



The Royal College of **Pathologists**

Pathology: the science behind the cure

College examinations for Fellowship and Diplomas

Regulations and guidelines for 2010

November 2009

(superseding all previous editions)

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Specific information for specialties (see separate documents)

Clinical Biochemistry
Clinical Embryology
Dermatopathology
Forensic Pathology
Genetics
Haematology
Haematology (clinical scientists)
Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics
Histopathology
Immunology
Medical Microbiology
Neuropathology
Oral Pathology
Paediatric Pathology
Toxicology
Veterinary Pathology
Veterinary Clinical Pathology
Virology

Updated information and news about the examinations, application forms, written papers from previous examinations etc are posted on the College website: **www.rcpath.org/exams**

All communications and enquiries should be addressed to:

The Royal College of Pathologists
Examinations Department
2 Carlton House Terrace
London
SW1Y 5AF

Tel: 020 7451 6760/6734
Fax: 020 7451 6701/6702

Email: exams@rcpath.org
Website: www.rcpath.org/exams

Regulations and guidelines for College examinations for Fellowship and Diplomas

Introduction

- 1 This document, along with the relevant specialty-specific regulations, contains the information candidates must read before applying to sit a Royal College of Pathologist Fellowship or Diploma examination. Its content is divided into policy and background information as well as specific requirements. Where a direct instruction is given e.g. *must* or *will* this is an obligation on the part of the candidate or the College. Where the text uses a passive or conditional tense e.g. *should* or *may* this is a guideline or a recommendation.

Policy and background information

2 Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists

Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists (FRCPath) is a mark of professional standing and esteem achieved through one of three possible routes: examinations, publications or invitation of Council. The latter two routes are for academic and distinguished pathologists and are inappropriate for trainees.

The College maintains parity in professional standing and esteem among the three routes to FRCPath by seeking appropriate evidence of knowledge, skills and achievement.

FRCPath alone grants no right or authority for unsupervised clinical practice in a pathology specialty. For clinical practice in the UK, this right and authority is conferred by specialist registration with the General Medical Council (GMC) and by equivalent registration processes for dental practitioners and clinical scientists.

The FRCPath examination constitutes an assessment of the candidate's knowledge of their specialty and their ability to apply that knowledge in the practice of the specialty. The tests of theory, taken as MCQ or EMQ, short answer or essay papers in Part 1 of the examination, aim to determine whether an individual has successfully acquired a core body of knowledge that will underpin their ability to practise in their chosen specialty. The practical examinations, largely taken at Part 2, are designed to test candidates' practical skills and understanding of the specialty and may include written tests in some specialties. They aim to show whether the candidate can apply their knowledge appropriately and safely to the practice of the specialty.

The overall aim of the examination for medical trainees is to provide external quality assurance that a trainee is on course to reach the standard appropriate for entry on the Specialist Register and practice as an unsupervised specialist in the specialty. For non-medical candidates, passing the FRCPath examination indicates they have reached the standard appropriate for unsupervised practice.

On passing the FRCPath examination, Fellows sign a consent card agreeing to be bound by the provisions of the Charter and Ordinances of the College, as amended from time to time, and to further its objects and interests to the best of their ability.

3 Completion of Training (CCT) and eligibility for consultant posts

The achievement of Fellowship by examination following a defined period of training has long been regarded as an integral part of recognition as a pathologist who has completed training and is eligible to be appointed to a consultant post. However, it must be recognised that Fellowship is a marker of achieving a professional status as a pathologist, whether by examination or by published works, and is not solely or even necessarily a criterion for appointment as a consultant.

The decision on the suitability of a candidate, and whether their training is appropriate for a particular post, is the sole prerogative and responsibility of an Appointment Advisory Committee, whether within the NHS system, a university or elsewhere. The FRCPath is a useful benchmark for candidates for consultant posts who have followed an approved UK training programme and obtained Fellowship by examination, but it does not override the Appointment Advisory Committee's responsibility to determine that a candidate has the right background and qualification for a particular post.

This has been clarified by the creation of the Specialist Register. An entry on the Specialist Register confirms that a doctor is eligible to apply for a consultant post. Obtaining the FRCPath by examination is an integral requirement of securing a Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) which leads to entry on the Specialist Register but the FRCPath alone does not automatically deliver a CCT without documented evidence of satisfactory completion of an approved UK training programme. FRCPath by examination may also form part of the evidence submitted as part of a Certificate confirming Eligibility for Specialist Registration (CESR) application for entry to the Specialist Register.

4 Equality and Diversity

The Royal College of Pathologists is committed to the principle and practice of diversity and equality in employment, Fellowship, academic activities, assessments, examinations and training. This means that everyone should be treated in a fair, open and honest manner. Our approach is a comprehensive one and reflects all areas of diversity, recognising the value of each individual. We aim to ensure that no one is treated less favourably than another on the grounds of ethnic origin, nationality, age, disability, gender, transgender, sexual orientation, race or religion. Our intention is to reflect not only the letter but also the spirit of equality legislation.

5 Entry criteria for Parts 1 and 2 Fellowship examinations and Diploma examinations

A candidate is admitted to the College examinations solely at the discretion of College Council. Council may refuse to admit to the examination procedure any candidate who infringes any of the regulations or who is considered by the examiners to be guilty of behaviour prejudicial to the proper management and conduct of the examination.

Candidates will be admitted to an examination (subject to para. 16 below) if they have fulfilled the recommended training requirements and are deemed ready to do so by their educational supervisor. Candidates may apply for each part of the examination when they and their educational supervisor or other appropriate trainer consider that they are sufficiently prepared. In general the College recommends that medical candidates in a specialty training programme do not attempt the Part 1 examination before completing at least one year of specialty training and Part 2 before completing at least two years of specialty training.

5.1 Medical and dental candidates

Candidates must hold a primary medical or dental qualification approved by the GMC or General Dental Council (GDC) and must be currently registered with the GMC or GDC in the UK or the appropriate body in the country where they are practising. Candidates holding a medical or dental qualification not accepted by the GMC or GDC in the UK must provide appropriate documents with their application form to demonstrate current registration or permission to practise in the country or territory of domicile either in which the qualification was granted or where they are practising.

The following specialties are open to medical candidates only: Forensic Pathology, Histopathology, Neuropathology, and Paediatric Pathology. Oral Pathology is open to dental candidates only.

5.2 Other candidates

Candidates must hold a qualification approved by Council. For this purpose, Council recognises the qualifications in veterinary medicine that are able to be registered in the UK, as well as 1st and 2nd class Honours degrees or equivalent qualifications granted in the UK and Republic of Ireland in appropriate science subjects. Applications may also be considered on an individual basis from those holding other science degrees granted in the UK and Republic of Ireland and from those holding science degrees from overseas universities. Candidates should refer to the relevant specialty section below for further information. Veterinary Pathology and Veterinary Clinical Pathology are open to candidates with a qualification in veterinary medicine only.

6 Requirements for progression through the examination procedure

Candidates who fail to satisfy the examiners in the Part 1 written papers will not go forward to the practical and oral stage if there is one at Part 1 in that specialty. Candidates are not allowed to apply for both the Part 1 written and the Part 1 practical examinations at the same time.

Candidates successfully completing a Part 1 examination will be offered Associateship status in their subject.

Candidates who first sat the examination prior to Spring 2005 and who have unsuccessfully attempted the Part 1 or Diploma examination six times will not be permitted to re-enter the examination. From Spring 2005, candidates are only permitted four attempts at Part 1 and the Diploma examinations. Any case made for re-admission based on exceptional circumstances must be referred to College Council.

Candidates may not enter for the Part 2 examination until they have successfully completed the Part 1 but in those specialties which require a written Part 2 submission, candidates can submit a project proposal for this, before completing Part 1.

Candidates who have unsuccessfully attempted the Part 2 examination four times will not be permitted to re-enter the examination. Any case made for re-admission based on exceptional circumstances must be referred to College Council.

Candidates who wish to sit the Part 2 examination in a subject other than that passed in Part 1 must obtain the permission of College Council. The exception is candidates who have passed the Part 1 examination in Histopathology who, after appropriate training, may sit the Part 2 examination in one of the following: Forensic Pathology, Neuropathology or Paediatric Pathology.

Candidates may apply for the appropriate FRCPath Part 2 examination if recommended to do so by a PMETB CESR decision.

7 Guidance for overseas candidates

The FRCPATH examinations are open to overseas candidates and the College has several overseas examination centres (see paragraph 13 below). Overseas candidates are reminded that the examination is orientated towards UK practice and is structured around the relevant UK curriculum. Candidates are strongly recommended to study the curriculum and training requirements of their specialty to ensure that they are appropriately prepared for the examination and have access to appropriate training programmes, which must incorporate robust continuous assessment. **Overseas candidates who fail to prepare in this way are unlikely to be able to demonstrate that they have reached the appropriate standard.**

8 Guidance for candidates undertaking written projects for the Part 2 examination

Candidates for certain specialties are required to undertake a written project for the Part 2 examination. Regulations and guidance are contained in the separate document on the College website (www.rcpath.org/exams). Candidates should read carefully the specific instructions in the relevant specialty section for guidance on which option is appropriate for their specialty.

9 Marking systems used in Fellowship examinations and Diploma examinations

9.1 Written papers examinations

The College operates a 'closed' marking system for long essay papers. Each question receives a notional 25 marks. Where essay papers incorporate questions broken into several parts, the marks are allocated to the overall response to the whole question, not broken down and allocated to individual parts. The marking scheme for the essay papers is given below.

Mark awarded	Category
15 (maximum)	Excellent pass
14	Clear pass
13	Pass
12	Borderline fail
11	Clear fail
10 (minimum)	Bad fail

The minimum pass mark is 50% overall. A total mark of 47.5% or less on one paper is a definite fail, but a total mark of between 48–49% on one paper can be compensated by a corresponding surplus of marks in the other paper.

For papers consisting solely of short answer questions, the marks allocated to each individual part of a question are indicated on the question paper. The pass mark for short answer question papers is set for each individual paper by a standard setting procedure for each question undertaken by members of the relevant Panel of Examiners to determine minimal acceptable competence.

9.2 Multiple-choice question/extended matching question (MCQ/EMQ) examinations

The Part 1 examination in some specialties consists of an MCQ/EMQ examination, rather than a written examination (please refer to individual specialty sections). The MCQ/EMQ examination consists of one 3-hour MCQ/EMQ exam. The exam is a paper-based exam, which is computer-marked. Samples of the answer sheets which candidates have to complete are provided on the College website together with the instructions that will be provided in the exam.

Marks are not deducted for incorrect answers and candidates are therefore advised to attempt all questions. There is only one correct answer for each question and, if more than one answer is entered, no marks will be awarded for that question.

The pass mark for MCQ/EMQ papers is set for each individual paper by a standard setting procedure undertaken by members of the relevant Panel of Examiners to determine minimal acceptable competence. This is currently a modified Angoff method.

Please note that where an examination changes from a written to an MCQ/EMQ examination, it is the format of these exams only which has changed, and not the content. The knowledge and understanding to be tested are no different from that examined in the written examinations.

9.3 Practical and oral examinations

The pass mark for as many components of practical and oral examinations as possible is determined by an appropriate standard setting procedure undertaken by members of the relevant Panel of Examiners.

Some specialties require candidates to obtain a pass mark in certain or all sections of the practical examination, and a lower mark in one section cannot then be compensated by a corresponding surplus of marks in another section. Please refer to the relevant specialty section for further information.

The College operates an egregious error procedure where an answer which indicates unsafe or unethical practice will result in the candidate being placed in the borderline category. The entire performance of the candidate in the examination is then considered by the senior examiners in that specialty to determine whether the error is sufficiently serious for that candidate to fail the exam irrespective of their other marks in the examination.

Specific requirements for entering and sitting Fellowship examinations and Diploma examinations

10 Communication about Fellowship examinations and Diploma examinations

Candidates must direct all communications and enquiries about their examination entry, content, format and result to the Examinations Department. Candidates must not contact any member of the panel of examiners unless specifically instructed to do so by the Examinations Department. To attempt to do so will be regarded as possible misconduct.

11 Timing and frequency of examinations

There are two examination sessions a year. Examinations are held in both sessions except Clinical Embryology (Part 1), Haematology (clinical scientists), Genetics (clinical cytogenetics and molecular genetics), Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics, Toxicology, Veterinary Pathology, Veterinary Clinical Pathology and the Diploma in Dermatopathology, where each component of the examination is held once a year. In specialties in which there is still a practical component at Part 1 the written component must be passed before the practical component can be attempted. The practical component cannot be taken in the same session as the written but only in a subsequent examination session. Full details are listed in the timetables in Appendix 1.

12 Application forms

Entry to any College examination will only be confirmed by submission of the printed application form to the Examinations Department and other appropriate documentation not later than the relevant closing date specified in the timetables in Appendix 1. The examinations application form is obtainable from the Examinations section of the College website (www.rcpath.org/exams).

Candidates must submit a fresh application for each session (e.g. Spring session, Autumn session) in which they wish to attempt a component of the examination.

Applicants must be sponsored by a Fellow of the College recently involved in their training. When this is impracticable, the head of the department in which the candidate is working can be the sponsor.

Candidates must pay the correct examination fees through WorldPay before submitting an application (see Appendix 2)

Completed application forms must be accompanied by:

- a recent passport-sized photograph of the candidate, which must be signed and endorsed as a true likeness by the sponsor who has signed the application form (or another Fellow of the College or overseas equivalent)
- a self-addressed postcard/envelope for acknowledging receipt of the application.

Candidates entering for the first time for Histopathology or Neuropathology Part 2 examinations must apply for both components when first applying. If making a subsequent application for a component failed in a previous attempt, candidates must indicate this clearly (by ticking the appropriate box on the application form) and pay the appropriate fee.

Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. Candidates who experience difficulties meeting the deadline should contact the Examination Department for advice before the deadline passes. Candidates must send their applications by registered post and retain proof of posting until receipt of their application has been acknowledged.

Applicants must inform the Examinations Department of changes to their contact details (including email address) during the time of the examination.

13 Overseas examination centres

It can sometimes be arranged for candidates to take the Part 1 or Diploma **written** examination overseas. Candidates who pass the written papers may then apply for the practical examination (if appropriate) in the UK at the next session of the examination.

Written examinations can usually be arranged in the following centres, depending on there being a minimum number of local candidates sitting in each examination session: Mumbai, Jeddah, Singapore, Hong Kong, Kuwait and Oman.

All candidates who sit the written papers overseas are required to submit an additional fee at the time of application (see appendix 2). Applications must be submitted to the College in the normal way and candidates must not contact local examination centres unless instructed to do so.

14 Fees

Fees for the Part 1, Part 2 and Diploma examinations are set by College Council. The current fees are listed in Appendix 2.

15 Disability and special situations

Candidates with a permanent or temporary disability (defined under the Disability Discrimination Act as a physical, sensory or mental impairment which has, or had, a substantial and long-term adverse affect on a person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities), which may require a change in the examination procedures, must inform the Examinations Department in writing as soon as they know when they wish to attempt the examination, well in advance of the closing date.

Candidates who are pregnant and anticipate that they may need particular consideration (i.e. facilities to enable them to sit down during practical examinations) must contact the Examinations Department as soon as this need becomes apparent. Although examiners will do their best to give candidates full consideration on the day, examinations are conducted with the local facilities that are available and it may not be possible to meet candidates' requirements if their needs are not known in advance.

Candidates who present themselves for the examination are deemed to be prepared for and capable of taking it. Candidates who are aware, in advance of the examination, of exceptional adverse personal circumstances, such as bereavement or temporary or permanent illness or injury, which they feel may affect their performance in the examination, are strongly advised not to present themselves for examination. Adverse circumstances known to the candidate in advance of the examination will not normally be accepted as mitigating factors in their performance in the examination if they could have withdrawn.

Candidates who decide to withdraw due to such adverse circumstances just before the examination may be permitted to defer their attempt on application to the Examinations Department. Candidates who experience adverse personal circumstances such as illness or injury in the course of the examination will normally have these factors taken into consideration. Withdrawal from the examination because of exceptional adverse personal circumstances will not count as an attempt.

Candidates wishing to have such circumstances taken into consideration must inform the Examinations Department in writing as soon as possible after the examination, and before the results are issued, with appropriate documentary evidence. Candidates must provide independent corroboration of their situation, such as a certificate or letter from their general practitioner, consultant or clinical psychologist.

Any variation of the examination regulations or procedures will be at the discretion of the Director of Examinations and Assessment and may consist, for example, of allowing extra time for written papers or the waiving of withdrawal or resit charges. Additional marks will not be awarded under any circumstances.

16 Prioritisation of applications

The College's ability to admit all applicants may be determined by the total number of applicants and the availability of suitable premises. While all reasonable steps will be taken to ensure there is the capacity to examine all applicants the College will prioritise applications in the very unlikely situation that it is necessary.

Part 1 written or Part 2 oral examinations

There is no prioritisation of applicants for any Part 1 written examinations or Part 2 oral examinations.

Practical examinations

Subject to their being eligible in all other respects to sit practical examinations, at either Part 1 or Part 2, priority will be given to applicants who are:

- registered trainees currently in a Postgraduate Medical Education and Training Board (PMETB) approved training programme
- trainees currently in an approved training programme in the European Union (EU)
- current UK and EU-based clinical scientists
- applicants directed by PMETB to undergo an assessment by FRCPPath examination to support an application for entry to the Specialist Register under Article 14.

The following applicants will be accepted, **in the order listed**, if the College has the capacity to examine them at the sitting applied for:

1. currently practising in the NHS in a grade and position relevant to the examination applied for
2. formerly in a PMETB approved training programme
3. formerly in an approved training programme in the EU
4. other applicants

Applicants in the above categories will be told as soon as possible after the published closing date for applications whether or not their application has been accepted. If an application cannot be accepted applicants will be given the option of a full refund of fees, joining a waiting list or transferring to the next session.

17 Withdrawal from the examination

Notification of withdrawal from the examination must be given to the Examinations Department in writing. This can be by email.

Candidates who withdraw from the examination up to two weeks after the relevant closing date may either have their fee refunded or transferred to the next session of the examination. Where a fee is transferred, candidates will have to pay the difference if the fee increases. **Candidates who withdraw later than two weeks after the relevant closing date will forfeit the entire fee.** Forfeiture of the fee will be waived only in exceptional circumstances.

18 Security at examination centres

Candidates must bring official identification with a photograph (i.e. passport, driving licence, national identity card or military warrant card) to all College examinations. **NHS identify cards are no longer accepted.** This identification should be visible on the candidate's desk at all times during written examinations, and must be produced when requested at practical, oral and autopsy examination centres. Candidates without appropriate identification will not be admitted to the examination. Candidates whose official identification is in a different name to that used on the application form (e.g. following a change in marital status) must notify the Examinations Department prior to sitting the examination.

Candidates must **not** bring books or other printed materials, mobile telephones or any other electronic equipment into any examination room. The only exception is for practical examinations where candidates have been given **specific instructions** about the equipment they may bring. Candidates must **not** enter or leave any examination room until permitted to do so by the local examiner or invigilator.

19 Confidentiality of examination materials

Question papers other than Part 1 written and Diploma written essay papers must not be removed from the examination centre, and questions must not be copied, removed from the examination centre or memorised and thereafter reconstructed or distributed. To attempt to do so will be regarded as possible misconduct.

Candidates must not remove the MCQ/EMQ question paper from the examination centre, nor copy any question and remove it from the examination centre. The answer sheets of any candidate who attempts to do so will not be marked and their actions regarded as possible misconduct.

The questions in College examination papers are covered by copyright law. It is a breach of copyright to reproduce and/or distribute any examination materials, other than Part 1 written and Diploma written question papers, which are available on the College website, and may be printed from the website in order for candidates to familiarise themselves with the format and type of questions.

20 Candidate misconduct

Candidates must observe all the regulations relating to the confidentiality and proper conduct of the examination. Any allegation of cheating, deception, fraud or attempting to gain an unfair advantage will be fully investigated by the Director of Examinations and Assessment. A candidate accused of such misconduct will be advised of the investigation and the procedures that will be followed.

A candidate found guilty of misconduct will be reported to his/her employer, sponsor and the relevant professional bodies, such as the UK General Medical Council. If any information comes to light at any stage that indicates the regulations have been breached, the Royal College of Pathologists reserves the right to retrospectively annul the relevant examination result.

21 Notification of results

Information about the notification of examination results is given in Appendix 3.

22 Feedback

Candidates should note that exams are a summative test of whether they meet the set standards and that detailed feedback should not be expected. Feedback will provide a summary of performance at the particular sitting concerned. It is not intended to offer direct guidance on what steps would be required to pass. Candidates should not use it as the sole basis of preparing for future attempts. It should be used in conjunction with evidence about their overall progress in the specialty but should not, on its own, be the only piece of evidence used to determine a plan for remediation.

The College encourages unsuccessful examination candidates to seek guidance from specialty advisers and educational supervisors. To support this, the College will provide specialty advisers and educational supervisors with further relevant information upon request.

For MCQ/EMQ examinations, candidates' result notification will include their score and the pass score. No further feedback is provided to candidates, speciality advisers or educational supervisors.

For written essay examinations, candidates will be informed of their result and no feedback is provided directly to them. The result notification will advise unsuccessful candidates to contact their speciality adviser or educational supervisor to discuss their result. To inform that discussion, the speciality adviser or educational supervisors can obtain a summary of a candidate's performance for each question from the Examinations Department. Feedback must be requested within four months of the notification of the result.

For practical and oral examinations, feedback sent to unsuccessful candidates with their result notification is restricted to a list of the sections/components passed and summary reasons for the failure. Candidates are advised to contact their speciality advisor or educational supervisor to discuss their result. For practical examinations, the specialty adviser or educational supervisor can obtain a numeric breakdown for each individual component, including any comments provided by the examiners, from the Examinations Department. Further feedback must be requested within four months of the notification of the result.

23 Appeals

A candidate who has taken any College examination has the right of appeal if there is evidence of a procedural or administrative irregularity by the College or its contractors in the conduct or content of the examination that has adversely affected the candidate's result. Any such appeal should be made by the candidate him/herself, and must be made in writing to the Examinations Department (and not to any individual examiner) within one month of issue of either the examination result or further feedback. The candidate must state summary grounds for the appeal.

The appeal will be considered by the Director of Examinations and Assessment, who will arrange appropriate investigation of it. This will include checking that no administrative, procedural, numerical, data transcription or computing errors have occurred, and that the declared result accurately reflects the judgement of the examiners. The Director may also ask the panel chair of the specialty for a report on the examination in question. Where a procedural irregularity is found the Director of Examinations may authorise a refund of the examination fee or waiver of the fee to resit the relevant component of the examination. **In no circumstances** will papers be re-marked. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is clear that a paper has been overlooked or marks incorrectly totalled, may a fail mark be converted to a pass. Appeals submitted on the grounds that a candidate seeks to challenge the professional or academic judgement of the examiners will **not** be considered. By signing the application form, candidates confirm that they have read and agree to abide by the terms of these Regulations and Guidelines for the College examinations. Any appeal submitted on the grounds that a candidate did not understand or was not aware of the Regulations and Guidelines will **not** be considered.

24 Complaints

There is a complaints procedure for all activities managed by the Examinations Department not directly linked to an outcome of an examination. The complaints procedure is available on the College website (www.rcpath.org/exams).

Appendix 1 - Dates of examinations - Spring 2010

Spring 2010	Dates
Closing date for application forms	Friday 8 January 2010
Examination period for Part 1, Part 2 and Diploma practical, oral and autopsy exams	Monday 22 March - Friday 7 May 2010
Part 1 and Diploma Written /MCQ papers	Tuesday 23 March 2010
Results for all exams	Friday 21 May 2010

Dates of practical and oral examinations are posted on the **Dates** page of the Examinations section of the College's website as soon as they are confirmed.

Examinations held in the Spring session:

Clinical Biochemistry

Part 1 written
Part 1 practical and oral
Part 2 oral

Clinical Embryology

Part 1 written
Part 2 Oral

Dermatopathology

Diploma written

Forensic Pathology

Part 2 practical
Diploma written
Diploma practical and oral

Genetics (Clinical Cytogenetics and Molecular Genetics)

Part 1 written
Part 2 oral

Haematology

Part 1 MCQ and written
Part 2 practical and oral
Part 2 oral (old style exam)
Part 1 & 2 Clinical Scientists

Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics

Part 1 written

Histopathology

Part 1 MCQ
Part 2 practical and oral
Part 2 autopsy

Immunology

Part 1 written
Part 2 practical and oral

Medical Microbiology

Part 1 MCQ
Part 2 written and practical
Part 2 oral (old style exam)

Neuropathology

Part 2 macroscopic module
Part 2 microscopic module

Oral Pathology

Part 1 written
Part 2 practical and oral

Paediatric Pathology

Part 2 practical and oral

Toxicology

Part 1 written
Part 2 oral

Veterinary Clinical Pathology

Part 1 written
Part 2 practical
Part 2 oral (old style exam)

Veterinary Pathology

Part 1 practical (old style exam)

Virology

Part 1 MCQ
Part 2 written and practical

Appendix 1 - Dates of examinations - Autumn 2010

Autumn 2010	Dates
Closing date for application forms	Friday 2 July 2010
Examination period for Part 1, Part 2 and Diploma, practical, oral and autopsy exams	Monday 20 September – Friday 5 November 2010
Part 1 and Diploma Written/MCQ papers	Tuesday 21 September 2010
Results for all exams	Friday 19 November 2010

Dates of practical and oral examinations are posted on the **Dates** page of the Examinations section of the College's website as soon as they are confirmed.

Examinations held in the Autumn session:

Clinical Biochemistry

Part 1 written
Part 1 practical and oral
Part 2 oral

Clinical Embryology

Part 1 Practical
Part 2 Oral

Dermatopathology

Diploma practical

Forensic Pathology

Part 2 Practical
Diploma written
Diploma practical and oral

Genetics (Clinical Cytogenetics and Molecular Genetics)

Part 1 practical

Haematology

Part 1 MCQ and written
Part 2 practical and oral
Part 2 oral (old style exam)

Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics

Part 1 practical and oral
Part 2 oral

Histopathology

Part 1 MCQ
Part 2 practical and oral
Part 2 autopsy

Immunology

Part 1 written
Part 2 practical and oral

Medical Microbiology

Part 1 MCQ
Part 2 written and practical
Part 2 oral (old style exam)

Neuropathology

Part 2 macroscopic module
Part 2 microscopic module

Oral Pathology

Part 1 written
Part 2 practical and oral

Paediatric Pathology

Part 2 practical and oral

Toxicology

Part 1 practical and oral

Veterinary Pathology

Part 1 written
Part 2 practical and/or oral
Part 2 oral (old style exam)

Virology

Part 1 MCQ
Part 2 written and practical

Appendix 2 - Fees for examinations – 2010

Clinical Biochemistry, Clinical Cytogenetics, Clinical Embryology, Haematology (old exam Part 2 only), Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics, Medical Microbiology (old exam Part 2 only), Molecular Genetics, Toxicology, Veterinary Clinical Pathology and Veterinary Pathology:

Part 1 – Written examination	£490
Part 1 – Written examination overseas (outside of UK and Ireland)	£705
Part 1 – Practical and oral examination	£490
Part 2 – Practical and/or oral examination	£540

Haematology:

Part 1 – Written and Multiple-choice question (MCQ) examination	£490
Part 1 – Written and MCQ examination overseas (outside of UK and Ireland)	£705
Part 2 – Practical and Oral examination	£1030

Histopathology, Forensic Pathology, Neuropathology and Paediatric Pathology:

Part 1 – Multiple-choice question (MCQ) examination	£490
Part 1 – MCQ examination overseas (outside of UK and Ireland)	£705
Part 2 – Practical and Autopsy examination	£1030
Part 2 – Practical examination re-sit (Histopathology and Neuropathology only)	£540
Part 2 – Autopsy examination re-sit (Histopathology and Neuropathology only)	£490

Immunology and Oral Pathology:

Part 1 – Written examination	£490
Part 1 – Written examination overseas (outside of UK and Ireland)	£705
Part 2 – Practical and oral examination	£1030

Medical Microbiology and Virology:

Part 1 – Multiple-choice question (MCQ) examination	£490
Part 1 – MCQ examination overseas (outside of UK and Ireland)	£705
Part 2 – Written & Practical and Oral examination	£1030

Diplomas in Dermatopathology and Forensic Pathology:

Diploma – Written examination	£490
Diploma – Written examination overseas (outside of UK and Ireland)	£705
Diploma – Practical and oral	£490

General information

- The appropriate fee must be paid online by **WorldPay** (<https://wsecure.thedriveris.com/rcpath/index.asp?PageID=1505&SessionID=>)
- Receipts are only issued on request. Please contact the College's Finance Department on 020 7451 6750 or finance@rcpath.org to request a receipt.
- Candidates who withdraw from the examination up to two weeks after the relevant closing date may either have their fee refunded or transferred to the next session of the examination. Candidates who withdraw after this will forfeit the entire fee.

Appendix 3 - Notification of examination results - 2010

Candidates are requested **not** to telephone or email the Examinations Department. College staff are **not** permitted, in any circumstances, to divulge or discuss examination results by telephone or email.

Result letters for all College examinations will be sent by first class post to individual candidates on the following dates:

Spring 2010: Friday 21 May 2010

Autumn 2010: Friday 19 November 2010

After 12.00 noon on each of these dates, a list of passes and fails, **by candidate number only**, will be available on the Exams sections of the College website (www.rcpath.org/exams) and in the foyer of the College. Please note that the building closes at 5.30 pm.

Appendix 4 – Categories of membership

Associates

On passing the College's Part 1 examination candidates are eligible for Associate membership.

Diplomates

On passing the College's specialist Diploma examination candidates are eligible for Diplomate membership.

Fellows

On passing the College's Part 2 examination candidates are eligible for Fellowship.