

Physician Associate National Examination

Vacancies: Members of the Physician Associate National Examination Development Group

The Royal College of Physicians (RCP) and the Faculty of Physician Associates (FPA) is seeking to appoint to a number of roles on the newly formed Physician Associate National Examination Development Group.

The RCP develops and delivers the Physician Associate National Certification and Recertification exam on behalf of the Faculty of Physician Associates. The certification exam is a 14 station OSCE and 200 single best answer (SBA) examination sat by candidates who have qualified from UK physician associate programmes. They are then required to pass the national certification examination before they can be declared fit to practise in the UK. Once they have passed the national certification examination, providing they are a member of the FPA, they can then be registered on the Physician Associate Managed Voluntary Register (PAMVR).

The RCP is looking to recruit two practising Physician Associates to the development group.

The objectives of the development group

The RCP Education Board, which reports to the RCP Board of Trustees, oversees the activities of the RCP Education Directorate, including the RCP Assessment Unit. It delegates some of its assessment-related responsibilities to the Assessment Unit Steering Group¹.

The development group will act as an advisory group to the Steering Group, making recommendations in respect of the development of the PA national examination to ensure it remains robust and fit for purpose.

The work of the development group will be informed by, for example:

- outcomes of the PA Examining Board
- the day to day work of the Assessment Unit in developing and delivering the PA national examination and other professional examinations
- guidance from regulators, professional bodies, government, NHS, etc.

Responsibilities

This will include, but is not limited to:

- review of assessment methodology
- review of examination regulations and associated processes
- consideration of proposed changes to the delivery of any components of the examination
- horizon scanning for barriers and opportunities in the Physician Associate landscape

¹ Not yet established. Education Board will oversee the activities of the Development Groups in the meantime.

Benefits

We offer the opportunity to network with colleagues, keep your knowledge up-to-date, take part in challenging discussions, be involved with the next generation of Physician Associates, shape the future of the profession, promote multidisciplinary working and continuing professional development.

By getting involved you can shape the future of the Physician Associate written and clinical examinations.

This is a non-salaried position, though all reasonable expenses and travel costs will be met by the Education Department in line with the RCP expenses policy.

The tenure of the appointment is three years. Subject to the agreement of the RCP Education Board, individual tenure may be extended by up to a maximum of two years to ensure orderly succession planning.

Criteria

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible to apply:

- be in active practise as a Physician Associate
- have at least 3 years post-qualification experience
- be registered and in good standing on the PAMVR
- be up-to-date as appropriate with relevant national guidelines, CPD requirements, employer's equality and diversity training and appraisal process
- interested in, but not necessarily expert in, medical academic assessments.

How to apply

Applications should including a CV and one-page covering letter outlining your suitability for the post, and should be submitted to Steven Ansty (steven.ansty@rcplondon.ac.uk) by 30 July 2020.

For an informal discussion regarding the role please contact Steven Ansty, Deputy Head of Assessment on the above email address, or via 0151 318 1888.

The RCP positively encourages applications from suitably qualified and eligible candidates regardless of sex, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, transgender status, religion or belief, marital status, or pregnancy and maternity.