

29th May 2019

Deputy Louise O'Reilly
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Email: louise.oreilly@oireachtas.ie

Re: PQ 20966/19 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of eligible specialist applications received for each advertised but unfilled consultant post; and the number of eligible candidates interviewed for each unfilled post

Dear Deputy O'Reilly

HBS Recruit has been requested to provide a response to your query above and can provide information only on the posts recruited through this department. However, it should be noted that this refers to permanent Consultant posts advertised through the Public Appointment Service. Therefore, this does not include posts within the voluntary hospital sector or temporary vacancies within the statutory sector.

It should also be noted that although posts are indicated as unfilled many of these are filled on a current basis through temporary or locum cover.

During 2015 there were 74 unfilled posts, during 2016 there were 49 unfilled posts, during 2017 there were 41 unfilled posts, during 2018 there were 32 unfilled posts and in 2019 to date there are 2 unfilled posts with 49 recruitment campaigns in progress. The breakdown of the information requested is more clearly presented in tabular form and this has been attached.

The table attached provides information on posts remaining unfilled from recruitment campaigns dating from 2015 to date. Included in the information is the:

- Number of posts advertised for each campaign
- Number of applicants with note on ineligibility
- Number of people interviewed
- Number of posts that were not filled

It should be noted with regard to eligibility for a post that the essential criteria allows a timeframe of 180 days wherein candidates can establish their eligibility after the interview stage. Of those campaigns advertised in 2018, there remain 59 for which candidates may still establish eligibility and this is also the case for 49 recruitment campaigns in 2019.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to let me know.

Yours sincerely,

Eithne Fox
Assistant National Director, HBS HR