



National Doctors Training and Planning
Health Service Executive
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Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 17649/22

To ask the Minister for Health the eligibility requirements to become a specialist registrar; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

Whilst trainees are engaged in Higher Specialty Training (HST), the duration of which is generally two to six years, they are normally employed at Specialist Registrar (SpR) level. Specialist Registrar Training posts are funded by the HSE and approved and supervised by the Postgraduate Training Bodies accredited for this purpose by the Medical Council of Ireland. In order to hold a Specialist Registrar post, doctors must meet the eligibility criteria as set out by the relevant Training Body which are published annually on their websites in advance of the opening of training programme applications. Please find a sample of eligibility criteria at the following link e.g. <https://www.irishpsychiatry.ie/external-affairs-policy/public-information/faqs-about-pgt/>

Yours sincerely,

Leah O'Toole
Assistant National Director