



11th February 2022

Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 4831/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of medical postgraduate intern training places across the State by specialty in tabular form.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

There are currently 854 Intern posts across the state. Intern training is delivered within six regional Intern Training Networks, each based around a Medical School. Please see the breakdown of intern posts by network below.

Intern Training posts by Intern Network 2022/2023 Training year	
Dublin Mid-Leinster (University College Dublin)	162
Dublin North-East (Royal College of Surgeons Ireland)	161
Dublin South-East (Trinity College Dublin)	148
Mid-West (University of Limerick)	74
South (University College Cork)	156
West North-West (National University of Ireland, Galway)	153
Total	854

Every Intern post must encompass a minimum of three months in General Surgery, plus three months in General Medicine in order to satisfy the Medical Council of Ireland's requirements for granting a Certificate of Experience. Thereafter, there are a further two 3 month rotations with opportunities to train in Paediatrics, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Anaesthesia, Emergency Medicine, Psychiatry, Radiology, Surgery, Medicine and General Practice. In the case of any of the academic internship posts, one of the rotations must also include a rotation to their academic internship, as well as the three months in General Surgery and three months in General Medicine. Intern training takes place in over 50 Hospitals and Primary Care facilities around Ireland. A full list of where Intern posts are based is available here <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/leadership-education-development/met/medical-intern-unit/intern-training-networks/>

Leah O'Toole
Assistant National Director