

London School of Anaesthesia and ICM

OOP guidance for Anaesthetic and ICM Trainees and Training Programme Directors

This document has been created to provide trainees and TPD's with guidance surrounding OOP applications for Anaesthetic and ICM trainees in London so there is a more transparent, and equitable process for all. This guidance is a summary of the current OOP guidance that exists and can be found in the Gold Guide v8, RCOA website, HEE website and PGMDE support portal.

OOP time periods will normally be granted for up to:

12 months	36 months
OOP Training	OOP Research
OOP Experience	
OOP Pause	
OOP Career Break	

The Gold guide states that trainees would normally be approved for 1 OOP period per training programme (including dual CCT programmes.).

However, we recognise that there might be circumstances where more than 1 OOP period would be allowed:

- a requirement for urgent OOPC
- 2 or more episodes of OOP up to a total of 12 months.

The latter rule applies to OOPT, OOPE and OOPP where a combined maximum of one year is allowed (e.g. 1 year of OOPT or 6/12 OOPT + 6/12 OOPE).

PG Deans have discretion to consider exceptional circumstances and approve more than 1 OOP period for sound educational reasons. PG Deans can also consider exceptional circumstances and approve OOP periods longer than the normal time periods.

TPD's should discuss these trainees and any trainee that needs a more bespoke plan, with the Head of School in advance of application.

All OOP's have to be applied for at least 6 months before the intended start date.

Trainees must complete the last 6 months of their CCT training, in-programme and in the UK unless there are exceptional circumstances. TPDs should discuss these circumstances with the Head of School in advance of application.

OOPT, OOPR and OOPE's during core or intermediate training will only be considered for exceptional circumstances/opportunities. However OOPC's and OOPP's are available to all trainees.

Trainees who are dual ICM/Anaesthetics will need approval from both their ICM and Anaesthetic TPD's. Trainees who are undertaking Advanced Pain Training will need approval from their Pain TPD as well.

The consideration of whether the School can support applications for OOP time to count towards training (OOPT) will depend on the circumstance of the training programme. Some time can be counted towards training if:

1. Training module is not offered in training programme
2. Training module available in the training programme, but oversubscribed
3. Highly specialised training not available in UK
4. Highly specialised training available in the UK, but oversubscribed
5. Overseas training offers a different perspective to the area of clinical practice than in the UK

If a trainee applies for an OOP fellowship in a London or KSS trust when the training offered is available in the training programme, the school will not support trainees counting any of the time in this fellowship towards a clinical module (it will be an OOPE). The school may support trainees counting 6 months OOPT towards a nonclinical module such as research, education or management.

In-programme research is part of the rotation in some regions. Up to one year of OOPR can be counted towards the CCT/CESR [CP] whether it is taken in or out of programme. Provided there is a clinical element to the programme [this includes out of hours duties within the hospital where the trainee is based for their research time], the full year may be counted towards the CCT programme. If there is no clinical element to the research programme, a maximum of six months only will count towards the CCT/CESR[CP]. The same rules apply as for OOPT, so please remember to apply for this prospectively from both the RCOA and FICM.

Fellowships abroad:

These provide additional experience not available within the UK so if a trainee wants to, the school may support them counting at least 6 months towards training.

Trainees wishing to undertake OOPT in the UK or abroad will need to apply for prospective approval from RCOA (and FICM if dual training).

<https://www.rcoa.ac.uk/sites/default/files/documents/2019-09/TRG-OOPTRApplication2016.pdf>

https://www.ficm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/oopttr_form_for_single_and_dual_trainees.pdf

Please provide your TPD with a detailed breakdown of the fellowship you are applying for, together with details of any other past OOP time you have taken. <https://www.copmed.org.uk/gold-guide-8th-edition/>

<https://london.hee.nhs.uk/medical-training/trainee-resources/out-programme>

<https://www.rcoa.ac.uk/documents/12-out-programme>