set by the GMC. Following the launch of the exam's new format in October 2023, this is an exciting time to join the board.

Role Tasks

Examiners have a range of responsibilities including:

- writing, reviewing and editing questions, ensuring that they are based on the approved curriculum
- conducting the exam and awarding marks
- reviewing the performance of individual exams to ensure that they meet the standards expected, identifying any shortcomings and making recommendations for the future
- reviewing the pattern of performance of the exam over time to ensure standards are maintained and identifying areas for improvement
- developing the exam to ensure that it remains relevant to the curriculum and to clinical practice.

Benefits

- **Make a difference** by ensuring UK and global candidates have gold-standard exam content that ensures future oncologists' competence.
- **Extend your professional network and meet new people** by collaborating with other examiners, partners at global venues, Officers and RCR staff.
- **Earn** CPD credits for work developing the exam offer.
- **Learn** more about RCR exams and develop personally via a comprehensive training and development programme including equality and diversity and question writing training.

Eligibility and term of office

Applicants must:

- be a Fellow of the RCR in good standing
- hold a substantive consultant post for at least five years prior to appointment
- demonstrate that they have undergone appropriate equality and diversity training and are willing to abide by good practice in these areas
- be prepared to participate in induction, training, examiner appraisal and ongoing upskilling activities
- be willing to abide by the [RCR's Contributor Code of Conduct](#) and submit an annual appraisal summary for each year of the term of office.

The term of office is usually six years, with the opportunity to extend for a further year through mutual agreement.

Time commitment and support

Examiners need to devote time to the writing of exam questions and contribute these between meetings. They also are required to commit to examine at the college in London for five days (including a Saturday) twice a year, currently at both the Spring and Autumn sittings, which are usually held in April and November.

During the first year, time is spent gaining familiarity with the exam procedures and contributing to the development of material, before beginning active face-to-face examining.

Support and mentoring in the role is provided through the CO2B Chair and examiner colleagues, plus exams office staff including administrators responsible for examiner support and practical exam delivery.

Travel to the RCR in London will be required periodically for meetings and exams. Travel and accommodation costs are covered in accordance with the [published policy](#).

Applications

Please complete the online application on the [RCR website](#). Applications must be supported by a current Head of Department by way of completing a supporter form. Applications are anonymised and ranked by a panel against pre-defined criteria; the College strives for examiners to be as representative as possible of body system specialist interests, clinical practice backgrounds and the distribution of UK training programmes.

If a conversation about the scope of the examiner role would be valuable, please contact the CO2B Chair, Dr Paul Hatfield, at phatfield@nhs.net or contact Examiner Engagement and support Coordinator amelia_wardley@rcr.ac.uk

Last updated: October 2025

