



**INSTITUTE OF  
OBSTETRICIANS &  
GYNAECOLOGISTS**

ROYAL COLLEGE OF  
PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND



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Return Completed to: [katiavega@rcpi.ie](mailto:katiavega@rcpi.ie)



## OVERVIEW

### Recognition of Prior Clinical Experience (RPE)

The RPE process is the formal recognition of clinical experience completed in Ireland commencing prior to 2020.

Doctors who have been working in the Irish Medical system since before 2020 and have clinical experience which could be deemed equivalent to BST, may apply for RPE during the period of 1 July to 16 August 2024.

To be eligible for RPE, you must be:

- Living in Ireland and working in the Irish healthcare system since before 2020
- unable to apply for BST programme before 2020 because your internship was not recognised by the Medical Council
- Demonstrate that you have completed several years of clinical experience in Ireland that could be deemed equivalent to BST

If prior experience is deemed equivalent to BST, applicants will be eligible to apply for HST.

Applicants must meet all requirements for BST which includes having Membership of RCPI (MRCPI). Membership from other Colleges will not be accepted.

This process is open to those who graduated with their Medical Degree within the last ten years.

**Note: If you completed your Internship in any of the below listed countries you cannot avail of this process.** Prior to a change in the Act in 2020, the Irish Medical Council recognised internships undertaken in the following countries as equivalent:

- Australia
- Malaysia
- New Zealand
- Pakistan where the internship was commenced after 31st December 2008 (note: the rotations must meet the standards of an Irish internship)
- Sudan
- South Africa where the internship was commenced after 1st July 2006
- UK
- Malta

The process opens on 1 July 2024 and strictly closes on 16 August 2024. Please note that this process is only available in 2024 and will not be available in subsequent years.



## INSTRUCTIONS

To apply for RPE, please complete the following application form. You will be required to submit additional documentation to support your application. Requirements are outlined within the application. We have also provided a Supporting Documentation Checklist to assist with this process.

There is a non-refundable application fee of €250. Applicants are required to complete the payment process as part of their application. Applications will only be regarded as complete once the application fee has been paid.

Please return completed application form along with all supporting documentation and application fee to: [katiavega@rcpi.ie](mailto:katiavega@rcpi.ie)

You will get an answer no later than 30 September 2024.

Further information and FAQs are available here: [Royal College of Physicians of Ireland Website > Learn and Develop > Recognition of Prior Learning > Recognition of Prior Experience – 2024/2025 Process \(rcpi.ie\)](#)

## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION CHECKLIST

✓	Supporting Document	Note
	Your Curriculum Vitae	
	Sample Clinical Timetable / Overview of Duties	Please include a sample for each post you submitted for consideration as part of this application
	Certificates of Attendance at Relevant Courses	These must include courses in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication</li> <li>• Ethics</li> <li>• Leadership</li> <li>• Safe Prescribing</li> </ul>
	References by a minimum of two Referees who have been Supervising Consultants	Referring consultants must have supervised you in posts listed in Section 2 of this application



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## Section 1: Personal Information

**Name:**

Medical Council Number:

RCPI number:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Home Address:

Institution of Medical Degree:

Year of Qualification:



## Section 2: Clinical Experience

To complete this section, please fill out the table below ensuring adherence to the criteria listed.

For each post included in the table, please specify the duration of the post in months, the name of the post and the name of the supervisor for that post.

In addition to this, applicants are required to attach the following appendices:

- a full *Curriculum Vitae*
- overview of the clinical timetable or overview of duties for each post submitted for consideration as part of the application process.

### Criteria

By the time of the application, the applicant is expected to have:

- Completed at least 24 months of training in Obstetrics & Gynaecology as Senior House Officer (SHO) posts in Ireland
- Completed at least 12 months of training in Obstetrics & Gynaecology as a Junior Registrar in Ireland
- Fully participated in on-call requirements during each post.

Post	Supervisor	Requirement



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## Section 3: Education and Learning

Applicants should have received formal education (e.g. a course or workshop) in the following areas:

- Communication
- Ethics
- Leadership
- And safe prescribing

Please list below all relevant courses completed and attach relevant certificates in Appendix C.

<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Date</b>



## Section 4: Additional Professional Experience

Please list in the table below all relevant professional experience completed and, where available, attach relevant certificates in Appendix C.

### Criteria

Applicants should have participated in:

- Ward Rounds
- MDT Meetings (at least one per month)
- Journal Clubs (at least one per week)

Applicants should demonstrate a working knowledge of:

- Research (at least one project)
- Audit and QI (completed at least one per clinical year)
- Delivering Teaching (around two instances per clinical year)

Applicants should have experience in:

- Delivering Presentations/ Publications (one per year)
- Engaging with National/international meetings (at least one per year)

Please Describe how you have met these criteria, referencing any relevant experience.

Max 500 words per criterion

Ward Rounds	
MDT Meetings	
Journal Clubs	



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Research	
Audit and QI	
Teaching Experience	
Presentations/ Publications	
National/International Meetings	





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## Section 5: Evaluations and Reference

- The applicant is required to identify at least 2 referees to complete this Section.
- The referees should be consultants who have directly supervised the applicant. The relevant posts should be included in those listed above in Section 2.
- The reference per each skill listed in sections 5.a and 5.b can be filled out by different consultant supervisors.

### 5.a Clinical and Technical Evaluation

The referee should provide a concise and specific reference of the applicant's competency per each of the clinical skills listed below.

The referee should address any concerns or deficiencies that the applicant might have encountered in any of the following skills, specifying if remedial actions were taken or if recommendation for additional supervision was provided.



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## **1. Basic General and Clinical Skills**

There are 5 Outcomes underpinning this goal:

- Outcome 1 History Taking
- Outcome 2 Physical and Clinical Examination
- Outcome 3 Wound Care and Management
- Outcome 4 Audit and Quality Improvement
- Outcome 5 Communication Skills

Please provide a reference about these outcomes mentioning specific training opportunities and relative experience during the post.

Referee's Full Name:

Referee's Position and Title:

Referee's Contact Details:

Referee's Relationship to Applicant:

Duration of Professional Relationship with Applicant:



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## **2. Management of Early Pregnancy**

There are 3 Outcomes underpinning this goal:

- Outcome 1 Early Pregnancy Problems
- Outcome 2 Care of Patients with First Trimester Miscarriage
- Outcome 3 Care of Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Ectopic Pregnancy

Please provide a reference about these outcomes including specific training opportunities and relative experience during the post.

Referee's Full Name:

Referee's Position and Title:

Referee's Contact Details:

Referee's Relationship to Applicant:

Duration of Professional Relationship with Applicant:



### 3. Management of Antenatal Pathologies

There are 9 Outcomes underpinning this goal

- Outcome 1 Common Pregnancy Problems
- Outcome 2 Antenatal Care of Patients with a Previous Caesarean Section
- Outcome 3 Fetal Assessment and CTG Interpretation
- Outcome 4 Care of Patients with Diabetes in Pregnancy
- Outcome 5 Care of Patients with Hypertensive Disorders in Pregnancy
- Outcome 6 Care of Patients with Small for Gestational Age (SGA) Fetus
- Outcome 7 Care of Patients with Obstetric Cholestasis
- Outcome 8 Care of Patients with APH
- Outcome 9 Care of Patients with (Previous or Suspected) VTE

Please provide a reference about these outcomes including specific training opportunities and relative experience during the post.

Referee's Full Name:

Referee's Position and Title:

Referee's Contact Details:

Referee's Relationship to Applicant:

Duration of Professional Relationship with Applicant:



#### **4. Management of Obstetrics Emergencies**

There are 6 Outcomes underpinning this goal

- Outcome 1 Care of Patients with Threatened or Preterm Labour
- Outcome 2 Care of Patients with Cord Prolapse
- Outcome 3 Management of Shoulder Dystocia
- Outcome 4 Care of Patients with Pre-eclampsia and Severe Pre-eclampsia
- Outcome 5 Management of Maternal Collapse
- Outcome 6 Management of Postpartum Haemorrhage

Please provide a reference about these outcomes including specific training opportunities and relative experience during the post.

Referee's Full Name:

Referee's Position and Title:

Referee's Contact Details:

Referee's Relationship to Applicant:

Duration of Professional Relationship with Applicant:



## 5. Labour Ward Management and Postpartum

There are 10 Outcomes underpinning this goal

- Outcome 1 Labour and Delivery
- Outcome 2 Skilled Birth Attendance for Obstetricians
- Outcome 3 Management of Induction of Labour
- Outcome 4 Caesarean Section
- Outcome 5 Dystocia in Labour
- Outcome 6 Labour in the Presence of a Previous Caesarean Section
- Outcome 7 Operative Vaginal Delivery
- Outcome 8 Care of Patients with Perineal Tears
- Outcome 9 Pre-operative Management
- Outcome 10 Care of Patients with Complications During the Puerperium

Please provide a reference about these outcomes including specific training opportunities and relative experience during the post.

Referee's Full Name:

Referee's Position and Title:

Referee's Contact Details:

Referee's Relationship to Applicant:

Duration of Professional Relationship with Applicant:



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## 6. General Gynaecology

There are 7 Outcomes associated with this goal

- Outcome 1 Pre-operative Care
- Outcome 2 Menstrual Problems and Abnormal Bleeding
- Outcome 3 Care of Patients with Acute Pelvic Pain and Dysmenorrhoea
- Outcome 4 Problems of the Vulva and Vagina
- Outcome 5 Menopausal Problems
- Outcome 6 Care of Patients with Post-menopausal Bleeding
- Outcome 7 Managing Family Planning and Contraception

Please provide a reference about these outcomes including specific training opportunities and relative experience during the post.

Referee's Full Name:

Referee's Position and Title:

Referee's Contact Details:

Referee's Relationship to Applicant:

Duration of Professional Relationship with Applicant:



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## 7. Gynaecology Subspecialties

There are 5 Outcomes underpinning this goal

- Outcome 1 Operative Gynaecology
- Outcome 2 Urogynaecology
- Outcome 3 Oncology
- Outcome 4 Infertility
- Outcome 5 Contraception/Family Planning

Please provide a reference about these outcomes including specific training opportunities and relative experience during the post.

Referee's Full Name:

Referee's Position and Title:

Referee's Contact Details:

Referee's Relationship to Applicant:

Duration of Professional Relationship with Applicant:





### 8. OSATS Checklist

Please, describe the applicant's level of competency in each of these technical skills.

<b>Technical Skill</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Level of Competency</b>
Caesarean Section		
Fetal Blood Sampling		
Manual Removal of Placenta		
Operative Vaginal Delivery - Forceps		
Multiple Pregnancy		
Abdominal Hysterectomy		
Vaginal Hysterectomy		
Diagnostic Cystourethroscopy		
Diagnostic Hysteroscopy		
Diagnostic Laparoscopy		
Opening and Closing the Abdomen		
Transabdominal and Transvaginal ultrasound		



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examination of early pregnancy		
Fetal Measurement, Lie and Presentation		
Rotational Instrumental Delivery		
Normal Birth Attendance and Newborn Care		
Uterine Evacuation		
Operative Vaginal Delivery		
Perineal Repair		
Basic Perineal Suturing		

Referee's Full Name:

Referee's Position and Title:

Referee's Contact Details:

Referee's Relationship to Applicant:

Duration of Professional Relationship with Applicant:



## 5.b Professional and Personal Evaluation

The referee should evaluate the applicant's skills and professional behaviour in communication, teamwork, ethical practice and partnership with patients.

From their experience in supervising the applicant, the referee is invited to mention examples based on the following criteria – where applicable. The criteria listed below are the professional skills expected of a BST trainee.

The referee should address any concerns or deficiencies that the applicant might have encountered in any of these criteria, specifying if any remedial actions were taken or recommendation for additional supervision was provided.

### Criteria

- Engage with patients and colleagues in a respectful manner
- Actively listen to the thoughts, concerns and opinions of others
- Maintain good working relationships with colleagues
- Be aware of your own level of practice and learning needs
- Work cooperatively with team members to deliver an excellent standard of care
- Seek to build trust and mutual respect with patients
- Act in the patient's best interest
- Engage in shared decision-making and discuss consent
- Follow safe working practices that impact patients safety
- Understand ethical practice and the Medical Council guidelines
- Support a culture of open disclosure and risk reporting
- Reflective practice and self-awareness
- Freely share knowledge and information

### Evaluation

Referee's Full Name:

Referee's Position and Title:

Referee's Contact Details:

Referee's Relationship to Applicant:

Duration of Professional Relationship with Applicant:

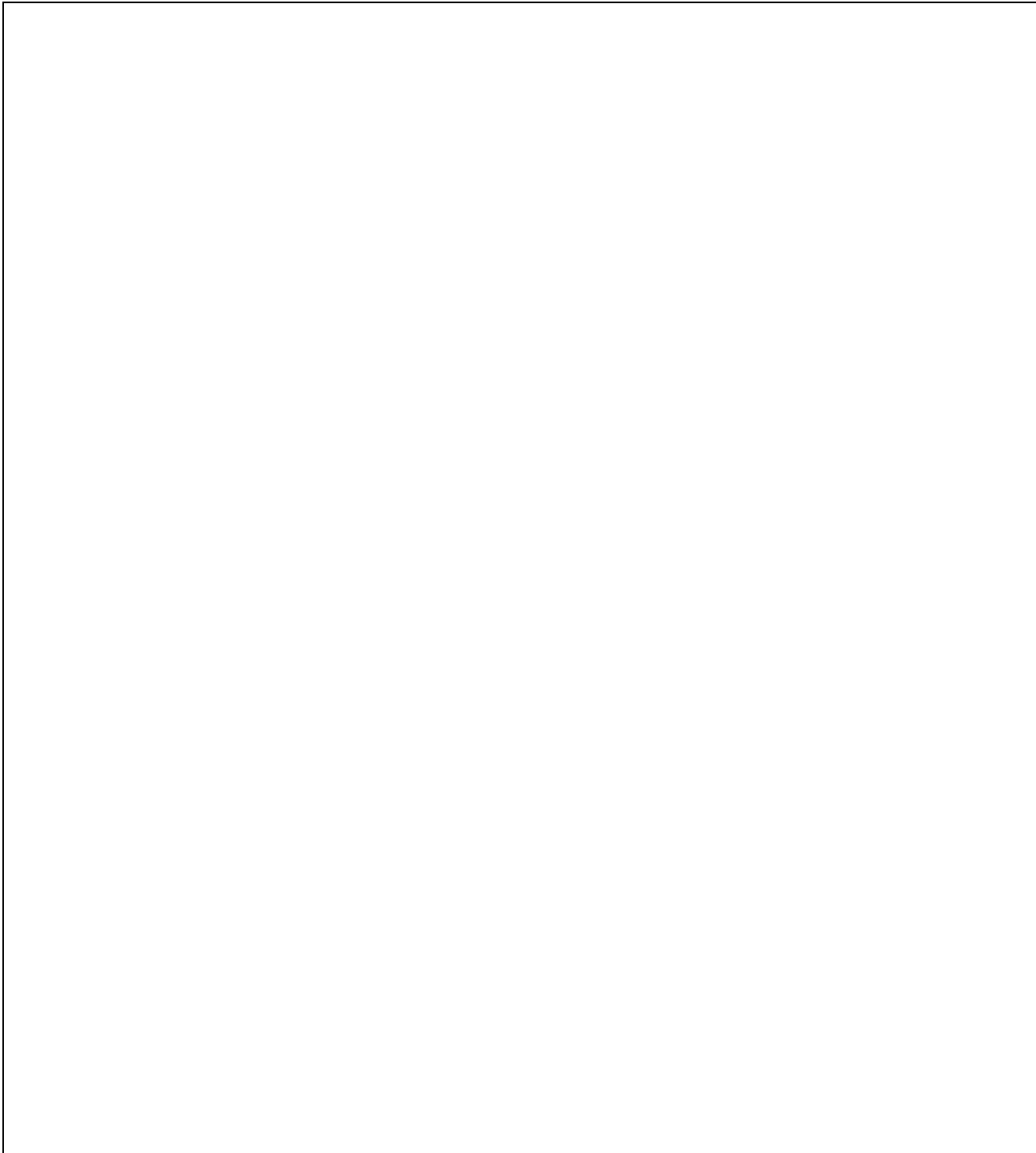


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## Section 6: Applicant Declaration

### **Declaration Statement:**

- "I hereby declare that all information provided in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false statements or omissions may lead to the rejection of my application."

### **Applicant Signature:**

### **Date:**



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## Appendices

Appendix A: Curriculum Vitae

Appendix B: Sample Timetable for Submitted Posts

Appendix C: Relevant or referenced CPD Certificates

Appendix D: Confirmation of Membership Attainment (i.e., MRCPI)