The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh

The Royal College of Surgeons of England

The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow

Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

JOINT COMMITTEE ON INTERCOLLEGIATE EXAMINATIONS ADVERTISEMENT FOR MEMBERSHIP

TO THE

PANEL OF QUESTION WRITERS FOR SECTION 1 INTERCOLLEGIATE SPECIALTY EXAMINATIONS

The Joint Committee on Intercollegiate Examinations is keen to hear from consultant surgeons, newly appointed or otherwise, who are Fellows of one of the four Surgical Royal Colleges, and who have a keen interest in continuing medical education and an enthusiasm for writing Single Best Answer and Extended Matching Item questions for Section 1 of the Intercollegiate Specialty Examinations.

Appointment to the Panel of Question Writers for Section 1 would be for a period of three years but this may be renewable. Question Writers would automatically retire from the Writing Group when they retire from clinical practice within the NHS or Public Health Service (Ireland). New Members will be expected to sign a confidentiality non-disclosure form.

Those appointed to the Panel of Question Writers for Section 1 will have a commitment to the professional conduct and development of the Intercollegiate Specialty Examinations. Although much of the communication will be by Email, members appointed to the Panel of Questions Writers must be prepared to commit to the time necessary to attend approximately two/three meetings of the Writing Group each year and will be required to draft the required number of questions in advance for consideration at the meetings. No fees or honoraria are paid to Question Writers but travel expenses will be reimbursed and hotel accommodation will be provided where necessary. New members of the Panel of Questions Writers for Section 1 will be required to familiarise themselves with the document 'Constructing Written Test Questions for the Basic Clinical Sciences' which can be downloaded from http://www.nbme.org/publications/item-writing-manual.html. New Members will be given training in writing both Single Best Answer and Extended Matching Item questions and the Group Leader will take responsibility to ensure that the questions writing training needs of each new member is met.

Membership to the Panel of Question Writers for Section 1 will be acknowledged as part of continuing professional development, ensuring up to date specialist knowledge and will become part of the member's appraisal portfolio. The writing group meetings will offer a valuable means of forming strong Intercollegiate links with other surgeons and colleagues in the UK and Ireland.

If you would like to apply to join the Panel of Question Writers for Section 1 of the Intercollegiate Specialty Examinations please complete the application form and send this to:

Mrs E P Winton FIinstLM
Head of Examinations
The Intercollegiate Specialty Boards
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