

Oriel 2

Junior Doctor Update

Background Information

The contract for 'Oriel' is due to expire in October 2020 and as a result we have been working closely with our current supplier to develop a replacement system – 'Oriel 2' which was launched on 1st June 2020.

Given the cyclical nature of postgraduate recruitment to UK training programmes, both the legacy system and the new system will run alongside one another until December 2020, at which point the legacy system will no longer be accessible - this is to allow for any recruitment that has started on Oriel, prior to the new system being launched, to cease before the legacy system is disabled. It is also worth highlighting that once the legacy system is switched off, we will no longer need to refer to the new system as 'Oriel 2' and as such, it will return to just being known as Oriel.

Our Aims

- To deliver an improved national recruitment system
- To improve your journey through the recruitment process

Taking on board junior doctor feedback

A number of focus groups to gather a list of system requirements took place in August 2018. One of these focus groups was specifically for junior doctors and we asked participants to review the application process and pinpoint where within the system they felt improvements or changes could be made. The outputs of these focus groups have formed our Oriel 2 'wish list' and this wish list has been split into three development phases:

- Phase 1: August 2019 - June 2020 (Focus on improving existing functionality)
- Phase 2: June 2020 - October 2020 (Focus on improving existing functionality & introducing new functionality)
- Phase 3: October 2020 - May 2021 (Focus on introducing new functionality)

In addition to the focus groups, a number of junior doctors also participated in the phase one user acceptance testing which took place between February – April 2020. This user acceptance testing provided an opportunity for junior doctors to review the new system to check that it worked as expected prior to it being released.

Your feedback is really important to us and so we will continue to work with the BMA Junior Doctors Committee as we progress into phase two.

Junior Doctor focussed system improvements

For phase one and on the basis of junior doctor feedback we have made a number improvements including:

- A modernised interface and enhanced support for mobile devices which will enable you to access the system on the go.
- Improved functionality and a more streamlined application process to make it quicker and easier to view and apply for vacancies. Application forms can now be previewed prior to starting an application.

- Visual progress trackers will also be introduced to help keep track of applications.
- An enhanced Information centre which will provide quick access to contact information, user guidance, FAQs and the latest news.

The improvements listed above have been reviewed by junior doctors and we are pleased to tell you that the feedback has been positive with users agreeing that the new system is already much more user friendly.

Looking to the future

We are only too aware of previous difficulties and issues that users may have experienced whilst using the legacy oriel system and the impact these have had on junior doctors during the application process. It is our intention that with this improved system such issues will be avoided in the future.

Going forward we also want to ensure, above all else, that recruitment activity is not affected by any new releases to the system and as a result we are working with the recruitment timelines in mind.

Our priority has been to ensure that the new system is robust and most importantly, fit for purpose for all user groups from applicants to administrative and recruitment staff.

FAQs

Why have you decided to work with the same supplier for Oriel 2 given all the issues that junior doctors have experienced with the legacy system?

The new system was procured via the digital marketplace following a transparent tendering process.

After a thorough review of the digital marketplace our current supplier was awarded the highest score and was subsequently awarded the contract. In addition to offering the most suitable replacement system for 'Oriel,' we felt that continuing to work with the same supplier had many advantages and means we are now in a stronger position to deliver a better system. Working with a supplier that understands the complexities of our recruitment processes also significantly reduces the number of risks associated with developing a new system.

Will I encounter the same performance issues when using Oriel 2 as I have for Oriel?

We appreciate how frustrating some of the performance issues within Oriel have been and we are doing everything we can to address these issues to ensure that you do not encounter the same problems in the new system. Performance testing will be conducted by a third party prior to each development release so that we are assured the system will continue to perform as expected year-round.

Can I participate in user acceptance testing?

User acceptance testing for phase 2 is currently being scheduled and is likely to take place in August/September 2020. At this stage, to prioritise the safety and wellbeing of our participants, we are preparing to conduct this testing remotely. Participation will be on a voluntary basis but as a minimum, we ask testers to complete one full day of testing (09:00 – 16:30)

If you are interested in participating or you'd like more information, please email MDRS-SR@hee.nhs.uk

Registering on Oriel 2

Although you may not need to use the new system for a while, you will be able to register on Oriel 2 from 01/06/2020. To register, please visit: <https://new.oriel.nhs.uk/Web/>