



## **CESR ASSESSOR Role Description**

### **Background**

It is a legal requirement to be listed on the General Medical Council's (GMC) Specialist Register before individuals can take up a substantive, honorary or fixed-term NHS consultant post in the UK.

The Certificate of Eligibility for Specialist Registration (CESR) is a way for doctors who have not completed a GMC-approved training programme to apply for entry to the GMC's Specialist Register. CESR is the process by which doctors who have not trained in an approved programme can demonstrate that their knowledge, skills and experience are equivalent to those of the relevant CCT curriculum to join the Specialist Register.

The College is responsible for recommending doctors for entry to the Specialist Register via the Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) and CESR route. For CESR applications, the College's role is to evaluate and return applications to the GMC, either approved or with recommendations about what is required for a successful re-application to be made.

The College has responsibility for reviewing CESR applications in the following specialties:

Chemical Pathology  
Diagnostic Neuropathology  
Forensic Histopathology  
Histopathology  
Medical Microbiology  
Medical Virology  
Paediatric & Perinatal Pathology

### **CESR Assessors**

#### **What does the role entail?**

Ensure that:

- applications are evaluated according to the guidelines set by the GMC and the College's specialty-specific guidance.
- the evaluation (including discussions by teleconference call) is conducted in a fair and transparent manner and in accordance with relevant legislation, the current process and advice.
- the patient's best interests are protected, and that the applicant receives a fair assessment of their application in accordance with relevant legislation, the current process and advice.

It is important for an assessor to ensure that this standard is maintained as the decision to grant a CESR will allow the applicant to be eligible for appointment to a substantive consultant post in the NHS.



The role of CESR Assessor offers several valuable opportunities which include:

- A chance to be actively involved in ensuring the maintenance of high professional standards in the pathology workforce.
- Contributing to increasing the pool of appropriately qualified pathology specialists in the UK.
- Sharing of good practices with colleagues throughout the country.
- Use of the learning experience to claim CPD points.

### **The CESR Evaluation Process**

Evaluate individual applications, including any subsequent appeals and reviews. (An evidence bundle is typically between 800-1200 pages and assessors are given 3-4 weeks to complete their work). Further information on what evidence doctors should submit as part of their CESR application can be found in the relevant [Specialty Specific Guidance](#).

The CESR applications are accessed online through a GMC secure portal called GMC Connect.

Determine if applications are successful or recommend appropriate top-up training, examination assessment or any other test of competence if and when those requirements have not been satisfied.

Attendance at virtual meetings may be required from time to time e.g., where CESR Assessors may need to discuss complex applications.

The Training Department will provide administrative support.

CESR Assessors:

- Must keep up to date with scientific, medical and educational developments in the specialty.
- Will be expected to commit to regularly evaluating applications for CESR, ideally, assessing 3 a year depending on the number of applications received from the GMC.
- must be willing to attend training about the CESR process and keep up to date.
- let the Training Department know as soon as possible whether or not they are able to evaluate a CESR application.

### **Person specification**

- In active clinical practice in the UK in one of chemical pathology, diagnostic neuropathology, forensic histopathology, histopathology, medical microbiology, medical virology or paediatric and perinatal pathology and listed on the GMC's Specialist Register.
- Be GMC-registered with a license to practice and be listed on the GMC's Specialist Register in the specialty in which they are in active practice.
- Ideally should be a Fellow of the College, undertaking Continuing Professional Development.
- Require knowledge of the training and capabilities expected of a Day-1 consultant in NHS practice.
- Have evidence of having undertaken and being up to date with EDI training.

### **What is the time commitment?**

CESR assessors should expect to commit up to 6 days a year (approximately 0.25 PAs).

Please note that the role is not remunerated and that this is intended only to be a guide to the time assessors may spend on this work.