

Important Deadlines for Structured Training of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

The following serves as a general summary of the usual deadlines for examinations and submission of training documents. However, trainees should pay attention to the respective sources attentively for the most updated information.

1. MRCOG Examinations

- **Examination dates**
 - Part I and II: every January and July
 - Part III: every May and November
- Applicants must complete an Expression of Interest form prior to the actual booking of each examination
- Applicants must complete the Assessment of Training (AoT) approximately 3 months prior to Part III examination
- A minimum of 4 years in Obstetrics and Gynaecology full-time is required before the AoT
- Applicants can apply for the part II exam any time after passing part I (there is no longer a minimum training requirement)
- Details on AoT:
 - <https://www.rcog.org.uk/careers-and-training/exams/mrcog-our-specialty-training-exam/assessment-of-training-aot/>
- Details on MRCOG exams:
 - <https://www.rcog.org.uk/careers-and-training/exams/book-an-exam/>

2. HKCOG Structured Oral Examination (SOE)

- **Examination dates**
 - Every April and October
- Application deadline is approximately 2 months prior to the examination
- Requirements:
 - Passed MRCOG Part I examination at least 6 months before SOE examination
 - Completed 2 years of supervised training in Obstetrics and Gynaecology prior to the examination
- Details:
 - https://www.hkcog.org.hk/hkcog/pages_2_53.html

3. HKCOG Exit Assessment

- **Examination dates**
 - Every January and July
- Application deadline is approximately 3 months prior to the examination
- Approval for research output from the Research Subcommittee of the College should be submitted with the application 3 months prior to the examination
 - January assessment: last working day of October
 - July assessment: last working day of April
- Details:
 - https://www.hkcog.org.hk/hkcog/pages_2_53.html

4. Application for Higher Training

- **Requirements**
 - Passed SOE
 - Completed a minimum of 4 years of supervised training in Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- Approval must be obtained from the College within 3 months of commencement of higher specialist training
- Details:
 - https://www.hkcog.org.hk/hkcog/pages_2_50.html

5. Application for Elective Training

- Elective and research programmes should be prospectively approved by the Education Committee
- If an elective period is applied for research training, the proposal and programme should be submitted to the Education Committee not less than 3 months before the scheduled commencement of the period
- Certificate of satisfactory completion of training should be submitted within 6 months of completion of elective training and before the Exit assessment
- Details:
 - https://www.hkcog.org.hk/hkcog/Download/2-Specialty_training_in_general.pdf
 - https://www.hkcog.org.hk/hkcog/Download/research_mar2007.pdf

6. Application for Leave

- All study leaves (including examination leaves) must be prospectively approved by the Education Committee
- Applications for approval of study leave should be submitted to the College at least 2 weeks prior to the starting date of leave period. Any study leave application passing the deadline would not be granted.
- Applications should be sent:
 - to admin@hkcog.org.hk (for trainees commencing training before 1st July 2021)
 - via e-portfolio (for trainees commencing training on/after 1st July 2021)
- The following must be included in the applications:
 - Leave approval from the COS of your unit
 - ◆ Note that this is not the same as approval from the HR department
 - Confirmation of acceptance from exam/course organiser
- If prospective approval cannot be obtained
 - Trainees should inform the College as soon as possible
 - Record the leave in their logbook
 - Approval is still subject to the College's final decision
 - Example: study leave for MRCOG part I examination at the beginning of first-year training while application of entry to specialty training is still in progress
- If approval is not obtained, then the leave duration will be counted towards total number of days of absence from work
- 90 calendar days are allowed for taking maternity or paternity leave/sick leave/special leave/absence from work for other reasons without remedial training
- Trainees need to inform the College within 3 months once the 90 days allowance is exceeded to assess the need of remedial training
- Refer to the "Leave rule of HKCOG" on the HKCOG trainee register/higher training/exam application form:
 - https://www.hkcog.org.hk/hkcog/pages_2_53.html
- The following mandatory HKCOG training courses are regarded as part of training and therefore, not required to apply for College study leave. Pre-approved elective training by the Education Committee is also exempted from applying study leave.
 - HKCOG Research Course for Trainees
 - Family Planning Training Programme
 - HA O&G Ultrasound training course lecture
 - ALSO / PROMPT / SOPHIE
 - HA O&G fundamental surgical skill workshop
 - HA introductory Gynaecological Endoscopic surgery workshop
 - HA intermediate Gynaecological Endoscopic surgery workshop
 - Perineal repair workshop (recommended)

- Basic Colposcopy workshop (recommended)

Trainees, however, may be required by individual unit to apply HA study leave for their training course.