Clinical Course & Examination Refund Scheme for NCHDs

Guidance Document for Employers & NCHDs

Title:	*NCHD Clinical Course & Examination Refund Scheme*
Approved by:	*HSE National Doctors Training & Planning*
Effective from:	*13th July 2026*

Clinical Course & Examination Refund Scheme for NCHDs

The HSE provide a suite of educational supports for NCHDs. The HSE Clinical Course and Exam Refund Scheme (CCERS) is one of these supports and provides funding towards and approved list clinical courses and exams. All doctors employed under the 2010 NCHD contract are eligible to apply for refunds under the CCERS.

The list of HSE approved clinical courses and examinations is provided at Appendix One. The full cost of an approved examination/course is eligible to be refunded.

Eligible NCHDs (i.e. holders of the HSE NCHD contract (2010)) can apply for a refund upon successfully passing an exam, or completing a course. Unsuccessful attempts at exams are not eligible for a refund under the CCERS, however it may be possible to claim for these attempts via the Training Support Scheme.

Only examinations which are unavailable in Ireland are eligible for refund if undertaken abroad. Please note that such examinations are identified in Appendix One by means of an asterix.

The NCHD must make an application for Clinical Course and Exam Refund Scheme payment through the CCERS section of their NER account. Further guidance can be availed of by following this link:

CCERS-NCHD-User-Guide.pdf

Please note the following rules in relation to the Clinical Course & Examination Refund Scheme:

- The HSE Clinical Course and Examination Refund Scheme is available to all holders of an HSE 2010 NCHD contract;
- The clinical course / examination applied for must be on the HSE approved list as set out in Appendix One. If the clinical course or examination is not specifically identified on the HSE's approved list then it is ineligible for refund under this Scheme and no exceptions will be made (however, it may be possible to claim refunds for these other exams/courses under the auspices of the Training Supports Scheme). There is no limit to the number of applications that can be made by an individual NCHD to their employer for specific clinical courses / examinations undertaken, however HSE will only fund the contribution once per applicant per clinical course or successful examination;
- NCHDs may claim for a re-certification in a clinical course after the required certification period;
- Applications for refund from NCHDs must be made to their current employer within 6 months of the date of undertaking the clinical course / examination;
- To be eligible for refund, the clinical courses identified in Appendix One must be undertaken in Ireland (Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland);
- With the exception of those examinations which have an asterix beside them, all identified examinations must be undertaken in the Republic of Ireland, under the auspices of the relevant Irish postgraduate training body.
- Examinations of Irish Training Bodies must be undertaken in Ireland in order to be eligible for a refund.

List of HSE Approved Clinical Courses & Examinations Qualifying for the NCHD Refund

NAME OF CLINICAL COURSE / EXAMINATION	CODE
APPROVED CLINICAL COURSES	
Basic Life Support / Advisory External Defibrillation (AED) Course	BLS
ACLS – Advanced Cardiac Life Support	ACLS
*ATLS – Advanced Trauma Life Support	ATLS
APLS – Advanced Paediatric Life Support	APLS
EPLS – European Paediatric Life Support	EPLS
PLS - Paediatric Life Support	PLS
PALS - Paediatric Advanced Life Support	PALS
NRP – Neonatal Resuscitation Programme	NRP
Immediate Care Course – Cardiac	ICCC
Immediate Care Course - Trauma	ICCT
Immediate Care Course – Paediatrics	ICCP
Care of the Critically Ill Surgical Patient	CCrISP
Acute Life Threatening Events: Recognition and Treatment	ALERT
Acute Medical Emergencies: The Practical Approach	MedicALs
Vascular Education and Self-Assessment Programme	VESAP
ANAESTHESIOLOGISTS EXAMINATIONS	
Membership of the College of Anaesthesiologists, MCAI -MCQ	MCAI MCQ
Membership of the College of Anaesthesiologists, MCAI - OSCE /SOE	MCAI OSCE/VIVA
Fellowship of the College of Anaesthesiologists Ireland – Part 1 MCQ/SAQ	FCAI MCQ
Fellowship of the College of Anaesthesiologists Ireland – Part 2 SOE	FCAI SOE
Fellowship of the Joint Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine of Ireland – Part 1	FJFICMI MCQ
Fellowship of the Joint Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine of Ireland – Part 2	FJFICMI CSOE
Fellowship of the Faculty of Pain Medicine, CAI Part 1	FFPMCAI1
Fellowship of the Faculty of Pain Medicine, CAI, Part 2	FFPMCAI2
EMERGENCYMEDICINEEXAMINATIONS	
*Membership of the Royal College of Emergency Medicine - Primary	MRCEM
*Membership of the Royal College of Emergency Medicine - SBA	MRCEM SBA
*Membership of the Royal College of Emergency Medicine - OSCE	MRCEM OSCE
*Fellowship of the Royal College of Emergency Medicine – SBA	FRCEM SBA
*Fellowship of the Royal College of Emergency Medicine – Final OSCE	FRCEM OSCE
GENERAL PRACTICE EXAMINATIONS	
Membership of Irish College of General Practitioners – Core Knowledge Test	MICGPCKT
Membership of Irish College of General Practitioners – Clinical Competency	MICGPCCT1
Membership of Irish College of General Practitioners – Clinical Competency	MICGPCCT2

GENERAL MEDICINE EXAMINATIONS	
Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland – Part One - General Medicine Examination	MRCPI1GM
Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland - Part Two – General Medicine Written Examination	MRCPI2GMWrit
Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland - Part Two – General Medicine Clinical Examination	MRCPI2GMClin
GERIATRIC MEDICINE EXAMINATIONS	
MRCPUK Specialty Certificate Examination in Geriatric Medicine	MRCPUK SCE GER
ENDOCRINOLOGY AND DIABETES EXAMINATIONS	
Membership of the Royals College of Physicians UK – Endocrinology and Diabetes Specialty Certificate Examination	MRCPUK EDSCE
OBSTETRICS & GYNAECOLOGY EXAMINATIONS	
*Membership of the Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists, UK	MRCOG1
Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland - Part Two	MRCPI2OGWrit
Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland - Part Two	MRCPI2OGClin
OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE EXAMINATIONS	
Membership of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine of Ireland Part 1	MFOMI 1
Membership of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine of Ireland OSCE	MFOMI OSCE
Licentiate of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine VIVA/Portfolio	LFOM V/P
Licentiate of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine Written	LFOM Writ
OPHTHALMOLOGY EXAMINATIONS	
Membership of the Royal College of Ophthalmology - Part One	MRCSFRCOphth O1
Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland Ophthalmology – Part 2	MRCSIO2Writ
Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland Ophthalmology – Part 2	MRCSIO2Clin
Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland Ophthalmology – Optics and Refraction	MRCSIO OREF
Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland - Ophthalmology	FRCSIO
*European Board of Ophthalmology Diploma	EBOD
PAEDIATRIC EXAMINATIONS	
Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland – Part One –	MRCPI1Child
Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland - Part Two – Medicine of Childhood Written Examination	MRCPI2ChildWrit
Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland - Part Two – Medicine of Childhood Clinical Examination	MRCPI2ChildClin

PATHOLOGY EXAMINATIONS	
*Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists, UK – Part One	FRCPathUK1
*Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists, UK – Part Two	FRCPathUK2
*Certificate in Higher Autopsy Training (CHAT)	CHAT
PSYCHIATRY EXAMINATIONS	
*Membership of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, UK – Paper A	MRCPsychUKA
*Membership of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, UK – Paper B	MRCPsychUKB
Membership of the College of Psychiatrists of Ireland Clinical Exam Part 1-CFME	CPsychIBCE 1
Member of the College of Psychiatrists of Ireland Clinical Exam Part 2-OSCE	CPsychIBCE 2
PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICINE EXAMINATIONS	
Membership of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine of Ireland – Part One	MFPHMI1
Membership of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine of Ireland – Part Two	MFPHMI2
Membership of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine of Ireland – Part Three	MFPHMI3
RADIOLOGY EXAMINATIONS (Diagnostic Radiology)	
Fellowship of the Faculty of Radiologists and Radiation Oncologists; RCSI – Primary	FFRPrim
Fellowship of the Faculty of Radiologists and Radiation Oncologists, RCSI – Final 2A	FFRFinal 2A
Fellowship of the Faculty of Radiologists and Radiation Oncologists, RCSI – Final 2B	FFRFinal 2B
RADIOLOGY EXAMINATIONS (Radiation Oncology)	
Primary Exam - (FRCR UK Part I Exam)	FFRPrim UK
Fellowship of the Faculty of Radiologists and Radiation Oncologists, RCSI – Final 2A	FFRFinal 2A
Fellowship of the Faculty of Radiologists and Radiation Oncologists, RCSI – Final 2B	FFRFinal 2B
SPORTS & EXERCISE MEDICINE	
FSEM UK Sports and Exercise Medicine Specialty Examination– Part 1	MFSEM UK 1
FSEM UK Sports and Exercise Medicine Specialty Examination– Part 2	MFSEM UK 2
SURGERY EXAMINATIONS	
Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland – Part A MCQ	MRCSIAMCQ
Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland – Part B OSCE	MRCSIBOSCE
*Intercollegiate Examination in Cardiothoracic Surgery – Section One	IECS1
*Intercollegiate Examination in Cardiothoracic Surgery – Section Two	IECS2
*Intercollegiate Examination in General Surgery – Section One	IEGS1
*Intercollegiate Examination in General Surgery – Section Two	IEGS2
*Intercollegiate Examination in Neurosurgery – Section One	IEN1
*Intercollegiate Examination in Neurosurgery – Section Two	IEN2
*Intercollegiate Examination in Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery – Section One	IEOMS1
*Intercollegiate Examination in Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery – Section Two	IEOMS2
*Intercollegiate Examination in Otolaryngology – Section One	IEO1
*Intercollegiate Examination in Otolaryngology – Section Two	IEO2
*Intercollegiate Examination in Paediatric Surgery – Section One	IEPAEDS1
*Intercollegiate Examination in Paediatric Surgery – Section Two	IEPAEDS2
*Intercollegiate Examination in Plastic Surgery – Section One	IEPLASS1

*Intercollegiate Examination in Plastic Surgery – Section Two	IEPLASS2
*Intercollegiate Examination in Trauma & Orthopedic Surgery – Section One	IETOS1
*Intercollegiate Examination in Trauma & Orthopedic Surgery – Section Two	IETOS2
*Intercollegiate Examination in Urology – Section One	IEU1
*Intercollegiate Examination in Urology – Section Two	IEU2
*Intercollegiate Examination in Vascular Surgery – Section One	IEVS1
*Intercollegiate Examination in Vascular Surgery – Section Two	IEVS2

* Examination approved for sitting outside the Republic of Ireland