



8 February 2024

Dear Colleague

Medical Student Examinations 2024 – Peninsula Medical School – GP Letter

We are writing to invite you to be an examiner for the Medical School summative examinations for Year 4 medical students in June 2024. Examiners who have been involved previously find it enjoyable and rewarding and value the insight which is gained into the undergraduate curriculum.

Starting this year, Year 4 students will be sitting the **Clinical & Professional Skills Assessment (CPSA)** which replaces the ISCE. The CPSA sits alongside the *Applied Knowledge Test (AKT)* to form the GMC's *Medical Licensing Assessment (MLA)*. The CPSA is the students' practical skills assessment, and all medical students sit this exam somewhere in their final two years at medical school. Like the ISCE, it is a two-phase exam and students are assessed in eight stations over two days in each phase, and the exam tests their ability to undertake simulated patient consultations, and assesses their history-taking skills, examination skills, communication skills and some practical skills, plus their ability to present and discuss cases with their assessors.

How can I help?

Exams will be taking place in **Taunton** (Musgrove Park Academy, TA1 5DA). We are looking to recruit examiners (ST4 and above) from the clinical community.

Please indicate which dates and sessions you are available for via the online form (the link to this is given in the email).

If you have any colleagues who are interested in examining, please contact the Medical Education Team at penmedschool@somersetft.nhs.uk (Taunton), who will be happy to provide them with the relevant information.

GP Payment Information

Payment can be made to your practice at £90 per hour. This is our preferred method of payment. If you are a Teaching Practice, you will already be set up on the University system.

If you want to be paid personally you will need complete the attached forms in advance of examining. The rate for this is £59.09 per hour.

Examiner Training and Benchmarking will attract 2 hours payment to cover the 1 hour training sessions and reading of examiner pack etc prior to the day of the exam as detailed below.

If you haven't previously examined and been paid to examine through Somerset FT you will need to complete and return the attached forms:

1. New Supplier Form (any issues ServicesTeam.Procurement@somersetFT.nhs.uk)
2. Commercial Questionnaire (ServicesTeam.Procurement@somersetFT.nhs.uk)
3. Notification of self-employment (PISuppliers@SomersetFT.nhs.uk)
4. IR35 Letter; you will need to follow the link in the IR35 letter to a short questionnaire and return your ESI Result. (any issues contact Clint, PISuppliers@SomersetFT.nhs.uk)

Training and Benchmarking

Training and benchmarking for all exams will be required as follows:

- **Information pack:** this will be sent out with the confirmation of exam sessions. This will outline how the ISCE and CPSA examinations run, how they are marked and look at generic examiner guidance.
- **Benchmarking session:** all examiners will be required to attend a 1 hour benchmarking session. It is a GMC requirement for all examiners to be benchmarked prior to the examinations and in light of the changes that have been made to the assessments, this training will be applicable for all examiners (those new to examining and those who have examined before). There will be a variety of dates offered across April and May for you to choose from, with some dates delivered face-to-face and other dates delivered online. You will receive 2 hours funding for your attendance.
- **Station-specific examiner information:** this will be sent two weeks prior to each allocated exam session. This will explain the specifics of the station, including the examiner guidance relevant to that station and what is expected of the students. It will also explain the marking and how to complete the paperwork.
- **Station-specific briefing and benchmarking:** there will be a short session on the day which will give examiners the opportunity to ask any questions they might have about the station.

Key Dates for Examiners

Confirmation of examination sessions and information pack to be sent via email	w/c 18/03/24
Face-to-Face or Teams Benchmarking Sessions	Various dates March and May 2024
Station-specific examiner information sent via email	w/c 27/05/24
Medical Student Examination Dates	Wednesday 19/06/24 (Year 4 CPSA Phase 1) Thursday 20/06/24 (Year 4 CPSA Phase 1)

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us. Many thanks for your consideration.

Medical Education Team
Somerset NHS Foundation Trust
PenMedSchool@somersetft.nhs.uk
01823 342430