



Physician Associate Registration Assessment

Vacancy: Deputy Knowledge-Based Assessment Lead

The Royal College of Physicians (RCP) is seeking to appoint a Deputy Knowledge-Based Assessment Lead for the Physician Associate Registration Assessment (PARA).

The PARA knowledge-based assessment (KBA) takes place in three assessment periods annually and consists of 200 single best answer questions, delivered over four papers, each one hour in duration. The KBAs are delivered online, enabling candidates to take the assessment at home or in the workplace.

The objectives of the role

The PARA Deputy KBA Lead will support the PARA KBA Lead and RCP Assessment Unit team in the development and delivery of the PARA KBAs, ensuring content is relevant to the current [KBA blueprint](#).

Responsibilities

The role will support the PARA KBA Lead in the following areas:

- Leading the question writing group (QWG) in generating new content, in line with the KBA blueprint, and ensuring current questions are regularly reviewed.
- Supporting the implementation of developments to the PARA, as directed by the KBA Lead
- Act as OSCE Lead Examiner during each clinical assessment period where required
- Attending the PARA examination board

Benefits

We offer the opportunity to network with colleagues, keep your knowledge up to date, take part in challenging discussions, be involved with the next generation of physician associates, shape the future of the profession and promote multidisciplinary working and continuing professional development.

By getting involved you can shape the future of the PARA KBA.

This is a non-salaried position, though all reasonable expenses and travel costs will be met by the Education Department in line with the RCP expenses policy.

The tenure of the appointment is three years. Tenures may, in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the RCP Assessment Unit, be renewed by up to two years to ensure sufficient depth and breadth of experience and expertise remains on the exam board, or to account for periods of long-term absence (for example maternity leave or sickness).

All successful applicants will be required to sign code of conduct agreements.

Time Commitment

The examination board meet three times per year.

The QWG group currently meet for two hours once a month, on average, and the successful candidate will work with the KBA Lead and RCP Assessment Unit to ensure all meetings are chaired accordingly. Meetings are held virtually, via Microsoft Teams.

OSCEs are held during January/February, May and September/October and take place at the Spine, Liverpool. It is not anticipated that attendance during all three assessment periods would be required.

The overall time commitment is approximately eight days per annum. To ensure the role as accessible as possible, applications to undertake the role via a job-share structure would be welcomed and supported for successful candidates.

Candidates interested in undertaking the role as part of a job-share should note this on their application.

Criteria

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible to apply:

- be in active practice as a Physician Associate (or, where the applicant is not a physician associate, have four years demonstrable experience of working with, training, teaching, or supervising the physician associate role)
- have at least 4 years' post-qualification experience
- be registered and in good standing on the GMC register, or equivalent
- be up to date as appropriate with relevant national guidelines, CPD requirements, employer's equality and diversity training and appraisal process
- interested in, but not necessarily expert in, medical academic assessments.

How to apply

Applications for the post, including a CV and one-page covering letter outlining your suitability for the post, should be submitted for the attention of Steven Ansty via assessment.unit@rcp.ac.uk by **09:00 UK time on 21 April 2026**.

For an informal discussion regarding the role please contact Steven Ansty, Head of Development & Standards on the above email address, or via 0151 318 1888.

The RCP positively encourages applications from suitably qualified and eligible candidates regardless of sex, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, transgender status, religion or belief, marital status, or pregnancy and maternity.