
Guidance: PMETB approval of out of programme training or research

The guidance explains PMETB requirements for the approval of training or research undertaken out of programme.

Please be aware that in line with the new language of training under MMC, it is now out of programme experience for Training (OOPT) and out of programme experience for research (OOPR) which must be prospectively approved by PMETB if it is to count towards the aware of a CCT.

What was previously known as out of programme experience, or 'OOPE' is now defined as 'out of programme clinical experience' and does not count towards the aware of a CCT. Similarly, 'time out of programme for career breaks' (OOPC) does not count towards a CCT and hence does not require PMETB approval. For further information on these terms and what is involved, please refer to the Gold Guide, Paragraphs 6.91 through to 6.114.

PMETB requires information on the following from the Deanery in order to process and approve applications for out of programme training or research (please note that there is no form to fill out, just documentation which addresses the three points):

- 1) A formal covering letter from the Deanery to PMETB seeking prospective approval of the OOPT or OOPR placement and confirming that the placement has Deanery support along with the following essential information;
 - trainee's full name
 - date of birth
 - GMC number
 - NTN number
 - Specialty (from list of approved specialties)

PMETB cannot accept applications from individual trainees or Colleges/SACs/Faculties.

- 2) Confirmation that the specialty, through appropriate College mechanisms, is aware of and supports the OOPT or OOPR placement. The specialty should also indicate the length of time the OOPT/OOPR should count towards the trainee's CCT.
- 3) A statement detailing the purpose and structure of the OOPT or OOPR placement, including confirmation that the placement is subject to quality management in line with PMETB requirements.

Applications for PMETB approval of the OOPT or OOPR placement should be sent to: quality.assurance@pmetb.org.uk

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