





Welcome



It gives me great pleasure to introduce the wonderful medical specialty of General Practice. I hope you will find the information contained in this 'National Specialist Training Programme in General Practice' prospectus a useful tool in informing and guiding you on your decision to apply for GP Training. In this prospectus you will find key information on our vision for GP training, our mission, and values, together with the facts about the National GP training programme, the process of recruitment to the programme and details on each of the training schemes.

Since October 2021, the Irish College of GPs has had sole responsibility for postgraduate medical training in the specialty of General Practice. As part of this responsibility, the Irish College of GPs designs and delivers a world-class, highly innovative and continuously improving GP training programme. We are working towards increased geographical alignment to minimise the travel associated with the four years of training. We continue to explore less than full time training options, but they are currently limited. There are currently over 1,000 trainees enrolled on the GP training programme and an anticipated 350 places for July 2025.

As a college, we are always improving our programme: a trainee health and wellbeing manager having joined our team this year, an increase of high quality blended learning modules, the introduction of an e-portfolio, all small ways to assist you on your training journey. Half day release in years 1 & 2 as well as full day in years 3 & 4 allow GP trainees a unique opportunity to form close supportive networks and have protected time to consolidate their in post learning.

There is a national shortage of GPs, and you will thus be joining this programme and specialty at a most exciting time with numerous opportunities awaiting you on completion of your training.

For your information please be advised of the following abbreviations in the prospectus:

IMC - Irish Medical Council
HSE - Health Service Executive
SJT - Situational Judgement Test
CPST - Clinical Problem Solving Test
MMI - Multi Mini Interview
RPL - Recognition of Prior Learning

If you have queries please contact gptraining@icgp.ie

Dr Cathy Cullen
National Director, GP Training



The Irish College of GPs is the postgraduate training body (PGTB) responsible for postgraduate education, training, and research in the specialty of General Practice. The College has a national advisory role in relation to medical standards and engages with the Medical Council, Department of Health, the Health Service Executive, National Doctors Training & Planning and the Health Information & Quality Authority amongst others. As a membership organisation, the Irish College of GPs is responsible for providing and supporting continuous professional development for general practitioners, numbering over 4,500. The Irish College of GPs is the PGTB accredited by the Medical Council to provide professional training for doctors wishing to enter the speciality of General Practice.

Vision Statement



General practice at the heart of patient care, Irish College of GPs at the heart of general practice, and GPs at the heart of College.

Mission Statement



To support our members, trainees, and GP-led Teams to excel and lead general practice through training, education, research, and advocacy, continuing to ensure the highest standards of patient care and providing the tools to shape the future of general practice.

Values Statement

Our values describe the principles that guide us as we work to achieve our mission. We strive to demonstrate...



- Leadership** We will through strong leadership inspire others to action on behalf of our members and align policies, guidelines, structures and services to members
- Quality** We will achieve the highest quality standards in training, research and medical education in support of continuous quality improvement
- Advocacy** We will advocate for general practice as central to the delivery of an effective and equitable healthcare system
- Sustainability** We will focus on the long-term wellbeing of our members and colleagues, our profession, our patients, and the world around us
- Inclusivity** We will continue to value diversity as part of our communities and treat everyone with respect
- Innovation** We will provide an environment which encourages innovation and best practice in everything we do

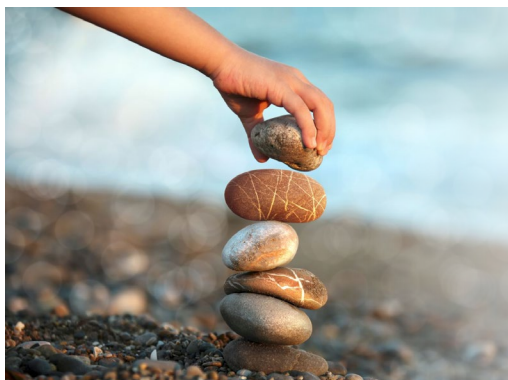
WHY GENERAL PRACTICE?

Make a real difference



- Be a GP and make a **genuine difference** to the lives of people and communities.
- Watch your patients **grow and recover**, adapt and change.
- **Be part of a team** that makes a difference to an individual by listening, helping and being **passionate** about their care and their lives.
- Enjoy the **diversity**.
- Be a listener.
- Be a **problem-solver**.

Enjoy a balanced life



- Be a GP and **control your hours**, define your day.
- Protect your time to learn and **work to live**, not live to work.
- Enjoy a life with **independence and flexibility**.
- Have a **family-centred lifestyle**, in the heart of your **community**.

Be a generalist and a specialist



- Be a GP and be a **diagnostic powerhouse**, challenged by every patient who walks through your door.
- In any one day, **diagnose a wide variety of conditions**, from heart disease to depression, minor surgery and paediatrics – helping patients with all medical presentations.
- **Partake in lifelong learning**, with CME, **supportive professional networks** and opportunities to **develop special interests**.

WHY OUR TRAINEES CHOOSE GENERAL PRACTICE AS A CAREER



To view recordings from current and past trainees as well as other members of the GP training community, please visit beagp.com

Source: Feedback from GP trainees, August 2022

WHY THE IRISH COLLEGE OF GPs GP TRAINING PROGRAMME?

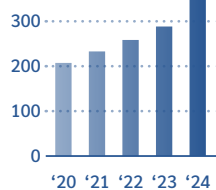
General Practice Today

4,370 GPs*
vs. 4,250 last year

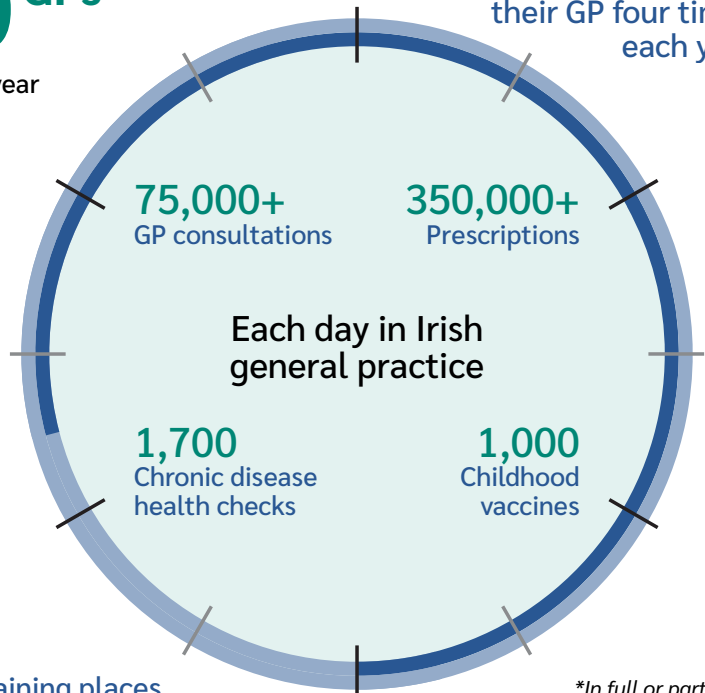
People in Ireland visit their GP four times each year



350
new GP
trainees

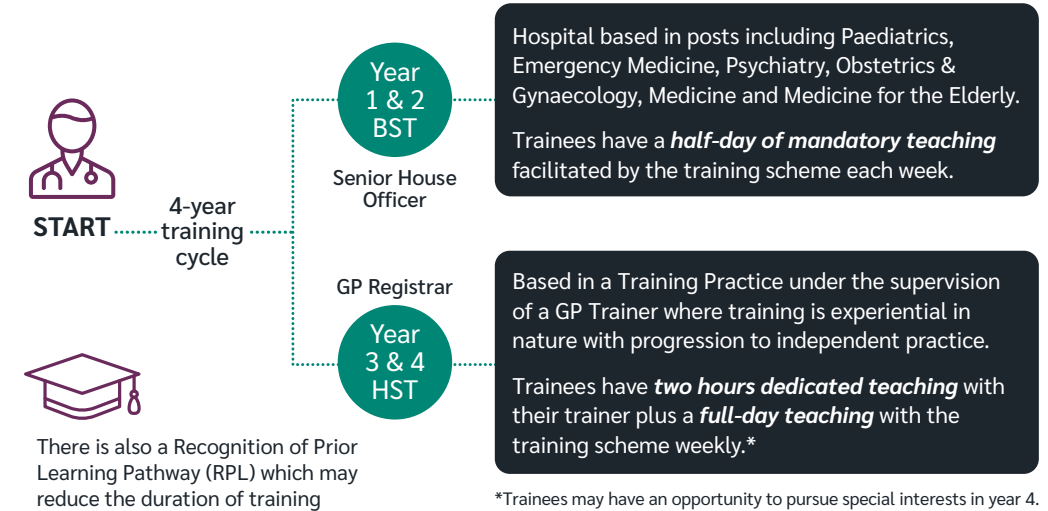


The number of GP training places has increased by 68% since 2020



*In full or part-time general practice

Irish College of GPs General Practice Training Programme

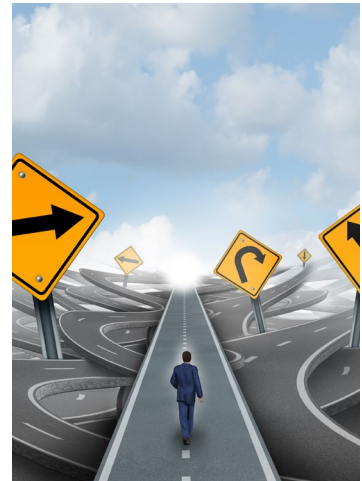


Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Pathway

We recognise that some applicants have prior clinical experience which is relevant to their GP training journey.

The Irish College of GPs will accredit prior learning for eligible candidates. To be eligible, applicants must have completed their basic specialty training (BST) in Medicine, Paediatrics or Emergency Medicine by 13 July 2025 and the associated specialty membership examinations by **21 March 2025**. Trainees who meet this standard may have their GP Training Programme shortened by 12 months, from four to three years.

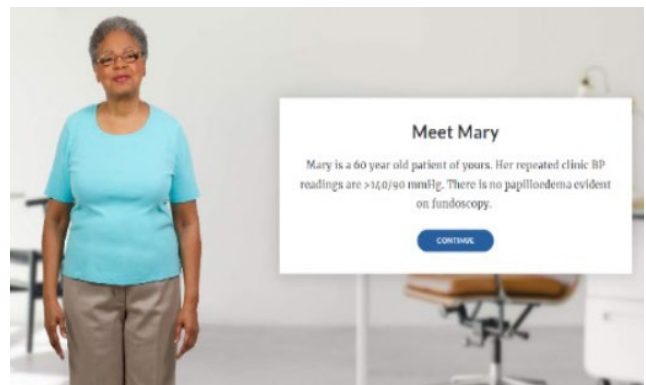
[Recognition of Prior Learning 2025](#)



Methods of teaching and learning

Small group learning at day release is a core component of the Training Programme which helps facilitate reflective practice for the trainee with their peers and educational supervisor. Practical and simulated training in a supportive environment is a central feature.

The Digital Resources Hub gives trainees access to a suite of interactive, case based and accessible blended learning on key curriculum topics.



General Practice E-portfolio platform (GPEP)

GPEP is the new e-portfolio platform for GP trainees. GPEP is designed to be the consolidated source of all evidence and information leading to CSCST. The trainee-led e-portfolio will provide a streamlined interface to increase clarity for trainees and schemes on learning progress. All learning progress will be recorded and available via your trainee dashboard.



Assessment

General Practice training is learner-centred and innovative in its delivery. The Irish College of GPs is engaged in competency-based medical education (CBME) and has developed a set of entrustable professional activities (EPAs), specific to Irish General Practice, designed to enhance and focus trainee learning in the workplace. Trainees are encouraged to actively seek regular feedback from their clinical supervisors and record their EPA feedback in GPEP. A bespoke EPA dashboard in GPEP enables trainees and their clinical supervisors and educational mentors to monitor competency progression. EPA feedback is a mandatory component of clinical placements. Overall trainee progression is reviewed by scheme competency progression committees (CPCs). In addition to demonstrating clinical competence in the workplace and satisfactorily achieving other core criteria, trainees are also required to pass MICGP (Membership of the Irish College of GPs) examinations.

EPA software platform – your learning companion, your progress record

[START COURSE](#)

IRISH COLLEGE OF GPs SUPPORTS

Network of GP Trainees

The Network is the general practice trainee voice on training matters. Any trainee can be a committee member. There are two trainee representatives per scheme.



Aims of the Network of GP Trainees

- To advocate for trainees – education, training and professional development
- To represent trainees at the Irish College of GPs and other bodies
- To encourage collaboration between trainees on different schemes
- To encourage involvement of trainees in College
- To keep trainees well informed on education and training related issues

The Network of Establishing GPs (NEGs)

Irish College of GPs NEGs Programme provides a suite of supports and services to establishing College members. Irish College of GPs members are considered to be a NEGs member from the fourth year of training until five years from the date of graduation.



The aim of Irish College of GPs NEGs is to support establishing members and foster active involvement in college.

Its publication 'Signposts to Success' is a helpful resource for those on financial or career advice.

The Irish College of GPs Library and Information Service

The main function of the College library is to support trainees and the wider membership of the College by providing access to relevant publications. It provides access to high-quality, evidence-based information relevant to Irish general practice.



Library Services:

- Literature searches: Assist in carrying out literature searches on clinical topics as requested.
- Library catalogue: Includes access to Irish College of GPs resources, Forum journal articles and Irish College of GPs publications and statements.
- Online resources: Useful links to external organisations, databases, newsletters and Irish College of GPs Help Sheets.

Research Opportunities



ICAT is an all-Ireland PhD programme open to GP trainees with a passion for research.

ICAT provides integrated, supported PhD training to excellent postgraduate clinical trainees across all disciplines of human medicine, veterinary medicine and dentistry.

The ICAT pre-PhD year is accredited for clinical training, during which ICAT fellows refine their PhD project designs and build their supervisory teams before starting their three-year PhD in a supported, mentored environment.

For more information about the ICAT Programme please visit www.icatprogramme.org

Aspire Post CSCST Fellowship Programme



NATIONAL
DOCTORS
TRAINING
& PLANNING

The Irish College of GPs has partnered with HSE NDTP to establish a number of world-class Post CSCST Fellowships in the area of General Practice.

Aspire Fellowship is a 12-month programme for doctors who have completed CSCST from an Irish Postgraduate Training Body. The programme offers participants high-quality training and exposure to speciality training and advanced clinical skills, in addition to an SpR salary for the duration of the fellowship.

Aspire Fellowships offer:

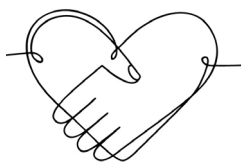
- A structured educational experience
- A personal supervisor
- Opportunities for audit and research
- SpR salary

GP Trainee Health & Wellbeing Manager



We provide a dedicated Health & Wellbeing Manager who focuses on trainee Wellbeing, Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity (WIDE) initiatives. This manager delivers targeted programs for trainees, including the development of organisational processes and personalised guidance to help trainees access the right support services. Among the many available resources are Practitioner Health for personalised stress support and the NCHD Hub for various workplace supports, including accommodations for disabilities.

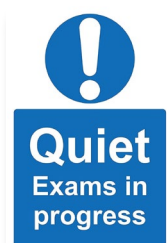
Doctors Health Programme



The aim of the Irish College of GPs Doctors' Health in Practice Programme is:

- To motivate every GP and GP Trainee to register with a GP and to consult their GP for symptom management, medical investigations, prescriptions and referrals to other doctors and health services.
- To reinforce GP healthcare / primary health care as first point of care for every doctor.
- To promote and support good physical health, occupational health, psychological health and wellbeing for GPs and GP Trainees.
- To enhance GPs and GP Trainees wellbeing activities outside work, for example physical activities, community volunteerism, hobbies and creative arts.

[Doctors' Healthcare Support](#)



MICGP Examinations

The MICGP is a postgraduate assessment comprising of two examinations. The Core Knowledge Test (CKT) is a single best answer written paper delivered online, and the Clinical Competency Test (CCT) is an in-person clinical examination, designed as a simulated surgery comprising long and short cases.

The MICGP exam is designed to assess a candidate's clinical knowledge, skills and attitudes and determine if they meet the standard appropriate for independent practice as a specialist General Practitioner. Each exam module and question is mapped to a defined area of the GP Training curriculum and competency of a General Practitioner.



MICGP Qualification

Upon successful completion of training and MICGP examinations, Irish College of GPs trainees are awarded a Certificate of Satisfactory Completion of Training and an MICGP Certificate which will enable registration on the Medical Council Register as a Specialist in the Division of General Practice.



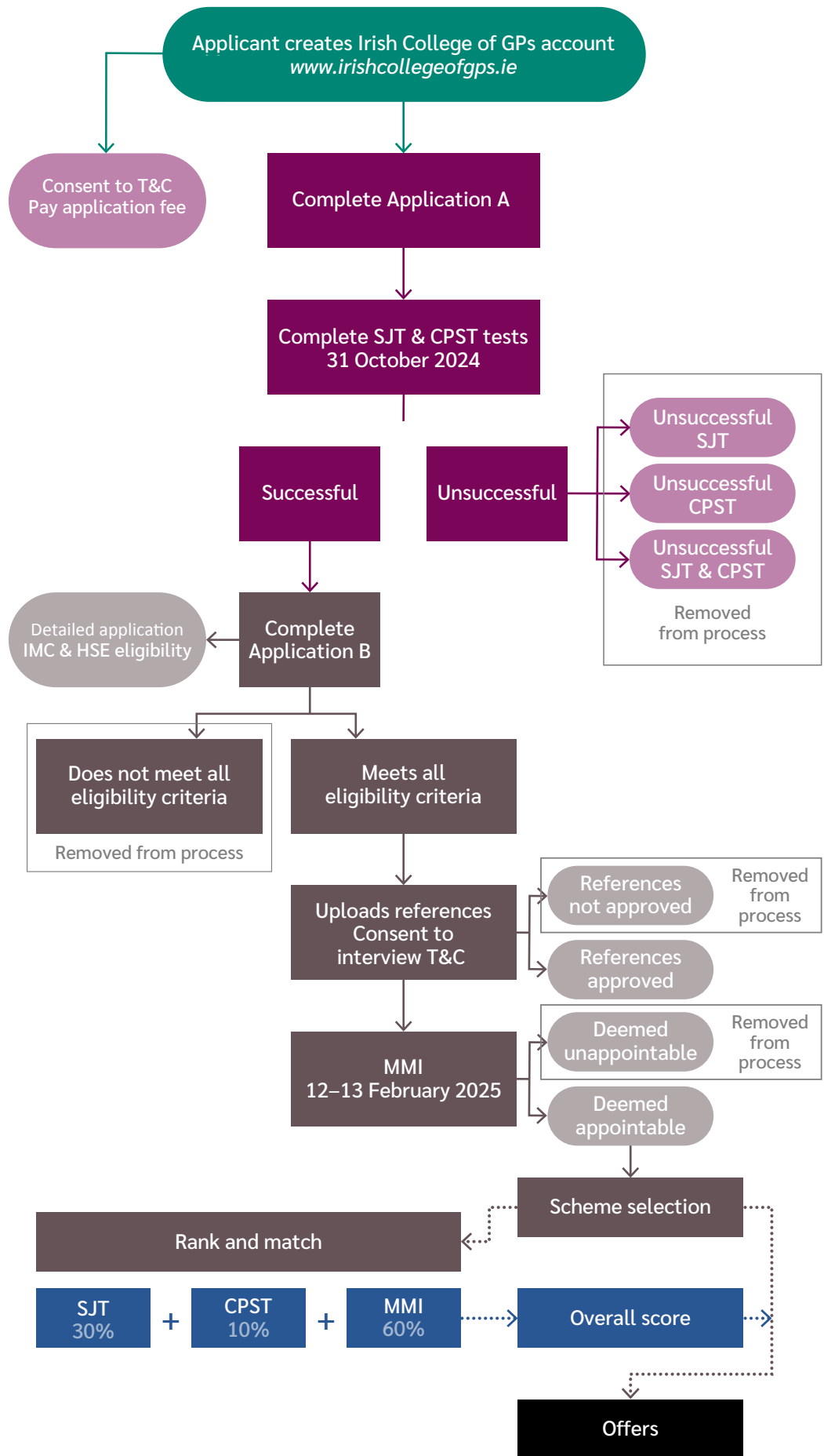
Irish College of GPs Support to Members

The Irish College of GPs trains and supports general practitioners in Ireland throughout their career, from initial training to lifelong learning, research and advocacy.

We offer hands-on support throughout your career in General Practice. Some of the benefits of membership include:

- Free Wednesday webinars
- Free or discount rate for college members on education courses and modules
- More flexible ways to earn CPD credit
- Exceptional quality education
- Practice management supports
- Mentorship programme
- Quick reference guides (QRGs)
- Advocacy
- Voice of General Practice
- Grants and supports
 - » We offer flexible payment terms and a fee category to suit you – whether you are a full-time GP, a part-time GP, a locum, working overseas or retired.

GP Trainee Recruitment 2025



HOW THE SCHEMES ARE REGIONALISED

WEST REGION



DUBLIN NORTH LEINSTER

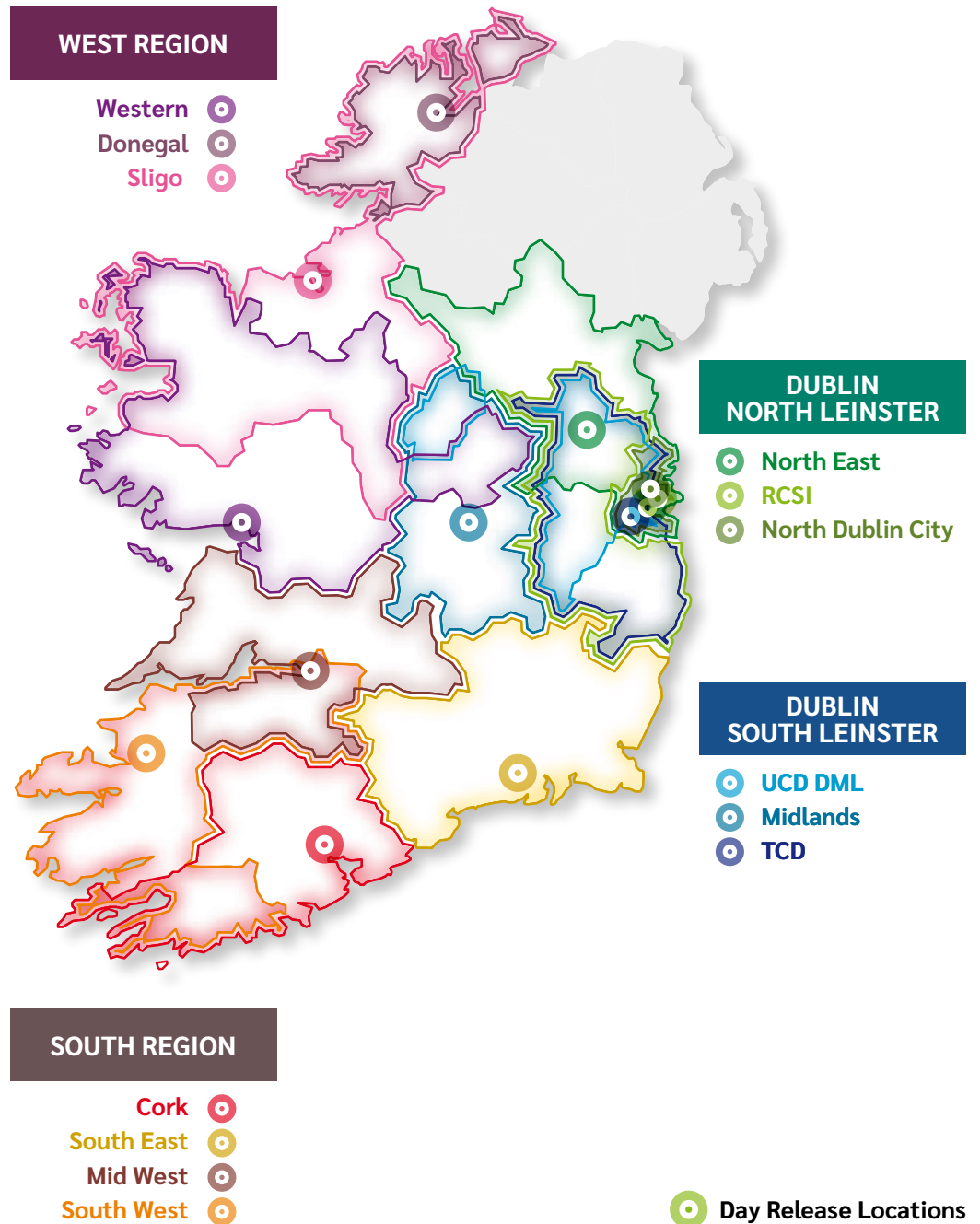


SOUTH REGION



DUBLIN SOUTH LEINSTER

LOCATION OF GP TRAINING SCHEMES



Training sites outlined in the above map and in the scheme-descriptions below are not definitive. They are for guidance and will be subject to change.

The Irish College of GPs and each individual Training Scheme aspires to ensure that allocation of trainees to training posts is fair and transparent. Some Schemes may have training posts that are preferred by trainees; this can make it difficult to facilitate every trainee with their first choice post. As a consequence, training posts may be allocated randomly, according to a trainee’s prior experience or due to local work force requirements. If offered a place on the Training Programme, *applicants must be aware that at all stages throughout the training process it may not be possible to facilitate allocation to preferred training sites or posts, and that they must accept the hospital posts and GP training practices assigned to them by their Training Scheme.*

WEST REGION

DONEGAL

Scheme Director	Dr. Katherine Murray and Dr. Mark Hudson
Scheme Contact Details	donegal.scheme@icgp.ie
Location of Day Release	Education Centre, St. Conal's Hospital, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal
Day Release held on	Wednesday and Thursday
Intake in 2024	15
Hospital Based Posts	The majority of hospital training posts are based in Letterkenny University Hospital. Psychiatry posts have some community based clinics.
GP Training Practices	There are 28 GP trainers attached to the Donegal scheme. Training practices are widely distributed throughout Co. Donegal. Trainees get a mix of training experiences in urban and rural practices.

SLIGO

Scheme Director	Dr. Brian McMorro
Scheme Contact Details	071 917 4603 sligo.scheme@icgp.ie
Location of Day Release	Sligo Airport, Strandhill
Day Release held on	Thursday
Intake in 2024	15
Hospital Based Posts	Most of the hospital training posts are based in Sligo University Hospital. Some of the posts have satellite clinics. A rheumatology post based in Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim.
GP Training Practices	There are 27 GP trainers attached to the Sligo scheme. Training practices are in Donegal, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon and Sligo.

WESTERN

Scheme Director	Dr. Aoife Jackson
Scheme Contact Details	087 183 3794 western.scheme@icgp.ie
Location of Day Release	Wayfair House, Tuam Rd, Galway & Mayo Education Centre, Westport Rd, Castlebar, Mayo
Day Release held on	Tuesday and Wednesday
Intake in 2024	36
Hospital Based Posts	Training posts are based across four hospital sites within the Saolta group: Galway, Portiuncula (Ballinasloe), Roscommon, and Mayo University Hospitals. We also offer training posts in Community Mental Health across Galway, Mayo and Roscommon Mental Health Services. Galway and Mayo Hospice are also training sites on our scheme.
GP Training Practices	There are 74 GP trainers attached to the scheme. Training practices are in Galway, Mayo, Roscommon and Westmeath.

SOUTH REGION

CORK

Scheme Director	Dr. Sheila Rochford	Contact Details	021 490 2312 cork.scheme@icgp.ie
Location of Day Release	St. Mary's Health Campus, Gurrabraher Rd, Gurrabraher, Cork		
Day Release held on	Wednesday & Thursday	Intake in 2024	36
Hospital Based Posts	Cork hospital posts are based in Cork University Hospital, Cork University Maternity Hospital, Mallow General Hospital, Mercy University Hospital, Marymount University Hospital & Hospice, South Infirmary/Victoria University Hospital, St. Stephens Hospital. Trainees gain exposure to a range of specialties that may include Medicine, Paediatrics, Emergency Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Psychiatry, Palliative care, ENT, Dermatology, and Ophthalmology.		
GP Training Practices	There are 44 GP trainers attached to the Cork scheme. The training practices are currently located in Cork City and surrounding areas.		

MID WEST

Scheme Director	Dr. Brian McEllistrem	Contact Details	061 213 485 midwest.scheme@icgp.ie
Location of Day Release	GEMSI-019, Faculty of Education & Health Sciences, University of Limerick, Limerick		
Day Release held on	Wednesday	Intake in 2024	30
Hospital Based Posts	Training posts are distributed through the acute, long term and day hospitals throughout Limerick, Clare, Tipperary. These include, but are not limited to the following; University Hospital Limerick, St John's Hospital, St. Camillus' Hospital for the Elderly, Croom Primary Care Centre, University Maternity Hospital Limerick, Ennis Hospital, Nenagh General Hospital, Psychiatry Day Hospitals and Milford Care Centre.		
GP Training Practices	There are 31 GP trainers attached to the Mid West scheme. Training practices are located in Clare, Limerick and Tipperary.		

SOUTH EAST

Scheme Director	Dr. Darach Brennan	Contact Details	087 359 8628 southeast.scheme@icgp.ie
Location of Day Release	GP Training Unit, Block A, 2nd Floor, Confederation House, Waterford Business Park, Cork Road, Waterford.		
Day Release held on	Wednesday	Intake in 2024	30
Hospital Based Posts	South East hospital posts are based in St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny, St. Luke's Hospital, Clonmel, Tipperary University Hospital, Wexford General Hospital and University Hospital, Waterford.		
GP Training Practices	There are 40 training practices attached to this scheme. Practices are located in Waterford, Wexford, Tipperary, Kilkenny and Carlow.		

SOUTH WEST

Scheme Director	Dr. Peadar Ó Fionnáin	Contact Details	087 672 4718 southwest.scheme@icgp.ie
Location of Day Release	Sólás Building, North Campus, Munster Technological University, Tralee, Co. Kerry		
Day Release held on	Wednesday	Intake in 2024	15
Hospital Based Posts	Training posts are based primarily in University Hospital Kerry, and also in Bantry General Hospital and Mallow General Hospital.		
GP Training Practices	There are 30 GP training practices attached to the scheme, located primarily in Kerry, with some in Cork and Limerick.		

DUBLIN NORTH LEINSTER REGION

NORTH EAST

Scheme Director	Dr. Niall Maguire		
Scheme Contact Details	046 907 6460 northeast.scheme@icgp.ie		
Location of Day Release	Primary Care Office, Leighsbrook Lane, off Railway St, Navan, Co. Meath		
Day Release held on	Tuesday and Thursday	Intake in 2024	27
Hospital Based Posts	Hospital posts are based in Cavan General Hospital, Childrens' Hospital Ireland, Our Lady's Hospital-Navan, Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital-Drogheda, Royal Victoria Eye & Ear-Dublin, St. Brigid's Hospital-Ardee, St. Davnet's Hospital-Monaghan and Newcastle Hospital Wicklow.		
GP Training Practices	There are 60 GP trainers attached to the North East scheme. Training practices are located in Cavan, Dublin, Louth, Meath and Monaghan. There are a few practices in Dublin.		

RCSI

Scheme Director	Dr. Niamh O Carroll		
Scheme Contact Details	01 402 2302 rcsi.scheme@icgp.ie		
Location of Day Release	Mercer's Medical Centre, Stephen Street Lower, Dublin 2		
Day Release held on	Wednesday	Intake in 2024	27
Hospital Based Posts	Hospital posts are based in Beaumont, CHI Connolly, Crumlin, Temple Street & Tallaght, Coombe, James Connolly Memorial, Mater, National Drug Treatment Centre, National Maternity Holles Street, New Castle Hospital, North Dublin Mental Health Services, Our Lady's Hospice-Harold's Cross, Our Lady of Lourdes-Drogheda, Rotunda Hospital, St. Vincents, St. Columcilles, St. Luke's Rathgar, St. James's, St. Mary's Phoenix Park, St. Michaels, Dun Laoghaire, St. John of God's, Wicklow Hospice.		
GP Training Practices	There are currently 39 training practices attached to the RCSI scheme. The practices are in Dublin city (north and south) Kildare, Wicklow and Meath.		

NORTH DUBLIN CITY

Scheme Director	Dr. Austin O'Carroll		
Scheme Contact Details	01 716 4505 northdublincity.scheme@icgp.ie		
Location of Day Release	Catherine McAuley Centre, 21 Nelson Street, Phibsboro, Dublin 7 and The Education Centre, James Connolly Memorial Hospital, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15		
Day Release held on	Wednesday and Thursday	Intake in 2024	36
Hospital Based Posts	Hospital posts attached to the NDC scheme are based in Beaumont Hospital, Coombe, Crumlin, James Connolly Memorial, Mater, Rotunda, St. James's, St. Vincent's, St. Francis Hospice, St. Mary's, Tallaght University Hospital and Temple Street Children's Hospital, Holles Street Maternity Hospital, Peamount Hospital, St. Vincent's Fairview.		
GP Training Practices	There are 37 GP trainers attached to the scheme with practices in Dublin city and county. The NDC scheme's focus is on training for areas of deprivation and marginalised communities.		

DUBLIN SOUTH LEINSTER REGION

UCD DUBLIN MID LEINSTER (DML)

Scheme Director	Dr. Thomas Dennehy		
Scheme Contact Details	01 716 6626 ucd.scheme@icgp.ie		
Location of Day Release	Room F208, Charles Institute of Technology, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4		
Day Release held on	Tuesday	Intake in 2024	24
Hospital Based Posts	Hospital posts are based in Beaumont Hospital, Blackrock Hospice, Carew House for the Elderly, Cluain Mhuire Community Health, Clontarf Hospital, Connolly Hospital, Coombe Hospital, Crumlin Hospital, Holles St. Maternity Hospital, Newcastle Psychiatric Hospital, Naas General Hospital, Rotunda Hospital, Royal Hospital Donnybrook, St. Vincent's, St. James's, St. Michael's, St. Columcille's, Tallaght University Hospital, Temple St. Hospital, Wicklow Hospice, East Blanchardstown Psychiatry Service, The Mater Hospital, The Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital and Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda.		
GP Training Practices	There are 60 GP trainers attached to the UCD DML scheme. Training practices are located in Dublin, Kildare, Meath, and Longford.		

TCD

Scheme Director	Dr. Aisling Ní Shúilleabháin		
Scheme Contact Details	01 896 3460 tcd.scheme@icgp.ie		
Location of Day Release	School of Medicine TCD, Institute of Population Health, Russell Centre, Tallaght Cross, Dublin 24		
Day Release held on	Wednesday and Thursday	Intake in 2024	36
Hospital Based Posts	Hospital posts are based in Beaumont, CHI (Crumlin, Blanchardstown, Tallaght and Temple St), Coombe Hospital, Rotunda Hospital, National Maternity Hospital Holles St., Connolly Hospital, Mater Hospital, NOH Cappagh, Our Lady's Hospice Harold's Cross, Blackrock/Wicklow Hospice, Peamount Hospital, Royal Hospital Donnybrook, St. Vincent's, St. James, St. Columcille's, St. Patrick's, and Tallaght University Hospital.		
GP Training Practices	There are 50 GP trainers attached to the TCD scheme. Training practices are located in Dublin city and county, Kildare, Meath and Wicklow.		

MIDLANDS

Scheme Director	Dr. Sean Montague		
Scheme Contact Details	057 937 0653 midlands.scheme@icgp.ie		
Location of Day Release	Unit 8A Burlington Business Park, Srah Ave, Tullamore, Co. Offaly, R35 F7X4		
Day Release held on	Wednesday and Thursday for Midlands day release	Intake in 2024	24
Hospital Based Posts	Hospital posts are based at Midlands Hospital Tullamore, Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise; Regional Hospital Mullingar; St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny; St. Loman's Hospital Mullingar; St. Fintan's, Laois and Naas General Hospital, Kildare.		
GP Training Practices	There are 32 GP trainers attached to the Midlands scheme. Training practices are located in Longford, Laois, Offaly and Westmeath.		

To find out more join our application and information session on Thursday, 10 October, 6pm – [To register click here](#)

This prospectus is for information and guidance purposes only and does not form part of any training contract.

#BEAGP

www.beagp.com

Make a real difference

Enjoy a balanced life

Be a generalist and a specialist



For queries regarding the 2025 GP Trainee Recruitment please email: gptraining@icgp.ie