
Examiner Job Description and Person Specification

Background

The Diploma in Special Care Dentistry (DSCD) is a self-directed, distance-learning programme assessed in two parts and assessed to the expected standard of a practitioner who has a minimum of two years of experience working in the field of special care dentistry. The diploma is suitable for dentists and specialty trainees who wish to develop and demonstrate their applied knowledge of the skills required to treat patients with a range of complex needs. The exam consists of two Parts:

Part A consists of a written paper of 140 single best answer questions mapped to the seven modules of the curriculum.

Part B is assessed by a structured oral examination that consists of:

- **2 problem solving structured clinical reasoning (SCR) stations** - *assessing clinical reasoning and application of knowledge;*
- **2 clinical governance SCRs** - *assessing clinical reasoning and application of knowledge;*
- **2 unseen case SCRs** - *assessing communication, clinical reasoning and application of knowledge;*
- **1 communication skills station** - *assessing communication only.*

Full details of the examination can be found on the Royal College of Surgeons of England website - <https://www.rcseng.ac.uk/education-and-exams/exams/search/diploma-in-special-care-dentistry/>

Job Description

1. All examiners are required to commit to an initial term of six years, plus one renewal term of three years, commencing from the date of appointment.
2. Examiners are accountable to the Chair of the Examiner Panel.
3. The work and time commitment of an examiner is as follows:
 - To examine the oral section of the examination for two days per year.
 - To attend an initial training event before examining for the first time.
 - To attend a refresher training event each year (1 day).
 - To attend two examiner panel meetings per year (usually three hour duration held at RCS or remotely).
 - To submit new assessment material for the single best answer paper and/or the structured clinical reasoning and communication skills elements to the exam.
 - To develop module resources

Person Specification

	Essential	Desirable	Assessment method
Qualifications	Bachelor of Dental Surgery Registration with the General Dental Council	Post graduate qualification appropriate to the post i.e. Special Care Dentistry Fellow or Member of FDS RCS England, RCS Edinburgh or RCPS Glasgow	Application form and certificates
Experience and knowledge	Experience of Special Care Dentistry Motivated to maintain knowledge and skills	Experience of examining Knowledge of Special Care Dentistry is current, valid and within 2 years of retirement Attendance of Training the Trainer Course	Application form
Skills	Engaged in active clinical/academic practice Involved in appropriate undergraduate/postgraduate training/education/training	Ability to work well within a team	Application form