



Irish College of
Ophthalmologists
Eye Doctors of Ireland
Protecting your Vision

Applicants who are affected by the recent changes to the Regulated Professions (Health and Social Care) (Amendment) Bill 2020 and the HSE HR Circular 063/2020 concerning English language requirements for NCHDs, are invited to apply to Basic Specialist Training Programmes in either Surgical or Medical Ophthalmology. Applicants should note that the online application forms and the relevant guidance information do not reflect these changes, nevertheless applicants who are affected by these changes can apply to the programme as outlined below.

The deadline for submission of applications remains unaffected by these changes and the closing date will remain **Friday 4th December 2020**.

1. Under the amendment to the Regulated Professions (Health and Social Care) (Amendment) Bill 2020, eligibility for the Trainee Specialist Division will now include all doctors who are currently registered in or have established eligibility for registration in, the General Division.

In “Section 1: Personal Details” of the online application form, applicants who are affected by this change should upload a copy of their current General registration certificate with the Irish Medical Council in section 1.12.1 and should confirm their eligibility to the trainee specialist division by selecting “yes” at question 1.10.

2. The amendments to HSE HR Circular 063/2020 ([available here](#)) concerning English language requirements for NCHDs allow doctors who did not complete the entirety of their under-graduate medical training in the Republic of Ireland and who attained their Medical Degree in a non-English speaking country to be exempt from providing an IELTS/OET certificate provided they supply copies of all three of the following documents:
 1. A copy of Irish Leaving Certificate/UK A-Level transcript results
 2. A copy of the Medical Degree.
 3. Certificate/confirmation from their University confirming their Medical degree was taught and examined solely in English.

**If the Medical Degree was taught in English but this is not stated in the transcript of results, please upload a letter from the relevant university confirming that the degree was taught and examined solely in English.*

In “Section 5: Clinical Training & Experience” of the online application form, point 5.6, applicants affected by this change should select “yes” and at point 5.6.1 upload a copy of the aforementioned documents.

Full details on the ICO recruitment process for Basic Specialist Training is available on website. For queries, please contact the Training Programme Manager by email at rebecca.martin@eyedoctors.ie