



Part 1 Examination in Analytical Toxicology

Guidance for grandparenting candidates

The first FRCPath Part 1 examinations in Analytical Toxicology will be held in Spring 2009. There will be two options for Part I: grandparenting or examination.

Candidates who can demonstrate significant experience in Analytical Toxicology, according to the criteria outlined below, are invited to submit an application for grandparenting. The window of opportunity for grandparenting will be limited to two years: 2009 and 2010. Applications should be submitted from now and no later than mid-2010 in order to be processed within the time allowed for grandparenting.

Candidates who are ineligible for grandparenting should prepare for the Part 1 written examination in Analytical Toxicology, following the College standard procedures. The examination regulations and guidelines for Analytical Toxicology are on the College website.

Eligibility criteria for College Membership

Candidates should normally meet the College's eligibility criteria for scientist applicants.

Eligibility criteria for Grandparenting through Part 1 examination in Analytical Toxicology

Candidates should:

- Possess a higher degree (MSc/MPhil/PhD/DPhil/MD) or equivalent in a branch of science relevant to analytical toxicology.
- Have an appropriate period of postgraduate practice in analytical toxicology (normally a minimum of 6 years)
- Demonstrate a commitment to go on to take Part 2 of the examination
- Work in a laboratory in the UK or Ireland

Application process

Candidates should submit a formal application to the Royal College of Pathologists Examinations Department, comprising the following:

- The College examination application for grandparenting
- A covering letter stating the period of practice claimed and the associated dates.
- A checklist of items sent
- A detailed curriculum vitae comprising the following sections:
 - name
 - qualifications with dates and institution
 - career history (including any career breaks) in date order
 - achievements
 - professional memberships
 - full publications and abstracts
 - any other relevant information
- A statement of practice. This should be approximately 2-3 A4 sheets, single spaced, font size 10-12. It should state the nature of your practice as an analytical toxicologist (ie what you do at work), your working practices, your competencies, how and where you were trained, your position in the team, any special responsibilities or activities or limitations related to your work, your management experience, your participation in training of junior staff, your CPD participation, and any other information that you feel is relevant.
- The names, addresses, telephone and email contacts of three persons willing to act as professional referees, who have first hand experience of your practice. One of these should be your Lead Consultant/Head of Department or equivalent.

Assessment process

Written submissions for grandparenting will be assessed by examiners appointed by the College. Candidates deemed to have demonstrated sufficient relevant practice will be invited to interview. The interview will be conducted by examiners appointed by the College. Candidates who pass the interview stage will be recommended to College Council and will receive a letter notifying them of the outcome. Successful grandparenting applicants are free to proceed to Part 2 examination as soon as they wish.

Candidates who do not succeed in their grandparenting application may not reapply via grandparenting. Applicants are therefore recommended seek advice from expert colleagues in compiling their grandparenting applications.

Unsuccessful grandparenting applicants may subsequently apply to take the Part 1 examination if they wish.

Time scale

Grandparenting applications can be made from Autumn 2008 until mid 2010. In order to meet the Spring 2009 Council meeting, applications will be required by 9th January 2008 and the interviews completed by early May. The equivalent deadlines for the Autumn 2009 session will be 3rd July for application and early November for the interviews.

Part 1 written examinations will be held in Spring, and the practical examination (entry for which is dependent upon a successful performance in the part 1 written exam) will be held in Autumn.

Part 2 examination in Analytical Toxicology

There is no option for grandparenting for Part 2. The normal college routes to membership will apply. Please see the examination regulations and guidelines for Toxicology on the College website www.rcpath.org/exams.

Fees

The normal College fee structure will not apply for Part 1 by grandparenting and such candidates will not have to pay to sit this examination. College fees for the Part 2 are still applicable. In 2009 this will be £965.

Membership fees will become payable by successful Part 2 candidates.

Further information

There is extensive information about the College Examination procedures available on the website, including a frequently asked questions section. Please consult this site. However, if you have any remaining questions, please contact Peter Anderson, Examinations Manager peter.anderson@rcpath.org or Dr John Foster john.foster@astrazeneca.com Chair of the Panel of Examiners in Toxicology.

Examinations Department
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