



Physician Associate National Examination

Vacancies: Member of the Physician Associate National Examination Board

The Royal College of Physicians (RCP) is seeking to appoint two practising Physician Associates to the Physician Associate National Examination (PANE) Board.

The PANE knowledge-based assessment (KBA) takes place in three assessment periods annually and consists of 200 single best answer questions, delivered over two papers, each two hours in duration. The KBAs are delivered online, enabling candidates to take the assessment at home or in the workplace.

The PANE clinical examination currently takes place in three assessment periods annually and consists of a 16-station objective structured clinical examination (OSCE). They are held at the RCP's dedicated assessment centre at the Spine, Liverpool.

Once candidates have passed the PANE, providing they are a member of the Faculty of Physician Associates (FPA), they can then apply to join the Physician Associate Managed Voluntary Register (PAMVR).

The objectives of the board

The PANE examination board is responsible for ensuring that PANE KBAs and OSCEs are conducted appropriately and in line with the approved regulations for these examinations.

Responsibilities

The PANE Examination Board has the responsibility to ensure that the PANE is conducted appropriately and in line with the approved regulations for these examinations, wider regulatory frameworks (e.g. Equality Act, GDPR) and applicable RCP procedures throughout the lifecycle of the assessment process, including for example:

- > Setting and delivery of the examination
- > Review of candidate performance and sign-off of results
- > Management of examiners
- > make recommendations to the PANE Development Group regarding future enhancements to the assessments (format or process)

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 PANE KBA and OSCE and help support the transition of the assessments as GMC regulation of the profession moves ever closer.

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. Tenures may, in exceptional circumstances, be renewed by up to two years to ensure sufficient depth and breadth of experience and expertise remains in years when otherwise the majority of the Board would leave. Extensions of tenure to account for periods of long-term absence (for example maternity leave or sickness) would also be considered by the RCP Assessment Unit on a case-by-case basis to ensure no member is disadvantaged.

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

An interested in and experience of medical academic assessment would also be desirable but is not essential.

The successful applicant will be expected to attend three PANE Examination Board meetings per year (meetings are held via Teams). The first meeting of 2024 is on 22 February 2024, 10:00 until 12:00.

How to apply

Applications for the post, including a CV and one-page covering letter outlining your suitability for the post should be submitted to Steven Ansty (assessment.unit@rcp.ac.uk) by 09:00 UK time on 20 November 2023.

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.