

Eligibility Applicant Guidance 2021

UK Foundation Programme (UKFP 2021)

January 2020

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Please be advised that this guidance is subject to change in light of external dependencies and in particular, in regard to the current public health pandemic. The UKFPO will provide updates, as necessary.

Introduction

This document is for applicants to the national UK Foundation Programme 2021 (UKFP 2021) who: -

- 1. are studying at or have graduated from a non-UK medical school, or
- 2. have graduated from a UK medical school on or prior to 4th August 2019, or
- 3. a non-UK/settled worker studying for a UK medical degree at a campus outside of the UK, for example, University of Nicosia, Cyprus (St. George's University London), or Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia.

Applicants in any of these three groups need to submit an eligibility application **BEFORE** the main application round in October 2020 to have their eligibility to apply confirmed. You must complete an eligibility application in July – September 2020. If you are considered eligible, you must also apply to FP in October 2020. You will also have the option to apply for academic and priority programmes.

UK medical school students who are due to graduate in 2020 and 2021 <u>do not</u> need to submit an application for eligibility through this process. Your medical school will be able to nominate you.

Please note that the date of qualification to be provided on the Dean's Statement as confirmation of criterion 1 is the date of qualification, i.e. when the applicant completed and passed their degree, rather than the date of graduation, i.e. when the applicant graduated and received their certificate.

What is an eligibility application?

An eligibility application consists of an online application form and supporting documentation.

The eligibility application form is completed on Oriel, which is the national online application system for medical training in the UK. Some supporting evidence can be uploaded as part of the online application.

The eligibility application window will open at 09:00 (BST) on **Monday 20th July 2020**. The application window will close at **12:00 (BST) on Wednesday 2nd September 2020**. Late applications will not be considered under any circumstances.

This guide focuses on making an eligibility application. Applicants to the UK Foundation Programme also need to read the UKFP Applicants' Handbook 2021 for further information about applying to the Foundation Programme.

Please note that during the eligibility application window, all communication should be submitted in writing through <u>helpdesk@foundationprogramme.nhs.uk</u>. Applicants will not be able to contact the team by telephone.

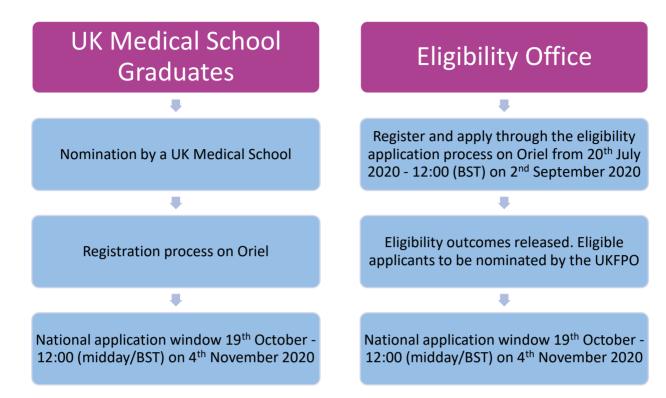
The UKFPO will **not** be able to provide a pre-checking service and will not review the content or supporting evidence provided as part of your application prior to submission.

Applicants who have postgraduate experience of working in a clinical setting are advised to liaise with the General Medical Council (GMC) about their registration status. For example, applicants who have undertaken a 12-month internship may be eligible for full registration with the GMC, rendering them ineligible to apply for foundation training.

It is recommended for applicants to use the GMC's online applicant registration tool, which can be accessed via the link below: -

https://www.gmc-uk.org/registration-and-licensing/join-the-register/registration-applications/application-registration

Do I need to submit an eligibility application?



You DO NOT need to submit an eligibility application if: -

- > You are a UK medical student expecting to graduate in 2020 or 2021, OR
- > You graduated from a UK medical school <u>after</u> 4th August 2019, <u>OR</u>
- > You are a UK or settled national studying for a UK medical degree at a campus outside the UK.

Your affiliated UK medical school will arrange for you to be nominated to apply for the UK Foundation Programme 2021. If you are not currently studying at a UK based campus, we would advise you to contact your medical school to ensure that you will be nominated.

You DO need to submit an eligibility application if: -

- > You are a student or graduate from a non-UK medical school, OR
- > You graduated from a UK medical school on or prior to 4th August 2019, OR
- > You are a non-UK/settled national studying for a UK medical degree at a campus outside the UK.

You must complete an online eligibility application form, upload the required documentation on Oriel and submit additional information by email (<u>helpdesk@foundationprogramme.nhs.uk</u>) to the UK Foundation Programme Office within the application window **20th July – 2nd September 2020**.

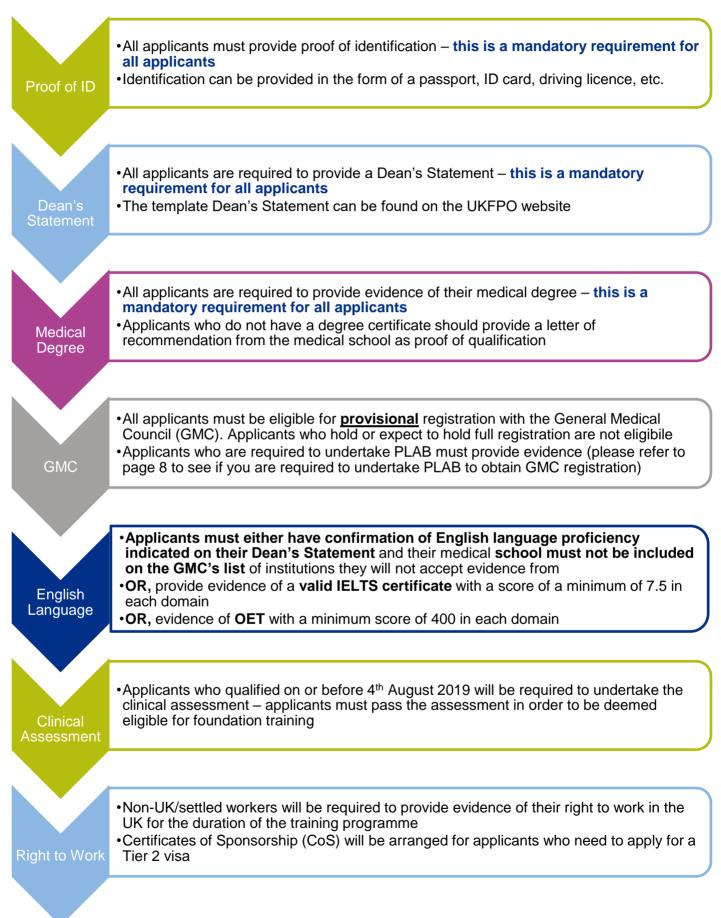
To be considered for any of the two-year programmes, including academic and priority programmes, applicants must be eligible for provisional registration with the GMC. Applicants must have been nominated or deemed eligible through the eligibility application process in order to apply.

Applicants who hold or expect to obtain full registration with the GMC are not eligible to apply for two-year programmes and are advised to consider the guidance for applicants for F2 Stand-alone programmes.

Timeline / Deadlines

Date(s)	Activity
May 2020	Eligibility guidance documents and Dean's statement available
	on the UKFPO website
20 th July 2020 (09:00 BST)	Eligibility application window opens on Oriel.
2 nd September 2020	Deadline for eligibility applications. Late applications will
	not be considered under any circumstances.
21 st September 2020	Eligibility status confirmed to applicants.
	Applicants who need to undergo the UKFPO's national clinical
	assessment will be given information about payment details.
21 st – 28 th September 2020	First stage of the appeals process for applicants to correct any
(12:00 BST)	errors or provide additional information that was omitted from
	their initial eligibility application.
24 th September 2020	Deadline for reasonable adjustment requests for the clinical
	assessment (where applicable).
	Deadline for applicants to pay the full clinical assessment fee.
1 st October 2020	First stage appeals panel.
5 th October 2020	Outcomes from the first stage of appeals released to applicants.
5 th – 8 th October 2020 (12:00	Submission window for applicants to appeal the outcome of their
BST)	application on account of process.
13 th October 2020	Second stage appeals panel convenes.
15 th October 2020	Outcomes from the second stage of appeals released to
	applicants.
16 th October 2020	Deadline for second stage appellants to pay the full clinical
	assessment fee.
19 th October 2020	Applicants who are required to undertake the clinical
	assessment will be sent details of their clinical assessment date
	and time.
Monday 19 th October –	National application period: applicants who are eligible for
Wednesday 4 th November	UKFP 2021 must complete the online FP application.
2020	Applicants wishing to be considered for AFP and FPP
(Closing at 12:00 / midday	should also complete separate applications as per the
BST on 4 th November)	guidance provided in the UKFP 2021 Applicant's Handbook.
3 rd November 2020	Deadline for the submission of applications for pre-allocation
	based on special circumstances. Online applications to be sent
4 th November 2020	to helpdesk@foundationprogramme.nhs.uk.
9 th November – 23 rd November	Deadline for reasonable adjustment requests for SJT. Situational Judgement Test (SJT) online booking window will
2020	open via http://www.pearsonvue.com/UKFP. Applicants will be
2020	
	invited to select and date, time and suitable location to sit their test, including the option to sit the test remotely. Test slots will
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5 th November 2020	test, including the option to sit the test remotely. Test slots will be available on a first come first served basis.
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17 th – 19 th November 2020	test, including the option to sit the test remotely. Test slots will be available on a first come first served basis. Latest PLAB 1 sitting date to allow sufficient time for PLAB2 and to obtain provisional registration with the GMC. The national clinical assessment will be held on these dates.
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<u>Eligibility Criteria – Summary</u>



Eligibility Criteria for UKFP 2021

Eligible applicants must: -

- 1. Have a valid medical degree recognised by the General Medical Council (GMC) by the start of the UK Foundation Programme 2021.
- 2. Expect to obtain and obtain **provisional registration with a licence to practise** with the GMC by the start of the UK Foundation Programme 2021*.
- 3. Be a UK national, a final year medical student in the UK, or have the right to work as a doctor in training in the UK which remains valid until the start of the UK Foundation Programme 2021. Your right to work status in the UK must be valid for the duration of the two-year programme. If your visa is due to expire part-way through the programme, you will need to provide evidence of your continued right to work status beyond this point, or there will need to be an option for you to apply for an extension or alternate visa without disrupting your training programme.
- 4. Have the written approval of their medical school Dean (or the Dean's nominated representative or the equivalent official to the Dean) to apply for a UK Foundation Programme.
- 5. Be able to start their UK Foundation Programme placement by August 2021 (exact date to be determined by the employer).
- 6. Be of good standing and fit to practise medicine safely in accordance with the GMC's <u>Good Medical</u> <u>Practice (2013)</u>¹.
- Have demonstrable skills in listening, reading, writing and speaking in English language that enable effective communication in clinical practice with patients and colleagues, as set out in the GMC's <u>Good Medical Practice (2013)</u>¹**.
- 8. Have qualified from medical school within two years of the start of the UK Foundation Programme 2021, <u>OR</u> successfully completed the national clinical assessment.
- 9. Supply all relevant documents as requested.

* You are <u>not eligible</u> to apply for the UK Foundation Programme if you obtain, or expect to obtain, <u>full</u> <u>registration</u> by the start of the UK Foundation Programme.

** This can be demonstrated by providing a valid academic IELTS certificate with a minimum score of 7.5 in **each** domain (speaking, listening, reading and writing) at **one sitting**, or proof that your primary medical qualification has been undertaken solely in English, that all examinations undertaken were solely in English and that your primary medical qualification has included at least 75% of contact with patients in English. Alternatively, evidence of completion of the OET with a minimum score of 400 in <u>each</u> domain (listening, reading, writing and speaking) at **one sitting** can be provided. Your OET results must be dated no more than two years prior to the start of the programme and therefore no earlier than <u>4th August 2019</u>.

The General Medical Council (GMC) maintains a list of institutions from which they will not accept evidence of English Language proficiency. Confirmation of English language proficiency on a medical school Dean's statement will only be considered if the medical school is not on this list: - http://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/registration_applications/23567.asp

¹ Please note that whenever General Medical Council documents are referenced, it is possible that revised versions will be produced after the UKFPOs information has been published. Therefore, applicants should always refer to the most up-to-date version of these publications.

Do I need to sit PLAB in order to obtain provisional registration with the GMC?

Applicants should use the following table to determine whether or not they are required to pass PLAB to acquire registration with the GMC. For example, UK nationals graduating from a non-EEA medical school, will be required to undertake PLAB.

Nationality	Medical School	Medical School		
	UK	EEA	Non-EEA	
UK	No	No	Yes	
EEA	No	No	No	
Non-EEA	No*	Yes*	Yes*	

Please note that **the nationality provided on the application form will be used to determine whether or not you are required to undertake PLAB**. Applicants are reminded to provide evidence of their nationality, i.e. passport.

How do I submit an eligibility application?

There are two steps to submitting an eligibility application:

Step 1 – Completing an online eligibility application form

<u>Step 2</u> – Uploading supporting evidence on Oriel (the application system)

IMPORTANT: You must complete both steps between 20th July and 2nd September 2020. If you do not complete the online application form and provide the supporting evidence required, your eligibility application will be incomplete, and you will not be eligible to apply for UKFP 2021.

The UKFPO <u>will not</u> contact you if the information you have provided is incomplete. Please ensure you check your application and supporting documents thoroughly before you submit your application. You will not be able to upload additional documents once your application has been submitted. It is your responsibility to check the information you are submitting as part of your application and to ensure it meets the requirements specified.

Step 1: Completing an online eligibility application form

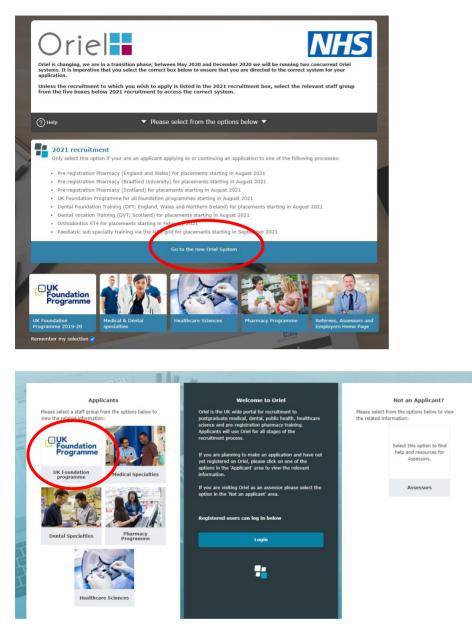
Applicants are invited to complete the eligibility application on Oriel from **09:00 (BST) on Monday 20th July 2020**. The application window will close at **12:00 noon (BST) on Wednesday 2nd September 2020**.

All applicants must apply through the national online application system (Oriel).

The Oriel applicant portal is compatible with Safari 12+, Google Chrome 77+, Firefox 68+ and Edge. Applicants are advised to use one of these browsers when using the website and preferably the most up to date version of that browser.

Further information about accessing Oriel is available in the <u>Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)</u> section on the UKFPO website.

To set up a new account and register, go to <u>www.oriel.nhs.uk</u>. The image below shows where to select the 'foundation' staff group: -



When accessing Oriel, please ensure that you follow the on-screen instructions to navigate through to Oriel 2.

If you register on Oriel 1, you will not be able to access the application form for eligibility for 2021. If you have previously applied through Oriel 1, you will need to register for a new account on Oriel 2.

- From the Oriel 1 landing page click the "Go to new Oriel system" box
- Select the Foundation staff group on Oriel 2
- Click register (in the top right hand corner) and select register to apply for the eligibility application process followed by continue
- Complete the form and click submit to create an account
- Login
- Go to the list of vacancies, search for the appropriate vacancy and click apply
- Complete and submit the form

Once you have registered, you will then be able to complete the eligibility application form. To find the eligibility application form, please click "vacancies" and the eligibility vacancy will appear. The online eligibility application form asks for your personal details, information about your primary medical qualification and about what you have been doing since you completed your medical degree, for example, your clinical experience and employment history. You will also be asked about your English language skills.

Applicant communications on Oriel

Applicants are advised to check their e-mail and Oriel accounts regularly throughout the application process. You will be prompted via e-mail to check your account for information at relevant times. However, we cannot guarantee delivery and therefore it is important that you check the site on a regular basis and especially at key times in the timeline. E-mails sent via Oriel are also stored in Oriel accounts.

Email addresses can be amended through 'Update Contact Details'. **DO NOT USE HOTMAIL** email accounts as they regularly block emails from NHS servers, and you may not receive important messages about your application. You are advised to regularly check junk mail folders in case emails are incorrectly filtered as archive / junk / spam.

Step 2: Uploading supporting documents onto Oriel

IMPORTANT: You MUST upload your documents before submitting your online application form on Oriel. You will not be able to upload your documents once your application has been submitted. Failure to upload the required documents will result in your eligibility application being deemed ineligible.

These supporting documents **MUST** be uploaded on Oriel: -

- 1. Colour / photograph page(s) of your passport containing your personal details; including nationality, photograph, date of birth, signature and date of expiry.
- 2. Valid Dean's statement (available on the UKFPO website).
- 3. Medical school degree certificate or, if you have already qualified and do not have your certificate, an official letter from your Dean confirming your qualification (please refer to appendix 2). If you have not yet graduated, you should upload a copy of your Dean's statement in this section.
- 4. Evidence of satisfactory completion of IELTS **must be submitted as part of the eligibility application form** by providing the Test Report Form (TRF) number from your IELTS certificate. There will be a space on the application form on the 'eligibility' tab for you to type the TRF number.
- 5. Evidence of completion of OET with a minimum score of 400 in <u>each</u> domain (listening, reading, writing and speaking) must be submitted as part of the eligibility application form. Your OET results must be dated no more than two years prior to the start of the programme and therefore no earlier than <u>4th August 2019</u>.
- 6. Evidence of any name change (if applicable).
- 7. Evidence of your right to work in the UK (sponsorship can be arranged for those who are unable to provide evidence of their right to work).
- 8. Passport photograph.

Please contact the technical helpdesk on support@hicom.co.uk if you have any technical difficulties making your application

General Information

The UKFPO will not be able to provide a pre-checking service and will not review the content or supporting evidence provided as part of your application prior to submission. You are advised to check your application thoroughly before submitting it. <u>Please do not upload evidence to Oriel in zip file format.</u>

If you apply in error, you can re-register for a new account on Oriel using a different email address. This will enable you to submit a new application. <u>Please inform the UKFPO if you submit a new application</u> at the earliest convenience and advise the team of which application to be withdrawn.

If you experience any technical issues with the application form, you are advised to open a new browser, clear your internet browser history or delete your cache in the first instance. Applicants are advised to start their application at the earliest possible convenience and to familiarise themselves with the requirements for providing supporting evidence.

The UKFPO reserves the right to remove any applicant from the national application process if new information becomes available which affects their eligibility status. Information supplied by an applicant on the eligibility application form and their resulting eligibility status may be shared with other organisations involved in the application process.

Eligibility Application Statuses on Oriel

The following section provides an explanation of what each of the eligibility application statuses mean on Oriel.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their eligibility application on Monday 21st September 2020.

Under Review

All applications will be under review from the point of application until Monday 21st September 2020 when application outcomes are released. During this time, the UKFPO's Eligibility Office are processing applications.

Eligible

You can apply for UKFP 2021. You need to submit a separate application from Monday 19th October – midday on 30th October 2020. You will also have the option to submit a maximum of two applications for academic programmes (AFP) during this window, as well as an application for priority programmes (maximum total of four applications). You will be required to sit the national Situational Judgement Test (SJT) during one of two testing windows: 7th – 19th December 2020 or 18th – 23rd January 2021. You will be able to book the date, time and location of your test online. You also have the option to sit the test remotely.

Eligible with conditions

Your eligibility for UKFP 2021 is subject to the conditions presented on your Oriel dashboard. The conditions could be that you are required to pass clinical assessment or that you are required to pass PLAB in line with the GMC requirements for registration. If you meet the conditions on your application, you will be able to apply for UKFP 2021. You need to submit a separate application from Monday 19th October – midday on 4th November 2020. You will be required to sit the national Situational Judgement Test (SJT) during one of two testing windows: 7th – 19th December 2020 or 18th – 23rd January 2021. If you do not meet the conditions on your application by the deadlines specified, your application will be made ineligible. This will mean that you will not be able to apply for UKFP 2021 between 19th October – 4th November 2020, or your submitted application will be withdrawn.

Ineligible

You cannot apply for the programme this year. This status does not prevent you from reapplying in future years. If you choose to submit an eligibility application in future, you will be required to provide all the necessary supporting evidence again.

Eligibility conditions not met

If once you have submitted your application you do not meet the conditions specified, for example, clinical assessment, PLAB and / or right to work, your application status will be amended, and you will no longer be eligible to apply for or be considered for a place on the programme this year. This status does not prevent you from reapplying in future years. If you choose to submit an eligibility application in future, you will be required to provide all the necessary supporting evidence again.

<u>Withdrawn</u>

Your application has been withdrawn and you will not be able to apply for the programme this year. This status does not prevent you from reapplying in future years. If you choose to submit an eligibility application in future, you will be required to provide all the necessary supporting evidence again.

Each year, some eligibility applicants are deemed ineligible due to small errors and omissions on their application forms. Reading the guidance below will ensure that you understand fully what information you need to provide. The UKFPO will <u>not</u> contact you if information missing.

Please note: the UK Foundation Programme Office (UKFPO) cannot provide individual advice to applicants regarding their eligibility application.

What happens next?

Clinical Assessment

Applicants who qualified from medical school on or before 4th August 2019 must also undertake an assessment of their clinical skills in the UK prior to being granted full eligibility.

The primary purpose of this assessment is to determine suitability to start the foundation programme. The assessments will be undertaken by Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust. Candidates will sit a set of 16-station Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) in approximately four hours.

The clinical assessment will be held from 17th – 19th November 2020. Please refer to the clinical assessment information in appendix 3 for further information on the national clinical assessment and details of the cost.

Applications for UKFP 2021 (FP, AFP and FPP)

Applicants who are eligible or eligible with conditions can apply for two-year programmes for 2021 on Oriel from Monday 19th October – Wednesday 4th November 2020 (12:00 BST). Information regarding the application process is available in the UKFP 2021 Applicants' Handbook and the UKFP 2021 Applicants' Presentation, which will be available on the UKFPO website.

Situational Judgement Test (SJT)

Applicants are required to sit the Situational Judgement Test (SJT) from $7^{th} - 19^{th}$ December 2020 or $18^{th} - 23^{rd}$ January 2021. You will be able to book a test date and time online, and choose the location of the test, which will include the option to sit the test remotely, i.e. from home. All applicants will be able to book their test from 9^{th} November. Test spaces will be available on a first come first served basis. You are advised to book your test at the earliest opportunity. For further information, please refer to appendix 4. If applicable, applicants can apply for reasonable adjustments for the SJT.

Reasonable Adjustments for SJT

Reasonable adjustments are practical

changes to the delivery of the SJT that consider individual characteristics or circumstances that may affect an applicant's ability to take the SJT, without changing the demands of the assessment, for example, a disability, health condition or impairment, or religious observance. Further information regarding the SJT and reasonable adjustments is available in appendices 4 and 5, on the UKFPO website and UKFP 2021 Applicants' Handbook.

Special Circumstances

Applicants can apply to be pre-allocated to a particular foundation school on the grounds of special circumstances if they meet the criteria. Requests for special circumstances and supporting evidence must be submitted to the UKFPO by email using the electronic form available on the website by 12:00 (BST) on Wednesday 4th November 2020. Further information is available in the UKFP 2021 Applicants' Handbook.

Important: you must rank your requested foundation school as first choice on Oriel otherwise your application for pre-allocation will not be considered. Please refer to the UKFP 2021 Applicants' Handbook for a map of the UK which shows where the foundation schools are located. If you require any specific advice, please contact the UKFPO via <u>helpdesk@foundationprogramme.nhs.uk</u>.

Applying for Registration with the General Medical Council (GMC)

It is strongly recommended for applicants to make an application with the GMC at least three months before the start of the programme in case you need to provide more evidence which can take time to assess, applicants will have three months to submit their application from when you start it online.

For further information on applying for registration with the GMC, please visit <u>https://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/registration_applications/join_the_register.asp</u>.

Applicants who do not have provisional registration with the GMC at the start of programme will not be able to commence work. It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure applications for registration are submitted in time.

Appeals

Applicants have the option to appeal the outcome of their eligibility application. Please refer to the <u>appeals</u> <u>guidance</u> available on the UKFPO website. The appeals application form will be available on the website during the specified appeals window. If you have any queries regarding appeals, please email <u>appeals@foundationprogramme.nhs.uk</u>.

The UKFP 2021 Applicants' Handbook and Presentation will be available on the UKFPO website.

Useful Information & Additional Resources

Links to useful websites

The Foundation Programme Curriculum 2016 http://www.foundationprogramme.nhs.uk/curriculum/

UKFP Foundation Training Guide 2019 <u>https://foundationprogramme.nhs.uk/wp-</u> content/uploads/sites/2/2019/11/FoundationGuideTraining_Sept19_Update-1.pdf

UKFP Operational Guide 2019

https://foundationprogramme.nhs.uk/wpcontent/uploads/sites/2/2019/11/Operational-Guide-8.11.19.pdf

The General Medical Council (GMC) http://www.gmc-uk.org/

UK Home Office – for information on right to work https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration

Right to Work www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/

Applying for a National Insurance card https://www.gov.uk/apply-national-insurance-number

Public funds guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-funds--2/public-funds

NHS Pay Information about national salary scales can be found on the <u>NHS Employers</u> website

Detailed guidance notes

Please read the instructions below before submitting your documents.

Application form and documents: your name and evidence of name change (if applicable)

You must complete all documentation and the online applications using the same name, in the same format each time it is shown. The name you record on your online eligibility application form must match the name on your passport. If the names given on your passport, eligibility application form, medical school degree certificate and Dean's Statement <u>do not match</u>, you must upload documentation to Oriel confirming an official name change (for example, a copy of your marriage certificate or divorce decree certificate).

Passport (upload evidence on to Oriel)

All applicants must provide clear scanned copies of the page(s) of their passport containing their personal details, including nationality, photograph, date of birth, signature, and date of expiry. Please ensure that you scan the information page with your photograph.

UKFP 2021 Dean's Statement (upload evidence on to Oriel)

Your medical school Dean (or their nominated representative) must complete and sign the Dean's Statement. If there are any amendments to your <u>Dean's statement</u>, this must be counter signed by the Dean (or their nominated representative). It is your responsibility to ensure your Dean has completed the Dean's Statement correctly.

The date of qualification to be provided on the Dean's Statement is the date when the applicant completed and passed their degree, rather than the date of graduation when they received their degree certificate.

The Dean's Statement and guidance for completion is available via http://www.foundationprogramme.nhs.uk/content/eligibility-information

Medical degree certificate or confirmation of qualification letter (upload evidence onto Oriel)

All applicants must provide proof of primary medical qualification: -

- A copy of your medical degree certificate for your primary medical qualification is required.
- If your degree certificate is not in English, an official English translation must also be provided.
- If your degree certificate has **not yet been issued**, an official letter on headed paper must be provided from your Dean that confirms the date and year when your degree certificate will be issued. A sample confirmation of qualification letter outlining the information required is available in appendix 2.

Failure to comply with these requirements will result in your eligibility application being considered incomplete and marked ineligible.

If you have not yet qualified from a medical school: -

You will need to upload a copy of your Dean's statement in the 'degree certificate' section instead.

IELTS and OET (provide details or upload evidence on Oriel)

• Applicants who are required to provide proof of satisfactory completion of IELTS (Academic and General Training) or OET will be asked to either provide the Test Report Form (TRF) number from a valid IELTS certificate, or to share their results for the OET through the OET portal.

The UKFPO will verify IELTS certificates online using the TRF number to check that a score of 7.5 has been achieved in each domain: speaking, listening, reading and writing. The IELTS proctored exam will be accepted. For OET, the results available for verification via the OET portal must demonstrate a minimum score of 400 in each domain. Please note that scores for both IELTS and OET must have been obtained in one sitting.

- An IELTS certificate or proof of satisfactory completion of OET is not usually required if your Dean confirms in the Dean's Statement that your primary medical qualification (including the language of instruction, examinations and at least 75% of clinical contact with patients) has been undertaken solely in English. However, the UKFPO will not accept English language evidence issued by institutions listed here: http://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/registration_applications/23567.asp. If your medical school is listed by the GMC, you will be required to submit a valid IELTS certificate/OET with your application, even if your Dean's Statement confirms that your primary medical qualification has been undertaken solely in English.
- The IELTS certificate / OET results must be dated no earlier than 4th August 2019.
- Please note the requirements for satisfactory IELTS and OET are set at a higher level than the requirements for the GMC. Applicants with GMC registration will still be required to meet the English language requirement for entry to foundation training.
- Evidence of satisfactory completion of IELTS or OET **must be submitted as part of the eligibility application form** by providing the TRF number for IELTS and sharing the results for OET through the OET portal. Instructions on how to share your OET result with the UKFPO can be found here <u>https://support.occupationalenglishtest.org</u>. The UKFPO recommends applicants to take their IELTS / OET test as soon as possible to allow enough time to obtain and be able to submit / share the required evidence during the eligibility window. Please note that if there is a delay to IELTS / OET results due to quality checks, for example, the window will not be extended.
- Please note that the IELTS indicator will not be accepted.
- Evidence of IELTS or OET will not be accepted following the close of the application window.

Postgraduate Experience

Applicants will be asked to provide details of any postgraduate experience on their application form. Please include details of all future activity, i.e. from the point at which you are applying to the start of the programme (if known). This is so that we can make an accurate assessment of your eligibility and to avoid disappointment when you come to apply for registration with the GMC.

Applicants who have completed an internship are advised to query the level of registration they will be eligible to apply for. The definition of an internship is a period of pre-graduate or post-graduate clinical experience prior to having a licence to practise medicine unsupervised.

Applicants who are eligible to apply for full

registration, will not be eligible for entry to the two-year Foundation Programme at F1 level. We would advise applicants in this position to consider applying for an F2 Stand-alone post. Please see <u>guidance</u> available via the UKFPO website.

For further information about clinical experience and the requirements for registration in the UK, please visit the GMC website via http://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/before_you_apply/imgs.asp#Experience.

<u>General Medical Council's (GMC) requirements for provisional registration</u> (if you already have provisional registration, please upload your certificate)

Before you can start work as a foundation doctor, you must have provisional registration with a licence to practise from the GMC. To obtain provisional registration, many applicants qualifying outside the UK are required to pass the Professional Language Assessment Board (PLAB) examinations; PLAB 1 and PLAB 2. The nationality provided on the application form will be used to determine if you are required to pass PLAB. Please visit the <u>GMC website</u> for more information on the requirements for gaining provisional registration. If you have any specific queries in relation to PLAB, please contact the GMC directly. Applicants are required to hold provisional registration with the GMC in order work as an F1 doctor, therefore you must follow the GMC requirements for PLAB if you are required to pass PLAB.

Please refer to the GMC website <u>www.gmc-uk.org</u> for guidance about who needs to undertake PLAB.

Important dates for the PLAB examination: -

- To take PLAB 1, you must have qualified from medical school. The latest PLAB 1 examination date that would allow sufficient time to take PLAB 2 and get GMC provisional registration by the start of the programme is 5th November 2020; Overseas closing date for booking is 24th September 2020. UK bookings must be made by 22nd October 2020 (subject to availability).
- If you need to undertake PLAB 1 and PLAB 2, your date of qualification from medical school must be no later than Thursday 1st October 2020.

The evidence required to support your eligibility online application: -

If you have not yet qualified from medical school: -

You must either provide evidence that you are not required to take the PLAB examinations (the UKFPO's Eligibility Office will be able to determine this from your passport and medical degree certificate), or a valid Dean's Statement showing that you will qualify from medical school by Thursday 1st October 2020. You would not be required to submit upload any further evidence on Oriel.

If you have already qualified from medical school: -

You must upload evidence related to your GMC registration status by uploading ONE of the following: -

- A copy of the letter from the GMC confirming that you already have provisional registration with a licence to practise.
- Evidence that you are not required to take the PLAB examinations (the UKFPO's Eligibility Office will be able to determine this from your passport and medical degree certificate).
- A copy of the email / letter from the GMC proving you have successfully passed PLAB 1 or PLAB 2.
- A copy of the confirmation email / letter from the GMC showing that you have booked a place to take the PLAB 1 examination (no later than 5th November 2020).

IMPORTANT: You should <u>not</u> assume that there will be places available on the PLAB examination dates; we would advise you to book PLAB as soon as possible. If you have already booked / passed PLAB, please upload the evidence (confirmation emails) on to Oriel.

If you are not required to undertake the PLAB examinations to gain provisional registration with the GMC: -

• You will be required to provide proof of your nationality (passport) and proof of your country of study (medical degree certificate) and a valid Dean's Statement. No additional documentation is required.

Please note that the requirements for PLAB are not determined by the UKFPO. The GMC sets the requirements for PLAB. To commence training as an F1 doctor, all applicants are required to have provisional registration must comply with the GMC requirements around PLAB.

Passport photograph (colour photograph to be uploaded onto Oriel)

You are required to upload a photograph as part of your eligibility application. This photo must have been taken within the last 12 months and will be used to identify you if you are required to undertake the clinical assessment. Your face must not be obscured in the photo (for example, you should not be wearing sunglasses or any facial covering). Guidance about suitable photographs is available at www.gov.uk/photos-for-passports

Evidence of right to work in the UK (upload evidence on to Oriel)

• You must have the right to work in the UK as a doctor in training to be considered fully eligible for allocation to foundation training.

It is often the case that applicants will be allocated to training places before applying for the appropriate visa to ensure they have the right to work in the UK.

• Applicants must also ensure that they have sufficient right to work status in the UK for the duration of the training programme.

If you already have the right to work in the UK when you apply, your visa must not include restrictions to work as a doctor or dentist and must be valid for the duration of the two-year programme, i.e. until August 2023.

Following recent changes in immigration law, all medical specialties are included on the Shortage Occupation List (SOL), therefore Resident Labour Market Tests (RLMT) no longer apply. All applicants will be allocated based on their application score and preference information using a meritocratic algorithm. Sponsorship will be arranged for applicants who require it in order to apply for a specific visa, for example, Tier 2.

UKFPO processes are subject to Immigration Law in the UK and any changes to the rules and regulations set by the UK Home Office.

Nationality

If you have dual nationality / multi citizenship, please ensure that you complete the online Oriel application with information on the most relevant nationality regarding providing evidence of your right to work in the UK and upload the relevant passport / ID card.

Please note that the nationality provided on your application form will be used to determine whether or not you would be required to undertake the PLAB examinations.

If you need more information about how to obtain the right to work in the UK, please see the UK Border Agency website at www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/

Please refer to appendix 6 for the right to work factsheet.

Applicants with refugee status

Please contact

<u>helpdesk@foundationprogramme.nhs.uk</u> if further guidance is required. You may also find it useful to refer to the eligibility <u>FAQs</u> on the UKFPO website.

Applications submitted in error

If you submit an application in error, there is the option to re-register on Oriel using a different email address. If you decide to complete a new application, please inform the UKFPO's Eligibility Office at the earliest opportunity and advise the team of the application you wish to withdraw.

Letter to confirm degree qualification with no degree certificate

The degree confirmation letter must be printed on university headed paper and be signed by the Dean or authorised official in the Registrar's office.

** You must include ALL the information in the letter below or it will not be accepted as evidence of your degree**

To be written on University headed paper.

Date of letter*

Dear <<insert name of applicant>>

This letter confirms that following the recent examination ratification board meeting attended by external examiners, your degree has been awarded. As you have not yet graduated, please find below the details as required for your Oriel application.

Name of student: <<insert name of applicant>>

Course title and degree: <<insert name of course and degree level>>

Degree classification/pass level: <<insert classification of degree if relevant>>

Date of qualification: <<insert meeting date of examination ratification board>>

Yours sincerely

(Signature and name of dean or authorised official in the Registrar's office) Official stamp of the university

Date letter is issued

Clinical Assessment 17th – 19th November 2020

Based on trends over the last few years, we expect there will be more fully eligible applicants for UKFP 2019 than there are vacancies. The final number of applications will not be known until the close of the application period on 4th November 2020.

Applicants who are required to undertake a clinical assessment will be required to pay the full cost of £850 by 16th October 2020 and this is non-refundable.

The Purpose of the Assessment

The primary purpose of this assessment is to determine fitness to start Foundation Programme (FP) training, for an applicant who has qualified more than two years prior to the programme starting.

Description of the Clinical Assessments

The assessments will be undertaken by University Hospital of South Manchester. The team at Manchester has many years of experience of assessment and Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs), from theoretical design, through evaluation to the practical provision of information to candidates. All candidates will sit a 16-station OSCE. Each station is 10 minutes long, including 1 minute of preparation time.

All candidates will sit this assessment in one session (approximately four hours). Instructions will be posted outside each station, giving clear guidance about the task to be performed at that station. In line with our current practice, care will be taken to ensure accessibility and to avoid discrimination against candidates with disabilities or those whose first language is not English.

Dates and Venue

The assessments will take place on $17^{th} - 19^{th}$ November 2020. Each candidate will be notified of the specific date and time of their assessment on 19^{th} October 2020, when they will also be supplied with more detailed information, including directions to the venue.

The assessments take place at Wythenshawe Hospital, part of the Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust. The hospital has excellent facilities for running an OSCE of this size and has many years of experience in this field.

Maintaining Test Security

The examinations will differ from day to day but will be based on a similar blueprint. Candidates sitting the examination in the morning or afternoon will be 'quarantined' to ensure they cannot come into contact with each other. Candidates would be unable to use their mobile phones during this period.

Simulated Patients

These will be selected from the Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust's pool of highly experienced simulated patients. All have undergone training in standardisation for OSCEs and will be trained specifically for the roles within these assessments.

Educational Impact

Candidates will be given a written report, analysing their performance on a station-by-station basis. As the stations are explicitly linked to many of the Foundation Programme Curriculum competencies of the F1 year, this will provide useful information for candidates on their strengths and weaknesses as they enter the Foundation Programme. Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust is working closely with their colleagues in the North West Foundation School to ensure that the questions authentically represent the current NHS working environment.

<u>Costs</u>

The cost of this assessment will be £850 per candidate.

Reasonable Adjustments

Reasonable adjustments are practical changes to the delivery of the Clinical Assessment that mitigate the effects of particular applicant characteristics and / or circumstances, for example, a disability, health condition or impairment, or religious observance, on their ability to undertake the assessment, without changing the requirements of the assessment. No adjustment will be made to the standard of the Clinical Assessment or the score achieved by any applicant.

Applicants can apply for reasonable adjustments on the grounds of the following criteria: -

- i. a long-standing learning disability
- ii. long-term or permanent physical disability, health condition or impairment
- iii. temporary health condition or impairment, or acute flare-up of a long-term health condition
- iv. other, for example, religious observance

Please refer to the reasonable adjustments guidance available on the UKFPO website.

What feedback will be provided to attendees on the day of their assessment?

Candidates will not be told at the time they attend for the OSCEs whether they have passed or failed the assessment. Instead, they will receive the pass / fail results by email on 7th December 2020. They will also receive comprehensive and detailed feedback by email on 8th December 2020.

Appeals

Information about the appeals procedure will be available on the <u>UKFPO website</u> before the start date of the assessments. Appeals will only be accepted about the process and not about academic judgement.

Booking Your Situational Judgement Test (SJT) Online

Applicants are required to create a Pearson VUE account to book their SJT, which will take place during one of two testing windows: $7^{th} - 19^{th}$ December 2020 or $18^{th} - 23^{rd}$ January 2021.

Please read the following information carefully and action: -

IMPORTANT NOTICES:

- 1. If you have highlighted that you require reasonable adjustments (such as extra time, separate room etc) <u>please choose to complete your test in a Pearson VUE test centre</u>.
- 2. Please arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled exam time. Applicants who turn up late will NOT be allowed to take the assessment.
- 3. Please bring <u>photographic ID</u> with you. Failure to provide satisfactory ID will result in you not being able to complete the test. If the first name and surname on your photographic ID (passport or UK/EU photo card driving licence) does not match your application form, please contact the UKFPO. A full list of what is required when you book your appointment.
- 4. If you choose to complete the test remotely, you will need to use wired headphones (i.e. non-Bluetooth headphones).

If you chose to take the SJT at home, it is recommended you complete a system check. The hyperlink for this is available from the test landing page <u>http://www.pearsonvue.com/UKFP.</u>

HOW TO CREATE A PEARSON VUE ACCOUNT:

All applicants are required to create a new account. To create an account, you must complete the following COMPULSORY steps:

- 1. Go to http://www.pearsonvue.com/UKFP
- 2. Select "Create account" from the right-hand menu
- 3. Input the details EXACTLY as they appear below: FIRST NAME / LAST NAME: FIRST / LAST Oriel Pin Number: ORIEL PIN
- 4. Complete the profile information (for those currently abroad please give the address of where you are living whilst abroad), select 'Next'
- 5. Verify your profile information, select 'Next'
- 6. Create a Username, password and select and answer security questions, select 'Next'
- 7. On this page you will see confirmation that your account has been set up successfully. An automated email will also be sent to you confirming this.

HOW TO BOOK AN SJT SLOT:

- 1. Remaining on the account confirmation page, select 'Next. Or alternatively, if you have already logged out, go to <u>http://www.pearsonvue.com/UKFP</u> and select 'Sign in' and enter the username and password you created.'
- 2. On this page you will see the pre-approved exam UKFP SJT: Foundation Situational Judgement Test as a hyperlink, please click on this.
- 3. On this page you will see your confirmed exam details along with any approved adjustments, please click on 'Schedule this Exam'
- 4. On this page you will be able to search for test centres near a chosen location
- 5. Once you have chosen a centre (you can choose up to three for each search) please click on the small tick box on the left-hand side to confirm this and select 'Next'
- 6. On this page you will see a calendar confirming the dates that test slots are available at this centre/s
- 7. Click on the date you would like to attend; you will then see a list of available appointments on this date. Select a convenient time slot
- 8. You will then be taken through to the 'My Order' page. Here the details of your appointment slot are confirmed. To confirm you would like to book this, click on 'Proceed to Checkout'
- 9. On this page you will have to confirm that your name matches the information listed. If OK please click 'Next'
- 10. On this page please read through the admission, reschedule and cancellation policies and at the bottom tick to confirm you have read and agreed to these, then select 'Next'
- 11. On this page please review the appointment slot venue and time information. To confirm this booking please click 'Submit Order'
- 12. On this page you will see a summary of your confirmed SJT assessment. Please read the information provided carefully. You will be able to print this if required.

Please be aware, each Pearson VUE centre has limited availability which is on a 'first come, first served' basis. Please be aware you may not find availability at your nearest centre or your preferred date if you delay in booking. Once scheduled, you can choose to subsequently change your booking (to a different date, time or test centre location) if required, while the booking window is still active, by simply logging into your account and choosing 'Reschedule'.

If you book a place but decide not to attend, you should cancel your booking at least 48 hours before the assessment is due to be delivered.

Confirmation of your scheduled assessment will be sent by e-mail directly by Pearson VUE. This will include the full address, arrival time and instructions about identification documentation. Please ensure that you read these instructions carefully.

Please note, if you have received approval from the UKFPO for adjustments to be made for your SJT assessment, you can find confirmation of this under the 'Accommodations' section when you have booked a slot.

Situational Judgement Test (SJT) and Educational Performance Measures (EPM)

Situational Judgement Tests (SJTs)

SJTs are: -

- a test of aptitude
- used extensively as part of selection process to other professions including GP selection
- · designed to assess the professional attributes expected of a Foundation doctor
- based on a detailed job analysis of an F1 doctor
- a selection tool designed to identify those not appointable

SJT questions assess an applicant's judgement by presenting challenging situations that they are likely encounter as F1. Communication based complaints to the GMC are significantly higher than clinical error complaints and SJT is a way to ensure applicants are prepared to deal with complex ethical scenarios.

The SJT is taken in exam conditions and consists of 70 questions in 2 hours 20 minutes. It contains two question formats: rank five possible responses in order and select the three most appropriate responses.

A maximum of 50 points are available.

There is a practice paper and answer sheet available on the UKFPO website to help applicants to familiarise themselves with the format of the test, the type of questions you will encounter and the look and feel of the question paper and accompanying answer sheet. The practice paper is available both as an online test, and a PDF, which applicants can print off and complete manually.

Although the practice paper mimics the SJT in terms of style and timings, the difficulty of these items may differ from those in the actual test.

There are many commercial courses and books available which offer to prepare you for the SJT; however, the UKFPO does not endorse any of these resources. The UKFPO practice paper is the only official resource that will prepare you to take the test. The practice SJT paper is available on the UKFPO website.

Educational Performance Measure (EPM)

The EPM is a measure of clinical and non-clinical skills, knowledge and performance up to the point of application. The EPM comprises three elements; medical school performance to date in deciles (replacing previous quartiles), for which 34-43 points are available; additional degrees, which are worth up to 5 points; and publications, for which up to 2 points are available.

A maximum of 50 points are available.

Further information regarding EPM is available in the UKFP 2021 Applicants' Handbook and the UKFPO website.

Right to work in the UK - Factsheet

The UKFPO's Eligibility Office will need to be assured that your right to work status in the UK will be valid for the full duration of the two-year programme. If your visa is due to expire part-way through the programme, you will need to provide evidence of your continued right to work status beyond this point, or there will need to be an option for you to apply for an extension or alternate visa without disrupting your training programme.

If you already have your right to work evidence, we recommend that you upload this on to Oriel before submitting your eligibility application.

The tables below set out the main categories of limited leave to remain and eligibility to take up a Foundation Programme. Other categories not stated below will be considered on an individual basis, depending on the visa status (please refer to the UK Home Office guidance for more information):

UK / Settled Workers

Category	Eligibility Status
UK national	Can apply to a training programme
Partner / civil partner or spouse of a UK national on a probationary period	Applicant will be given an initial grant of 5 years – then can apply for Indefinite Leave to Remain if the relationship is considered genuine by UK Visas and Immigration. Can apply to a training programme and be considered
Settled nationals ¹	Can apply to a training programme and be considered
Partner / civil partner or spouse of a settled resident in the UK	Can apply to a training programme and be considered

UK / Settled applicants

UK / settled applicants are required to provide a copy of their date stamped passport or biometric residence card as proof of their right to work. This evidence must be uploaded on Oriel when completing an eligibility application. **Please note:** Applicants with dual nationality should upload the most appropriate nationality passport relevant to the right to work in the UK.

Tier 4

The UKFPO will sponsor applicants for Tier 4 visas only if they are UK Medical School Graduates. For further information on tier 4 visas please refer to the UKFPO website.

PLEASE NOTE: This factsheet is guidance only; we would recommend that you contact the Home Office for the most up to date information: <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration</u>.



Person Specification

UK Foundation Programme Commencing August 2021 (UKFP 2021) Person Specification

	ESSENTIAL CRITERIA	DEMONSTRATED BY
Eligibility	Applicants must meet the requirements set out in the UK Foundation Programme 2021 Eligibility Criteria.	Eligibility checking
Qualifications	The applicant must have achieved, or expect to achieve, a primary medical qualification as recognised by the General Medical Council (GMC) by the start of the UK Foundation Programme 2021.	Eligibility checking
Clinical Knowledge & Skills	 The applicant must be familiar with and be able to demonstrate an understanding of the major principles of the GMC's <u>Outcomes for Graduates 2018</u> including: Knowledge, skills and performance Safety and quality Communication, partnership and teamwork Maintaining trust The applicant must be familiar with requirements as set out in <u>Promoting excellence: standards for medical education and training (2016)</u> including the relevant core skills. 	Application ² / pre- employment screening Clinical assessment <i>(where appropriate)</i>
Language & Communication Skills	The applicant must demonstrate skills in listening, reading, writing and speaking in English language that enable effective communication about medical topics with patients and colleagues, as set out in the GMC's <u>Good Medical</u> <u>Practice (2013)</u> ¹ .	Application ² / pre- employment screening Clinical assessment <i>(where appropriate)</i>
Attributes	 The applicant must demonstrate: an understanding of the importance of the patient as the central focus of care the ability to prioritise tasks and information and take appropriate decisions an understanding of the importance of working effectively with others the ability to communicate effectively with both colleagues and patients initiative and the ability to deal effectively with pressure and/or challenge commitment to learning and continued professional development self-awareness and insight into the boundaries of their own abilities an understanding of the principles of equality and diversity. 	Application ² /pre- employment screening Clinical assessment <i>(where appropriate)</i>

Probity	The applicant must demonstrate appropriate professional behaviour, i.e. integrity, honesty, confidentiality as set out in the GMC's <u>Good Medical Practice (2013)</u> ¹ .	Application ² /pre- employment screening
	By the start of the programme, the applicant must demonstrate criminal record and barring clearance at the appropriate level and complete all other pre-employment requirements according to current government legislation.	

1 Please note that whenever General Medical Council documents are referenced, it is possible that revised versions will be produced after the UKFPO's information has been published. Therefore, applicants should always refer to the most up-to-date version of these publications.

2 Please note that the application includes the Situational Judgement Test (SJT)

Glossary

AFP	The Academic Foundation Programme is a component of the UK Foundation Programme, providing additional opportunities to develop research, teaching and / or leadership and management skills in addition to the capabilities outlined in the Foundation Programme Curriculum.
CA	Clinical assessment needs to be undertaken by applicants who qualified 2 years or more prior to the start of the UK Foundation Programme.
FP	The Foundation Programme is a two-year, work-based training programme which bridges the gap between medical school qualification and specialty / general practice training.
FPP	Foundation Priority Programmes (FPP) are intended to support recruitment and retention to historically less popular geographic locations and specialties by offering a range of incentives and ensuring earlier allocation to training places.
GMC	The General Medical Council is the UK's independent regulatory organisation and sets the standards for doctors' professional practice in the UK.
IELTS	International English Language Test System.
Nomination	The process by which applicants who have qualified from a UK medical school, less than two years prior to the start of the Foundation Programme can be directly recommended by their medical school to apply for the Foundation Programme. Nominated applicants are not required to apply through the eligibility application process.
OET	OET is an international English language test that assesses the language communication skills of healthcare professionals who seek to register and practise in an English-speaking environment, such as the NHS. OET covers all four language skills with an emphasis on communication in a healthcare environment: listening, reading, writing and speaking. Applicants for Applicants are required to demonstrate evidence of a minimum score of 400 points in each of the four domains, and as part of a single sitting of the test. Evidence must be provided by sharing the official results provided by the OET through the OET portal. Applicants must confirm that they have done this on their application.
Oriel 1	The previous national online application system for medical training vacancies.
Oriel 2	The new national online application system for medical training vacancies, with effect from June 2020. All foundation applications must be completed on Oriel 2. Applicants who have previously applied through the Oriel 1 site will need to register on Oriel 2 to access the application forms for UKFP 2021.
PLAB	Professional and Linguistic Assessments Board is the assessment set by the GMC for International Medical Graduates (IMGs) to demonstrate that they have the necessary skills and knowledge to practise medicine in the UK.
SJT	The Situational Judgement Test (SJT) is a test for employment and not a medical school exam. It is used as part of the selection process for entry to two-year Foundation Programmes to test the attributes needed to work as a foundation doctor.

UKFP	United Kingdom Foundation Programme. This refers to the entire programme, including academic foundation programmes.
UKVI	United Kingdom Visas and Immigration.
UoA	A Unit of Application is the organisational grouping of one or more foundation schools for organising recruitment to academic and / or other foundation programmes.
UKFPO	The UK Foundation Programme Office oversees the administrative processes relating to the allocation of applicants to foundation training places each year.