APPLICATIONS

Applications to Core Surgical Training closed on 7 December 2012 with 1295 applications. All applications have now been longlisted and all invitations to interview were sent on 19 & 20 December. Candidates can book their interview slot through the Pathway system on a first come, first served basis. Candidates can change their interview time online up until the closing time for interview slot bookings (shown when a slot is booked). To change a time slot, a candidate must log in to their Pathway account and cancel the current booking. Candidates will then be able to book another time slot. Please note, other available slots cannot be guaranteed. Unfortunately no interviews can be conducted outside the stated dates for each deanery.

Candidates are advised that they can be longlisted out of the application process at any time if it is found that they do not meet the essential criteria of the person specification.

INTERVIEW DOCUMENTATION

Candidates must bring all their eligibility documents to interview. Please note some UoAs have other documentation that candidates are required to bring. This is noted on the website under the Interview Documentation and References page.

PORTFOLIO CHECKLIST

In addition to the eligibility documentation, candidates will also need to bring their portfolio to the CST interview. The portfolio should contain documentation of any achievements and qualifications declared on the application form and evidence of how candidates meet the criteria set out in the Person Specification.

The CSNRO has provided a Portfolio checklist which must be put at the front the portfolio folder, so that interviewers can see what evidence candidates have brought to support their application. No other form of contents page will be accepted. A copy of the checklist is available to download from the download section of the surgery website.
REFERENCES

At interview candidates may be required to bring along completed references from each of the three referees they have outlined in the Pathway online application form. One referee must be a current or most recent consultant or educational supervisor familiar with the candidate’s clinical development. Candidates can continue to update referee details through their Pathway account after they have submitted their application.

Candidates should refer to the ‘Interview Documentation and References’ page on the Surgery Recruitment website to check if their interviewing UoA has requested that references are brought to interview. Candidates must submit references using the 2013 National Reference form also available to download from the surgery website. It is essential that the reference form is stamped with an official hospital stamp. If no stamp is available, please attach a compliment slip signed by the consultant providing the reference. If required, the original reference must be brought to interview in a sealed envelope. Emailed copies will not be accepted.

SUB PREFERENCES

Sub-preferencing of all available posts at your interviewing UoA is now open on the UK Offers system. Candidates should have received an email with instructions on how to sub-preference.

Please follow the below link to the page on the Core Surgery website where candidates can download rotation details in PDF format for each of the UoAs: http://www.surgeryrecruitment.nhs.uk/the-process/post-information

Please use these details to help rank the available sub-preferences. Details are subject to change, however if any rotation details are amended, a new version of this document will be uploaded and all candidates will be notified via email. Candidates should ensure they are referencing the most up to date version of the document when ranking sub-preferences.

INTERVIEWS

CST interviews will commence on 7 January 2013 and run until 15 February 2013. Specific dates for each UoA can be found on the website: http://www.surgeryrecruitment.nhs.uk/key-dates.

All core surgery interviews will follow the same structure nationally - interviews will comprise of 3 x 10 minute stations – Clinical Scenario, Management and Portfolio station. You will need to ensure you arrive at the interview location with plenty of time before your interview is due to start.

For further information on the interview stations, please visit the ‘About Your Interview’ page on the website.

PILOT STATIONS

In 2013, the CSNRO will be conducting a review of the interview stations used for CST recruitment. Part of this review involves piloting additional stations to test whether they might be more useful in determining whether a candidate is successful at interview. Some UoAs may only pilot one station. Others may pilot the station on one of their circuits or only on one of their interview days. However, not all UoAs will pilot stations.

Candidates will have been notified if pilot stations are running at their chosen UoA in their reminder email regarding their interview.

The stations must take place after the standard 3 stations with each additional station adding approximately 15 minutes to a candidate’s overall interview time. Scores from these stations will not be used to determine whether a candidate is successful or unsuccessful. Scores will only be used for research purposes and the CSNRO requests that all participants in the pilot complete additional feedback.

The three stations that are to be piloted in 2013 are:

- Communication Skills
- Patient Discharge Scenario
- Technical Skills
OFFERS

Once interviews are complete across all UoAs, the CSNRO will notify candidates of whether or not they were successful at interview. Rank and score will be published to candidates and offers will then be released via the UK Offers system, week commencing 18 February.

Offers are released according to interview ranking and chosen sub-preferences. This means the first ranked candidate at a UoA will receive an offer of their first ranked sub-preference followed by the second ranked candidate being offered their first preference unless it had already been offered to the first ranked candidate, in which case they will receive an offer of their second ranked sub-preference and so on.

If candidates wish to request interview feedback, they are advised to refer to the interview feedback pages on the Surgery Recruitment website for details of how to request interview feedback. Feedback will be given according to the local policy for each UoA.

Regarding feedback following interview, candidates should submit their requests to the appropriate recruiting UoAs for them to respond directly. It is expected that UoAs will respond to applicants within the MMC timescales.

NATIONAL CLEARING

It is expected that there will be more successful candidates than there are posts at some UoAs. If a candidate does not receive an offer at their first choice UoA because all posts have been accepted by candidates who ranked higher than them, they will be eligible to enter the national clearing process. In clearing, all eligible candidates will be re-ranked according to their interview score and offers will be made according to their rank and chosen preferences.

If a candidate does not meet the essential eligibility criteria or if they are unsuccessful at interview for their first choice UoA, they will not be eligible to enter the national clearing process and will need to reapply to Core Surgery in future recruitment rounds.

FURTHER INFORMATION & ENQUIRIES

CSNRO Contact Details 0207 089 7503 CSNRO@kssdeanery.ac.uk

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If you no longer wish to receive this bulletin in please email CSNRO@kssdeanery.ac.uk detailing "opt out" within the email and we will remove you from the mailing list.