



Irish College of
Ophthalmologists
Eye Doctors of Ireland
Protecting your Vision

Allocation of Places on Specialist Training Programmes

In order to comply with national policy relating to the recruitment, training, retention and development of specialist medical practitioners, it has been determined that the following process will apply to the recruitment and selection of new specialist trainees:

1. Available specialist training places will be allocated by the Irish College of Ophthalmologists in the first instance to those candidates who at the time of application are citizens of Ireland or nationals of another Member State of the European Union. This includes non-EEA nationals who are deemed to be qualifying or permitted family members of nationals of a Member State under the EU Directive 2004/38/EC (Free Movement Directive) as transposed into Irish domestic law, European Communities (Free Movement of Persons) Regulations 2015. S.I No 548 of 2015 and have been granted the right of residence or permanent residence (i.e holders of GNIB Stamp 4 EUFAM or holders of IRP Stamp 4 by virtue of marriage or dependency*).
2. All such appointments will be made in order of merit, and are subject to the applicant meeting the conditions and standards prescribed by Irish College of Ophthalmologists.
3. Should training places on the specialist training programme remain unfilled following the initial round where qualified candidates (as outlined above) are offered training places, the Irish College of Ophthalmologists may allocate any remaining training places to candidates who at the time of application were otherwise qualified save for meeting the condition specified in paragraph 1 above.
4. All offers made under paragraph 3 above will be made in order of merit, and are subject to an applicant meeting the conditions and standards prescribed by Irish College of Ophthalmologists.
5. To manage this allocation process, all applicants at the time of application are required to submit to the Irish College of Ophthalmologists a colour copy of their passport. The colour copy submitted must be legible and include the passport identity page. Where appropriate, applicants should submit a copy of their Certificate of Naturalisation as issued by the Department of Justice and Equality or a copy of their Stamp4 EUFam card or Stamp4 card, if such is required for an applicant to be considered as a candidate specified in paragraph 1 above.
6. An applicant's citizenship status is a matter entirely between the applicant and the relevant national authorities. The Irish College of Ophthalmologists will not entertain or take account of applications for naturalisation that are pending with the relevant authorities. All required evidence must be provided at the time of application.

*Please note that IRPStamp4 is awarded in a number of different circumstances - for the purposes of this guidance, only holders of a long term (circa 3 years) IRPStamp4 that are based on marriage to an Irish person, holders of a Stamp4EUFam card through marriage to an EU national, or dependent children/step children (under 21 years old) of such a couple are eligible to be considered in the initial allocation of training places as outlined in points 1 &2 above. Holders of IRP Stamp 4 on any other basis are eligible to apply, however these will not be included in the allocation of training places in the first instance as per points 1 and 2 above. It is the responsibility of the Stamp 4 applicant to supply the training body with documentation requested by the training body to satisfy that the applicant meets the criteria within the timeframes set by the training body. Such documentation may include (but is not limited to) some of the following: evidence of IRPstamp4EUFAM / IRPstamp 4, passport of spouse indicating nationality, valid marriage certificate, valid birth certificate.