

Irish Clinician Educator Training (ICET) Programme

ICET Trainee

Application Guidance

2026/2027

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Introduction

The Irish Clinician Educator Training (ICET) programme is an innovative, advanced, educational pathway in the field of Postgraduate Clinical Education.

It is a two-year National Programme developed to provide training in Postgraduate Clinical Education and it is open to Specialist Registrars who can undertake it as Out of Clinical Programme Experience (OCPE) in alignment with RCPI regulation for OCPE. For more information on rules and regulations, please consult the Training Handbook available on the RCPI website ([access here](#)).

The aim of the programme is to support the training and professional development of future leaders in Postgraduate Clinical Education in Ireland.

ICET Trainees are required to attend educational activities, undertake different teaching activities at postgraduate and undergraduate level, complete a quality improvement project in the area of medical education and are expected to conduct research to a level of Medical Doctorate.

The administration of the ICET Programme is by the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI) and is under the direction of the Directors of ICET, Professor Edward McKone and Professor Margaret O'Connor.

The ICET Committee oversees the application process, the selection process, and the progress of the selected Trainees; furthermore, it will provide career guidance and mentorship to the Trainees during and after the programme.

ICET Trainee Eligibility

In order to be eligible to apply for the ICET programme, Trainees must:

- Be enrolled in a Higher Specialist Training (HST) programme with RCPI
- Be entering Year 3 of training or higher (in alignment with RCPI regulation for OCPE)
- Have maintained a good training record with appropriate sign-off at the last evaluation
- Inform the National Specialty Director (NSD) of the intention to apply for ICET

Application Process

ICET involves a two-part application process:

1) ICET Programme Application

Applicants apply for the ICET Programme via RCPI.

2) Post Application

Applicants apply for the post directly via the relevant training site/academic institution.

* *Note: applicants must check the [RCPI Website](#) for available post information and specific instructions*

The **ICET Programme Application** is a screening process where RCPI evaluates the applicant's eligibility for the ICET Programme.

The **Post Application** is for the post itself and is overseen by the relevant training site/academic institution.

Applicants who wish to undertake a post as part of the ICET Programme must be successful in both applications.

The Applicant should submit completed applications no later than the closing dates as advertised by RCPI and the training site/academic institution.

Selection Process

The ICET Committee will review, select and approve ICET Programme applications using the following considerations:

- CV and training record
- Research interest
- Teaching interest
- Candidate suitability
- Personal statement
- 2 x References

Suitable Applicants will meet with the ICET Committee to assess eligibility for the ICET Programme.

Suitable Applicants will meet with the hiring team for the relevant post to secure the post allocation.

* *Note: in some instances these meetings may be combined, depending on the specifics of the post.*

All applicants will be notified of outcomes following the conclusion of interviews.

Applicants who are successful in securing a position must complete and submit the relevant OCPE forms to confirm with their National Specialty Directors (NSDs) that they intend to pursue Out of Programme Experience (OCPE) as part of their ICET placement.

ICET Application Form Guidance

The following provides a breakdown of the information and documentation applicants will be required to submit.

Contact Details

This section of the Application Form will ask for details of the Applicant. Applicants will need to provide the following:

- RCPI ID of Applicant
- Full Name of Applicant
- HST Programme Specialty of Applicant
- Current Training Year of Applicant
- Current Training Site of Applicant
- Contact Email of Applicant
- Contact Telephone of Applicant

Applicants will be asked to confirm the following:

- That the Applicant has informed the NSD(s) for their HST programme of their intention to apply for ICET.
- That the Applicant understands that this application will determine eligibility for the **RCPI ICET Programme only**, that the recruitment process for the position at the ICET Post is overseen by the training site/academic institution and that the Applicant will be required to apply for the post separately via the training site/academic institution.
- That the Applicant understands that if successful in their application for ICET, they will be required to submit OCPE form for approval by the NSD(s) by the relevant deadline.

ICET Post

This section of the Application Form will ask for details of the ICET Post being applied for. Information on available ICET Posts including information on how to apply directly via the training site/academic institution can be found on the [RCPI website](#).

Applicants will be asked to confirm the following:

- Location/Training Site of the ICET Post

Teaching Activities

ICET Trainees are expected to deliver 20 hours of teaching every six months, a key component of which is assuming the Clinical Tutor Role within the BST/HST Taught Programme. This section of the Application Form will ask for details related to the Teaching component of the ICET Programme.

Applicants will be asked to provide an overview of their teaching experience (where applicable) in line with this expectation.

Research Component of the ICET Programme

ICET Trainees are expected to conduct research to a level of Medical Doctorate (MD) in the field of Clinical Education. This section of the Application Form will ask for details related to the Research component of the ICET Programme.

Applicants will be asked to provide an overview of their research experience (where applicable) in line with this expectation.

Personal Statement

This section of the Application Form will ask for a Personal Statement from the Applicant around why they are applying for ICET. This is an opportunity for the Applicant to tell us more about themselves and their suitability for the ICET Programme. The Applicant should describe why they wish to pursue a career in medical education, including reference to previous experience relevant to medical education and what they hope to achieve during their time on the programme.

Supporting Documents

The following required documents must be submitted with the application:

- CV of Applicant
- Two References*

* References should meet the following criteria:

- ✓ 500 words or fewer
- ✓ From the Applicant's current or previous HST Trainers or the specialty NSD
- ✓ Highlight why they feel the Applicant is a good candidate for the ICET Programme