

# Portfolio pathway – policy on evidential requirements for revalidated doctors

## Summary of policy

Doctors with registration and a licence to practise who have submitted supporting information as part of a successful revalidation can submit the same evidence to support an application for specialist or GP registration using the portfolio pathway if it is required to assess the standard for GP or Specialist registration. Applicants should not have to collect additional evidence in these categories.

## Background

1. Requirements for entry onto the Specialist and General Practice registers are set out in the Eligibility and Registration of General Practitioners and Specialist Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Order 2022 and General Medical Council (Applications for General Practice and Specialist Registration) (Amendment) Regulations 2022. Both the Order and Regulations sit beneath the Medical Act 1983.
2. The legislation sets out that the doctor must demonstrate that they have the knowledge, skills and experience required for practising as an eligible specialist or general practitioner in the UK.
3. Doctors who have completed training outside of an approved training programme in the UK can apply for specialist or GP registration via the Portfolio pathway by providing a suite of evidence about their previous training and experience. This contributes to the overall assessment of their knowledge, skills and experience using the curriculum outcomes for that speciality. If that assessment is successful we will grant Specialist or GP Registration.
4. Most doctors who apply for specialist or GP registration using the portfolio pathway already hold registration with a licence to practice and many of these doctors have already participated in at least one revalidation cycle which means that they will already have provided some similar evidence to support their revalidation. This policy sets out that applicants can submit the same supporting information that is collected for revalidation (e.g CPD, patient feedback, colleague feedback, complaints and compliments and significant incidents) as part of their Portfolio application where that information is needed as evidence to assess the standard for specialist or GP registration but they should not have to collect additional evidence in these categories
5. This policy will contribute to minimising any duplication in gathering evidence and may help to make the process less burdensome for applicants.

---

## Who does this policy apply to?

6. This policy applies to doctors who are registered with the GMC, hold a licence to practise and have successfully completed a revalidation cycle.
7. This policy does not apply to:
  - Doctors who do not already hold full registration and are applying for registration with specialist or GP registration at the same time.
  - Doctors who have not yet successfully revalidated (including those who have a current non-engagement recommendation) or are not currently in a revalidation cycle.

## What is the policy?

8. Where applicants hold registration and licence to practise in the UK and have successfully revalidated in the last five years:
  - Evidence relating to CPD, patient feedback, colleague feedback, complaints and compliments, significant events or serious incidents, and quality improvement activity which have been submitted for revalidation purposes can also be submitted as evidence to address a requirement in the SSG,
  - There should be no requirement for probity/fitness to practise and health declarations.
  - Applicants should not generally be required to submit appraisal documents unless it is clear how it meets the requirement of the SSG.
  - Where appraisal information is required, the SSG will be clear about whether the applicant's most recent appraisal will be sufficient to meet the requirement. If earlier appraisal information is required, this should be justified by the RCF.
9. Clinical evaluators and decision makers will make a judgement about evidence which has been provided and consider what level of assurance it provides of the doctor's knowledge, skills and experience. If they are not satisfied that it provides sufficient assurance, they will have the discretion to request clarification or further evidence.

**Policy draft and date: V 0.1 15/09/23**