Welcome to the Applicant Bulletin for Core Surgery Recruitment in 2014

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Key Dates

Applications Open:
12 November 11:00 hrs GMT

Applications Close:
5 December 17:00 hrs GMT

Interviews:
20 – 31 January 2014

2014 National Recruitment Process

Health Education England (HEE) has approved the Core Surgery National Recruitment Office (CSNRO) to run a National Selection Centre for the CST/CT1 Core Surgical Training (CST) recruitment process. This means that all interviews will be held in Central London over a 10 day period.

This is a change from the previous model where interviews were held locally at each LETB/deanery and applicants were only eligible to receive an offer at their interviewing LETB/deanery.

The 2014 recruitment process means applicants will now be able to preference, and if successful at interview, be eligible to receive an offer across all posts within LETB/deaneries. In addition to a greater choice of sub-preferences for applicants, this change will also improve the consistency and quality of the overall recruitment process.

In 2014 we’ve also made changes to the interview stations and improved applicant guidance regarding the portfolio station and application form. These updates should be available on the website by the end of September.

Person Specification and Eligibility

The person specification describes the essential and desirable criteria an applicant should have in order to be successful in their application. Potential applicants should ensure that their application meets the criteria for the Person Specification. If an applicant does not meet the essential criteria of the Person Specification, their application will be longlisted out and will not progress any further in the process. The 2014 Person Specification is currently being updated and will be made available on the website (www.surgeryrecruitment.nhs.uk) shortly. Please check regularly for updates.

The main change for 2014 is that all applicants must have completed the ALS (Advanced Life Support) course by the start date of the programme.

Applicants should also be aware of the maximum amount of surgical experience they can have in order to apply. Excluding when they have completed their foundation training (or equivalent), applicants must not have more than 18 months
Contact Details

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Who do we recruit for?
East Midlands
East of England
Kent, Surrey and Sussex
London Shared Services
North East
North West
Northern Ireland
Scotland
South West
Thames Valley
Wales
Wessex
West Midlands
Yorkshire and the Humber

surgical experience by the start date of the programme (by 6 August 2014).

UK and overseas experience is counted towards this 18 month limit. If you are unsure about any of this criteria, please refer to the FAQ page on the website for more information or email CSNRO@kss.hee.nhs.uk

CST Recruitment Timeline

Applications for CST/CT1 2014 programme will open 12 November 11:00hrs GMT and close 5 December 17:00hrs GMT. All applications for Core Surgical Training (CST) are made via Intrepid:Pathway.

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The ‘How to Apply’ section on the website provides information on what to consider when making applications, preferences, key dates, how to prepare for interview and how the offers will be coordinated.

Once applications have closed, all successfully longlisted applicants will then be invited to interview. Interviews will take place at the Charing Cross Hotel from 20-31 January.

Eligibility Documentation

All potential applicants should thoroughly prepare their application well in advance of the closing date. If applicants are required to provide alternative certification of their foundation competences, or have answered yes to any of the Fitness to Practise questions and/or have been removed or relinquished from a post, they must provide supporting evidence prior to the closing date of applications at 17:00 hrs GMT 5 December 2013.
If an applicant fails to provide the required evidence by the close of applications, their application will be longlisted out with no further recourse to appeal. No late documentation will be considered. Refer to the eligibility page for more information.

**BMJ Fair**

The CSNRO will be at the HEKSS stand at the BMJ Fair from 18-19 October held at the Business Design Centre, London. This is a great opportunity to come down and chat to the CSNRO team about any questions you may have regarding the CST recruitment process.

For further information and to register your attendance, please visit the BMJ site: [http://careersfair.bmj.com/en/1/national.html](http://careersfair.bmj.com/en/1/national.html)

**Questions and Further Information**

The CSNRO are currently updating the 2014 Applicant Guide. The guide will provide applicants with all the necessary information for the whole of the recruitment process and can be found under the ‘Downloads’ section of the website by the end of September. We recommend applicants read the Applicant Guide and check the website regularly for updates.

If you are interested in a trainee’s perspective on applying for CST, visit the ‘Trainee Experience’ link on the website for their personal insight and helpful tips on how to approach the application and interview.

If applicants experience any problems throughout the recruitment process, the CSNRO team will be available via telephone and email during office hours to provide support.