**FAQs for CESR Applicants**

**How do I apply for the Portfolio Pathway (CESR)?**

*Your application is made directly to the GMC using their dedicated online application process. Please see*[*the GMC website*](http://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/24630.asp)*for further information on how to apply*

**What does the process involve?**

*You compile your CESR application in liaison with the GMC. Once the application is deemed complete by the GMC, it is passed to the College for assessment. Applications are evaluated by the RCR Equivalence Committee and a recommendation is then made to the GMC.*

 **What qualifying criteria will I need to meet before entering this pathway?**

*To be eligible to apply you must have either a specialist qualification in the specialty you apply in or at least six months of continuous specialist training in the specialty you apply in.*

**How can I find out what documents are required for my CESR application?**

*Information can be found in both the Specialty Specific Guidance and generic guidance available on the*[*GMC website*](http://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/24630.asp)*. You should read this guidance carefully because it defines the type of evidence you should provide to demonstrate their knowledge, skills and experience (KSE) for specialist practice in the UK.*

**Will the RCR review my application before I submit it to the GMC?**

*No. As the RCR reviews the applications we only review them at the point they are submitted to us by the GMC. The RCR can provide advice on the type of evidence required but will not review your application before submission. You are encouraged to read the Specialty Specific Guidance carefully before submitting your application to the GMC.*

**How will I collect and maintain evidence?**

*It is recommended that you collect and keep evidence as you go along. You need to open a GMC Online account and upload all your evidence electronically, as requested in the online application.*

**Who will assess my application?**

*The RCR Equivalence Committee reviews applications on behalf of the GMC. Members of the Committee will determine whether you have the knowledge, skills and experience needed for practising as a day one consultant in the UK. If your application is successful, you will be recommended for entry to the Specialist Register.*

**How long does the process take once I have submitted my application?**

*Before sending the complete application to the RCR for evaluation, the GMC first needs to ensure that all the application documentation has been received, including the structured reports from referees, and complete the verification process. This part of the process can be lengthy, as the GMC may need to ask for further information. When the application is passed to the RCR we have 36 working days to review and submit our evaluation to the GMC. The GMC will then need time to reach their final decision, so in total you should expect it to take 2-3 months before you are informed of the outcome of the evaluation.*

**What if my application is unsuccessful?**

*You will receive a report directly from the GMC that will explain why your application has not been successful. This will contain recommendations outlining the additional evidence required.*

**Can I apply for the Portfolio Pathway in a non-CCT specialty?**

*A non-CCT specialty is a narrower medical specialty than “Clinical radiology”, for example, breast radiology, neuroradiology, paediatric radiology, interventional radiology and so on. It must be a specialty consistent with NHS consultant practice. To be eligible to apply, you must have either a specialist medical qualification from outside the UK in any non-CCT specialty, or at least six months of continuous specialist training outside the UK in any non-CCT specialty.*

**How can I find out what documents are required for my equivalence application?**

*You should read the* [*Specialty Specific Guidance*](https://www.gmc-uk.org/registration-and-licensing/join-the-register/registration-applications/specialty-specific-guidance) *carefully as this defines the type of evidence that you should provide to demonstrate you have the knowledge, skills and experience required to practise as a specialist or GP in the UK. You should also review the relevant curriculum.*