



Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

Guidelines for Nominees and Nominators



Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

Since 1654, the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland has been working to improve patient care and the standards of medical practice.

We achieve this by enhancing and harnessing the skills, knowledge and leadership of physicians. We set challenging standards, promote clinical excellence and encourage positive change in healthcare based on sound evidence. Put simply, we support physicians during every stage of their career so that patients are cared for by expert, capable and compassionate doctors.

Our mission, which is embedded in all aspects of our work, is to develop and maintain high professional standards in specialist medical practice in order

to achieve optimum patient care and to promote health nationally and internationally.

Fellowship

Fellowship of the College is an international standard of professional excellence awarded to consultants or equivalent. Fellowship recognises clinical and other achievements, confers international peer recognition and presents enhanced professional opportunities to contribute to standard-setting, policy

influencing activities and leadership. Fellows play a full part in the governance and future direction of the College. Fellowship also provides lifelong benefits and services.



Election Process to Fellowship

Fellowship is awarded to individuals who meet specific criteria, as outlined in these guidelines, and who are approved by the Council of the College. The process for all proposals is as follows:

Election Process	
<p><i>Stage 1:</i> Completion of Fellowship Nomination Form</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Completion of the Proposal for Fellowship Form is the first step in the process of nominating an individual for Fellowship. – Two nominators, who must be Fellows in good standing of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (FRCPI), should ask the nominee to complete Part A and Part B of the nomination form, and then complete and return the form to the College. – Nominators must submit the nominee's recent Curriculum Vitae with the nomination form. See Information to be Included in a Curriculum Vitae which outlines the type of information the College expects to see on a nominee's Curriculum Vitae. – Nominees, if successful, will become liable to pay the appropriate admission fee (once off payment) and ongoing annual subscription fees to the College.
<p><i>Stage 2:</i> Review, Assessment and Recommendation to Council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – On receipt of the completed form, it will be assessed against the criteria laid out in these guidelines. Additional information may be required from the nominee and/or the nominators before the form can be progressed to the Credentials Subgroup. – The Credentials Subgroup review and assess all nomination forms, and recommend nominations to Council for approval. The Credentials Subgroup may engage with specialty advisors to confirm information provided by nominees and nominators.
<p><i>Stage 3:</i> Approval by Council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The awarding of Fellowship is by no means automatic and Council may not approve all candidates. In order to avoid embarrassment, the College will not communicate with nominees until the nominations have been to and approved by Council. – Nominees who are turned down by Council will not receive any communication from the College, but the nominators will receive letters to inform them of Council's decision.
<p><i>Stage 4:</i> Undertaking of Fellowship</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Once the nomination has been approved by Council, nominees will be asked to complete a form of undertaking which is an agreement to take up and abide by the rules and regulations of Fellowship of the College, and to pay the appropriate fees. – The College will communicate directly with nominees at this point and nominees will be invited to attend an admission ceremony where they will be awarded Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland.
<p><i>Stage 5:</i> Admission to Fellowship</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – You will be invited to attend an admission ceremony which is held in our historic home No. 6 Kildare Street. If you are unable to attend, you may be admitted in absentia.

Pathways and Criteria for Fellowship

There are four pathways to Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland. The criteria required to nominate an individual to any of these pathways is different and must be considered before a nomination is submitted:

1. Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland
2. Membership of another recognised College
3. Fellowship of another recognised College or Faculty or Institute of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

1. Via Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

Fellowship via this route is a demonstration of commitment to the College and an acknowledgement of an individual's contribution to medicine, its standards and practice. Fellowship of the College (FRCPI) is awarded to doctors who, in the opinion of the College, have made substantial contributions to their specialty/area of expertise, or who are senior members of the medical profession, and whose published works and attainments are of such distinction as to justify election.

Note that individuals who hold Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (MRCPI in General Internal Medicine, MRCPI in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, MRCPI in Paediatrics) may be nominated to Fellowship via this route.

The College also recognises that individuals who have achieved Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland may have pursued a number of career pathways – both within medicine and outside of medicine. Therefore, Fellowship of the College via this route is also open to those individuals who have successfully achieved Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and who may have, for example, pursued a career

in another area of medicine (such as general practice or psychiatry) or in an area outside of medicine (such as journalism, sports, music, literature, arts, sciences).

Whatever the career pursued, the individual must have achieved excellence in their area of expertise, distinguished themselves and contributed significantly to their area of expertise, have published

works and attainments of distinction to justify them being considered for Fellowship.

The specific criteria required in order for a nomination form to be considered are:



CRITERIA		
Members who have pursued a career in medicine	Members who have pursued a career in another area of medicine (eg. general practice, psychiatry)	Members who have pursued a career outside of medicine (eg. journalism, science, art, music)
- Medical qualification.	- Medical qualification.	- Medical qualification.
- Holder of Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland for at least 4 years.	- Holder of Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland for at least 4 years.	- Holder of Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland for at least 4 years.
- Be in good standing with RCPI.	- Be in good standing with RCPI.	- Be in good standing with RCPI.
- Statement of compliance with local professional competence requirements.	- Statement of compliance with local professional competence requirements.	- Statement of compliance not required.
- Ordinarily hold a consultant or equivalent post for at least 12 months prior to nomination being made. Consultant appointments must be in a public or private hospital or in the broader healthcare system. A letter from the nominee's primary place of work will be required to confirm this. Locum or temporary posts are not equivalent or eligible.	- Holding a consultant post is not required but the nominee will be required to outline their career choice and progression, how they have contributed significantly to their area of expertise, and how they are distinguished in their area of expertise.	- Holding a consultant post is not required but the nominee will be required to outline their career choice and progression, how they have contributed significantly to their area of expertise, and how they are distinguished in their area of expertise.
- Description of why Fellowship is of value.	- Description of why Fellowship is of value.	- Description of why Fellowship is of value.
- Evidence of postgraduate specialist training achieved during career to date. If there is no evidence of structured postgraduate specialist training, the nominee must provide information on what training they have undertaken during their career to date. Nomination forms received with no evidence of structured training programme undertaken by the nominee will require an additional level of assessment by the Credentials Subgroup.	- Evidence of postgraduate specialist training achieved during career to date. If there is no evidence of structured postgraduate specialist training, the nominee must provide information on what training they have undertaken during their career to date. Nomination forms received with no evidence of structured training programme undertaken by the nominee will require an additional level of assessment by the Credentials Subgroup.	- History of postgraduate specialist training not required.
- A full Curriculum Vitae (See Information to be Included in a Curriculum Vitae document).	- A full Curriculum Vitae (See Information to be Included in a Curriculum Vitae document).	- A full Curriculum Vitae (See Information to be Included in a Curriculum Vitae document).
- Two nominators required to complete and approve nomination. Nominators must hold FRCPI and must be in good standing.	- Two nominators required to complete and approve nomination. Nominators must hold FRCPI and must be in good standing.	- Two nominators required to complete and approve nomination. Nominators must hold FRCPI and must be in good standing.
- Nominations received on the Proposal for Fellowship form.	- Nominations received on the Proposal for Fellowship form.	- Nominations received on the Proposal for Fellowship form.

2. Via Membership of Another Recognised College

Fellowship via this route is a demonstration of commitment to the College and an acknowledgement of an individual's contribution to the medical profession, its standards and practice. It is expected that doctors being considered for Fellowship via this route must either demonstrate a current or intended contribution to Irish medicine or demonstrate a current or intended contribution to the strategic objectives of RCPI.

Fellowship of the College (FRCPI) is awarded to doctors who, in the opinion of the College, have made substantial contributions to their specialty/area of expertise, or who are senior members of the medical profession, and who are either currently contributing or intending to contribute to Irish medicine or who are either currently contributing or intending to contribute to the strategic objectives of RCPI, and whose published works and attainments are of such distinction as to justify election.

Individuals who hold Membership of the following Colleges may be nominated to Fellowship:

- **Academy of Medicine, Malaysia**
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- **Academy of Medicine, Singapore**
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- **American College of Physicians**
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- **College of Medicine, South Africa**
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- **Hong Kong Academy of Medicine/
Hong Kong College of Physicians**
.....
- **Royal College of Physicians, London**
.....
- **Royal College of Physicians,
Edinburgh**
.....
- **Royal College of Physicians and
Surgeons, Glasgow**
.....
- **Royal Australasian College of
Physicians**
.....
- **Royal College of Physicians and
Surgeons, Canada**

The specific criteria required in order for a nomination form to be considered are:

CRITERIA

MEMBERS OF ANOTHER RECOGNISED COLLEGE

- Medical qualification.
 - Holder of Membership of the recognised College for at least 4 years.
 - Be in good standing with the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and to College where Membership was obtained.
 - Statement of compliance with local professional competence requirements.
 - Ordinarily hold a consultant or equivalent post for at least 12 months prior to nomination being made. Consultant appointment must be in a public or private hospital or in the broader healthcare system. A letter from the nominee's primary place of work will be required to confirm this. Locum or temporary posts are not equivalent or eligible.
 - Description of why Fellowship is of value.
 - Statement on current or intended contribution to Irish medicine. This can include doctors who are supporting Irish graduates abroad, or doctors who are currently working in Ireland, or doctors who may have qualified or trained in Ireland.
- and/or**
- Statement on the current or intended contribution to the strategic objectives of RCPI. This can include carrying out work on behalf of RCPI in areas such as examinations, training, education, etc.
 - Evidence of postgraduate specialist training achieved during career to date. If there is no evidence of structured postgraduate specialist training, the nominee must provide information on what training they have undertaken during their career to date. Nomination forms received with no evidence of structured training programme undertaken by the nominee will require an additional level of assessment by the Credentials Subgroup.
 - A full Curriculum Vitae.
 - Two nominators required to complete and approve nomination. Nominators must hold Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (FRCPI) and must be in good standing
 - Nominations received on the Proposal for Fellowship form.

3. Via Fellowship of Another Recognised College

Fellowship via this route is a demonstration of commitment to the College and an acknowledgement of an individual's contribution to the medical profession, its standards and practice. It is expected that doctors being considered for Fellowship via this route must either demonstrate a current or intended contribution to Irish medicine or must demonstrate a current or intended contribution to the strategic objectives of RCPI.

Fellowship of the College (FRCPI) is awarded to doctors who, in the opinion of the College, have made substantial contributions to their specialty/area of expertise, or who are senior members of the medical profession, and who are either currently contributing or intending to contribute to Irish medicine or either currently contributing or intending to contribute to the strategic objectives of RCPI, and whose published works and attainments are of such distinction as to justify election.

Note that Members of the Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, RCPI, and Fellows of the Faculties of Paediatrics, Pathology, Occupational Medicine, Public Health Medicine, RCPI, may be nominated to Fellowship via this route.

Individuals who hold Fellowship of the following Colleges may also be nominated to Fellowship:

- **Academy of Medicine, Malaysia**
- **Academy of Medicine, Singapore**
- **American College of Physicians**
- **College of Medicine, South Africa**
- **Hong Kong Academy of Medicine/
Hong Kong College of Physicians**
- **Royal College of Physicians, London**
- **Royal College of Physicians,
Edinburgh**
- **Royal College of Physicians and
Surgeons, Glasgow**
- **Royal Australasian College of
Physicians**
- **Royal College of Physicians and
Surgeons, Canada**

The specific criteria required in order for a nomination form to be considered are:

CRITERIA

FELLOWSHIP OF ANOTHER RECOGNISED COLLEGE OR FACULTY OR INSTITUTE OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND

- Medical qualification.
 - Holder of Fellowship of the recognised College for at least 12 months prior to nomination being made.
 - Be in good standing with the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and to College where Fellowship was obtained.
 - Statement of compliance with local professional competence requirements.
 - Ordinarily hold a consultant or equivalent post for at least 12 months prior to nomination being made. Consultant appointment must be in a public or private hospital or in the broader healthcare system. A letter from the nominee's primary place of work will be required to confirm this. Locum or temporary posts are not equivalent or eligible.
 - Description of why Fellowship is of value.
 - Statement on current or intended contribution to Irish medicine. This can include doctors who are supporting Irish graduates abroad, or doctors who are currently working in Ireland, or doctors who may have qualified or trained in Ireland.
- and/or**
- Statement on the current or intended contribution to the strategic objectives of RCPI. This can include carrying out work on behalf of RCPI in areas such as examinations, training, education, etc.
 - Evidence of postgraduate specialist training achieved during career to date. If there is no evidence of structured postgraduate specialist training, the nominee must provide information on what training they have undertaken during their career to date. Nomination forms received with no evidence of structured training programme undertaken by the nominee will require an additional level of assessment by the Credentials Subgroup.
 - A full Curriculum Vitae.
 - Two nominators required to complete and approve nomination. Nominators must hold Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (FRCPI) and must be in good standing.
 - Nominations must be received on the Proposal for Fellowship form.

Further Information on Fellowship:

Nominations may be submitted at any time of the year. All nominations are assessed by the Credentials Subgroup who meet approximately six times per year, and nominations are then sent to the Council of the College for approval. Correspondence regarding the status of nominations will ordinarily be made directly with the nominators, and not the nominees, up until such time the nomination has been approved by the Council of the College.

Nominations will only be accepted on the Proposal for Fellowship Form.

Completed nominations forms should be submitted to:

The Membership Office

Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

Frederick House

19 South Frederick Street

Dublin 2, Ireland

Email: nominations@rcpi.ie

Royal College of Physicians of Ireland
Frederick House
19 South Frederick Street
Dublin 2
Ireland

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Email: college@rcpi.ie

