



A Guide to Post Preference Selection Stage
Medical Intern Training in Ireland
commencing
July 2026
(Campaign Ref: NRS14922)

Contents	
Introduction & Important Timelines for the 2026 Medical Intern Intake	3
Overview of Stages and Important Communications	4
Online Post Preference Selection Form	5
Post Preference Selection Stage what do I need to consider at this stage?	6
Post Preference Stage: What do I need to submit?	7-8
How National Recruitment Service will contact you	9
Appendix Guide	10
Appendix 1 Intern Training Networks & Sites	11-13
Appendix 2 Important Information	14
Appendix 3 Garda Vetting	15-18
Appendix 4 Information on Review Procedure	19
Appendix 5 Frequently Asked Questions	20

Introduction

Dear Applicant

The Health Service Executive's National Recruitment Service (NRS) strongly recommend that you read this Guide in full and print off a copy that you can refer to throughout the process. This Guide is designed to inform applicants of the Post Preference Selection stage for Intern posts in Ireland commencing Monday 13th July 2026. This stage of the process is confined to applicants deemed eligible by the HSE's National Recruitment Service (NRS) at application stage.

Applicants who have applied for Academic Intern Track posts must also submit the Post Preference Selection online form.

Any cost incurred in relation to any aspect of the recruitment process shall be borne by the applicant. This means that you will have to pay for any costs that arise to progress your application such as travel, etc.

N.B. Please note that NRS will contact you primarily by email. Therefore, it is most important that your email address is entered correctly on your online application. It is your responsibility to ensure you have access to your email at all times. It is advisable to use an email address that you can access after you have completed your final year and have graduated.

Important Timelines for the 2026 Medical Intern Intake

Mandatory Induction Week commencing **Monday 29th June 2026**

Mandatory Overlap/Shadowing week commencing **Monday 6th July 2026**

Formalised structured Intern training rotation start date is **Monday 13th July 2026**

A Guide to Application and Appointment to Intern Training in Ireland, Intern Job Specification and further information on the Intern Year, the Intern Training Networks, and Clinical Sites in each Intern Training Network, Intern Training Programmes and Progression through training and sign-off is available at <https://www.hbsrecruitmentservices.ie/medical-interns-stage-2/>.

Should you wish to update your personal details or withdraw your application, please contact the NRS Medical Intern Recruitment Team by emailing applyintern@hse.ie

Please forward any queries which are not covered in this guide to the dedicated email address applyintern@hse.ie

Overview of Stages and Important Communications

Stage	Description	Time/Date All Times Irish Time
Post Preference Selection	- All candidates are provided with a link to their Post Preference Selection online form. - The Application Portal contains a link to detailed listing of the available Intern posts, documents which you will need to download and guidelines on what you need to consider, as well as what you need to submit for the Garda Vetting Application process. - NRS will issue a communication to inform you, if you have been deemed eligible or ineligible. - Applicants who do not receive a communication from NRS should email applyintern@hse.ie stating First name, Surname and Candidate ID informing NRS of same.	Closing date: 12:00 Noon on Monday 13th April 2026 (Irish Time) Mid to Late April 2026
Offer Stage	NRS will issue a communication by email the week commencing 25th May 2026 to candidates who have been matched to an intern post or placed on the reserve list.	Week commencing 25th May 2026

Online Post Preference Selection Form

How do I apply?

1. You must complete the Online Post Preference Selection Form. The link to the online application is provided in the invite email of **Monday 30th March 2026**.
2. We recommend that you watch the video contained in Section B of the Online Post Preference Selection Form.
3. **In preparation for the application process - what you will need:**
 - a PC/Laptop/Mobile Device with internet access
 - a valid email address
 - access to a mobile telephone number from which you receive text messages
 - Please note the online form is designed to display in most modern web browsers. NRS recommends that you ensure your PC/Laptop/Mobile device can support the following Browsers i.e. Mozilla Firefox, Chrome, Safari, Edge (major versions released in the last year).
4. You must complete all relevant sections of the Online Forms in the format presented.
5. Please note Garda Vetting is required for commencement of Medical Internship. Candidates who have already initiated the Garda Vetting process please respond promptly to the Garda Vetting Recruitment Team. Candidates yet to initiate the Garda Vetting process will be invited in April.
6. NRS recommend that you download all relevant documentation, as outlined on the Application Portal, to your PC/Laptop/Mobile Device prior to commencing the online application form. You will be prompted at various stages on the online forms to upload documents. For best viewing experience we recommend using PC/Laptop.
7. **Completed Online Preference Selection Form must be submitted by 12:00 noon, Monday 13th April 2026 (Irish Time).** Submissions will not be accepted after this date and time, and no exceptions will be made. If you have submitted more than one application, NRS will accept the last one received from you prior to the closing date and time.
8. Online submission will receive an automated response within 24 hours of submission, which will let you know that we have received your submission. This email serves as a submission acknowledgement only and is not an admission that we have received a completed submission from you. Applicants, please note, due to the high volume of submissions, the HSE's NRS Department check eligibility after the closing date and time for the receipt of applications. **It is your responsibility to ensure your submission is complete and delivered before the deadline.**

Post Preference Selection Stage what do I need to consider at this stage?

Applicants should pay particular attention to choosing preferences for specific Intern posts and Intern Training Networks, as no changes will be accepted after the closing date and time for receipt of applications, i.e. **12:00 Noon on Monday 13th April 2026 (Irish Time)**.

Section B of Application Form – Preferences for Specific Intern Posts

You may choose **50** preferred posts from the list of available Intern posts, in ranked order from **any** Network, regardless of your Medical School of graduation, i.e. you may choose your **50** posts from all networks. The list of available Intern Posts has been made available to you as a separate attachment. You should list your preferences from most preferred to next most preferred, etc., No. 1 being your top choice. We recommend that you watch the video contained in Section B of the Online Post Preference Selection Form. **Please note the list of available posts may be subject to change.**

Your first selection will be a Location Preference, you must select a location to view available posts within that location. You may only choose one location at a time.

Once you have selected a location e.g. Mater Misericordiae University Hospital a list of posts for that location will appear in the Rotations Selection field. This list will provide the details of one or more post reference numbers. Every post reference number will contain information on all locations relating to that post and the rotations of that post.

Once you have selected your preferred post reference number you will be able to view the Specialty and Sub-Specialty information relating to that post. This will be done by selecting the only option available to you in the Specialty field.

It is strongly recommended that you use all 50 choices. If you choose not to select all 50 preferences, you will be assigned to the next listed available post in your highest available preferred Intern Training Network. Please ensure you preview your choices and ensure you are happy with your selections before you submit your form or you will have to re-do the application again in its entirety. For best viewing experience we recommend using PC/Laptop.

Section C of Application Form – Secondary: Intern Training Network Preferences

Where your preferences for specific Intern posts have been allocated to higher ranked applicants, you will be assigned to the next available post listed in your highest available preferred Intern Training Network. You should choose your preferred Intern Training Network in ranked order 1- 6, number 1 being your top Network choice. It is strongly recommended that you use all 6 choices. If you choose not to select the six Intern Training Networks, and your preferences for specific intern posts have been exhausted, you may risk not being matched to an Intern post.

Please note that Intern posts in Waterford University Hospital are included in the Dublin/Northeast Intern Training Network.

A map showing the Six Intern Training Networks is available in Appendix 1.

Post Preference Stage: What do I need to submit?

All Applicants from Medical Schools in the Republic of Ireland and outside the Republic of Ireland

You are required to submit the following by **12:00 Noon on Monday 13th April 2026 (Irish Time)**

- **Completed Post Preference Selection online submission**

Post Preference Stage: What happens next?

All applicants:

You will receive a submission email receipt within 24 hours, which will let you know that NRS has received your preferences. A copy of your Post Preference Selection submission is included in the email. The HSE's NRS check eligibility after the closing date and time i.e. **12:00 Noon on Monday 13th April 2026 (Irish Time)**

If you do not receive your application email receipt, please check your Spam or Junk email folder just in case the submission email receipt has been delivered there instead of your Inbox. If your submission email receipt has gone to your Spam/Junk email folder, simply select the email and mark it Not Spam/Not Junk, this should allow future messages to get through to your Inbox.

If you do not receive your submission email receipt within 24 hours and you have checked your Inbox and Spam/Junk email folder(s), please open a support ticket using the Contact helpdesk button which can be found on the application homepage. The helpdesk is monitored 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays), you should receive a response within 24 hours.

NRS will issue a communication by email to all applicants after the closing date and time i.e. 13th April 2026. The purpose of this communication is to confirm your eligibility for the next stage, i.e. the matching process.

Candidates who do not submit a Post Preference Selection online form before the closing date and time will not be afforded a second opportunity to submit it. Your overall application will not be processed further and you will need to apply in the autumn of 2026 for the next intern uptake (commencing July 2027) if still interested in an Intern post.

Candidates, who fail their final medical exams, will not progress to the next stage, i.e. the matching process. If interested in applying for the following year's intake, a new application is required. Please visit the HSE's website mid-October for application details - <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/jobs/job-search/medical-dental/nchd/interns/>

This is the end of this stage. Applicants deemed eligible will go forward to the next stage, i.e. the matching process, subject to receipt of pass centile from your Dean/Head of Medical School.

Garda Vetting Process

Please note Garda Vetting is required prior to commencement of Medical Internship i.e. Monday, 13th July 2026. This is a legal requirement. Candidates who have initiated the Garda Vetting process, we strongly recommend you respond promptly to requests made by the Garda Vetting Recruitment Team.

The Garda Vetting Liaison Office will contact you separately in relation to your e-vetting process when your Garda Vetting invitation form and relevant documentation has been correctly submitted and validated.

It is advised that you check your email inbox regularly for communications from evettingdonotreply@garda.ie. It may be helpful to add this email address to your address book to avoid the email invite being classified as spam or junk. (See Appendix 3 for more information).

How National Recruitment Service will contact you

Please note that the National Recruitment Service will contact you by methods such as email, phone, SMS, or by post, therefore it is most important that all your contact details are included on your application form.

It is your responsibility to ensure you have access to your emails. If you choose to use your medical school/work email address you may receive communications that have a time deadline requirement while you may be working away or on leave. We recommend you use a personal email address to which you have regular access.

We recommend that you check your spam folder(s) regularly and ensure that your mailbox is not full.

To reduce the possibility of emails from the NRS team being directed to spam we recommend that you add the HSE Domain to your WHITELIST or safe senders list in your email domain. Due to the number of domain providers, we are unable to provide a single instruction on this, so we recommend that you research this for your particular domain.

Appendix Guide

In This Section

- [Appendix 1 Intern Training Networks & Sites](#)
- [Appendix 2 Important Information](#)
- [Appendix 3 Garda Vetting](#)
- [Appendix 4 Information on Review Procedure](#)
- [Appendix 5 Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Appendix 1 – Intern Training Networks & Sites

The Six Intern Training Networks:

Dublin/Mid-Leinster (DML)

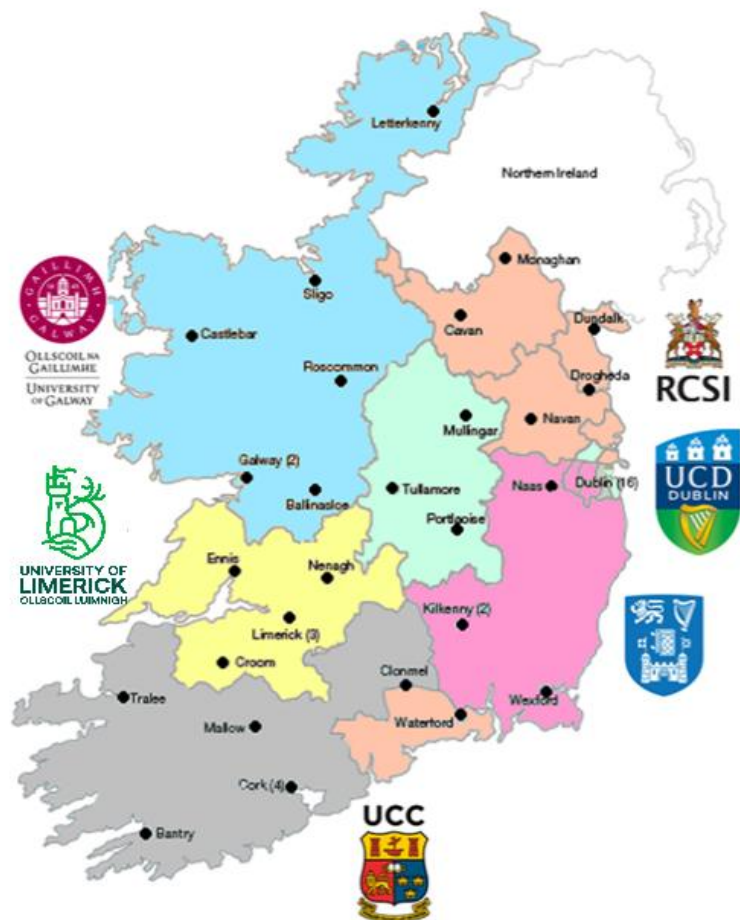
Dublin/Northeast (DNE)

Dublin/Southeast (DSE)

West/Northwest (WNW)

Mid-West (MWT)

South (STH)



Intern Training Networks Sites

Note: This is the complete list of the clinical sites for the 2026-2027 Intern Training Year. **The list may be subject to changes. Please note that Intern posts in Waterford University Hospital are included in the Dublin/Northeast Intern Training Network.**

Intern Network/Medical School	Hospitals/Clinical Sites in Network
West North-West	University Hospital Galway
University of Galway (UG)	Portiuncula University Hospital
	Mayo University Hospital
	Letterkenny University Hospital
	Sligo University Hospital
	Galway Clinic
	Roscommon University Hospital
	Our Lady's Hospital Manorhamilton
	Scallan McDaid Roarty Medical Practice, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal
	UH Galway Claddagh Medical Centre
	Bon Secours Galway
	Sligo GP - GP Health Centre, Dromahair, Co. Leitrim
	Arlington House Medical Centre, Oranmore, Galway
Dublin North-East	Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI)	University Hospital, Waterford
	Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda
	Beaumont Hospital
	Children's Health Ireland at Temple Street
	National Orthopaedic Hospital Cappagh
	Cavan General Hospital
	Mercers Medical Centre
	Edenpark Medical, Tonleegge Primary Care Centre
	Beaumont Park Clinic
Dublin Mid-Leinster	Mater Misericordiae University Hospital
University College Dublin (UCD)	Midland Regional Hospital, Tullamore
	Midland Regional Hospital, Portlaoise
	Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar
	National Orthopaedic Hospital Cappagh
	Coombe Primary Care
	Beacon Hospital
	St. Columcille's Hospital
	Mater Private Hospital, Dublin
	St. Vincent's University Hospital
	St. Michael's Hospital
	Greystones Harbour Family Practice
	Children's Health Ireland at Temple Street
	The Brophy Family Practice, Navan Road
	Tully Family Practice, Dublin

Intern Network/Medical School	Hospitals/Clinical Sites in Network
Dublin South-East	Naas General Hospital
Trinity College Dublin (TCD)	Linn Dara
	St. James' Hospital
	St. Luke's General Hospital, Kilkenny
	Tallaght University Hospital
	Wexford General Hospital
	Rialto Medical Centre
	Sundrive Medical Centre
	Aylesbury Clinic
	GPs at Tallaght Cross
South	Mercy University Hospital
University College Cork (UCC)	South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital
	Bon Secours Hospital, Cork
	Cork University Hospital
	Bantry General Hospital
	Mallow General Hospital
	University Hospital Kerry
	Tipperary University Hospital
	St. Stephen's Hospital, Glanmire, Cork
	Red House Family Practice, Mallow Primary Healthcare Centre, Cork
	Hollyhill Medical Centre, St. Mary's Health Campus, Cork
	Ross Medical Centre, Killarney, Kerry
	Imokilly Medical Centre, Midleton, Cork
	Broad Lane Family Practice, Blackpool, Cork
Mid-West	University Hospital Limerick
University of Limerick (UL)	University Maternity Hospital, Limerick
	St. John's Hospital Limerick
	Nenagh University Hospital
	Ennis Medical, Francis St, Ennis
	Mungret Medical Centre, Mungret, Co. Limerick

Appendix 2 – Important Information

Intern posts are for the duration of one year, commencing on **14th July 2025** until **12th July 2026**.

Privacy Notice

1. Purpose

The Health Service Executive (HSE) must comply with the Data Protection Acts 1988-2018 and the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). We respect your right to privacy and to the protection of your personal information. The purpose of this privacy notice is to explain how we collect and use personal information for the provision of our services and the day-to-day running of the HSE.

2. The information we process

Please note that information contained in your online application and the form itself may be passed to Intern Training Networks, Medical Schools, the Medical Council of Ireland, the National Doctors Training and Planning (HSE NDTP), MIU, Intern Network Executive, CPL Healthcare/Servisource and to prospective employing authorities, including non-HSE employing authorities (such as voluntary hospitals), for recruitment purposes only.

NRS is committed to protecting your privacy and takes the security of your information very seriously. NRS aims to be clear and transparent about the information we collect about you and how we use that information. For more information on the HSE Privacy Policy, please refer to <https://www.hse.ie/eng/gdpr>

- The HSE/other Intern employing authorities reserve the right to seek verification of any of the details contained in your application and supporting documentation.
- Employing authorities will seek proof of vaccination for incoming interns. Please ensure your vaccinations are up to date and that you can provide evidence of the same to the employing site before commencing employment. EPP results must be stamped, dated and signed by the service who carried them out.
- Applicants, who are successfully matched to a post and require an employment permit, should ensure that their passport does not expire within 6 months of commencing internship i.e. does not expire within 6 months of 14th July 2025.
- The Health Service Executive will run this campaign in compliance with the Code of Practice prepared by the Commissioners for Public Service Appointments (CPSA). Codes of practice are published by the CPSA and are available on <http://www.cpsa.ie>
- Please note that registration, as an Intern with the Medical Council of Ireland is a separate process (with separate deadlines) to the process of applying for employment as an Intern in the Irish health service. All medical practitioners must be registered on the appropriate division of the register of medical practitioners maintained by the Medical Council of Ireland in order to practise medicine in the Irish health service. It is an indictable offence to practise medicine in Ireland while unregistered. Applicants may refer to Appendix 5 of **A Guide to Application and Appointment to Medical Intern Training in Ireland commencing July 2025** and www.medicalcouncil.ie for additional information on registration.
- The Health Service Executive is an Equal Opportunities Employer.
- The Health Service Executive recognises its responsibilities under the Data Protection Acts 1988 to 2018 and the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and Employment Equality Act 1998 – 2015

Appendix 3 – Garda Vetting

You will not be permitted to commence internship unless you have been Garda vetted by the commencement date of internship. This is a legal requirement.

All appointees to Intern posts in the Irish health service must undergo a process of vetting by The National Vetting Bureau, An Garda Síochána (the Irish Police Service). The Garda Vetting Recruitment Team will contact you directly with regard to the Garda Vetting Process. Please respond promptly to requests from the Garda Vetting Recruitment Team. Candidates who are yet to commence the Garda Vetting process will be invited to submit their Garda Vetting documentation in April.

NRS will validate the documents and notify the Garda Vetting Liaison Office when all is in order. You should then expect to receive an invitation email to your email address from the National Vetting Bureau (An Garda Síochána) to commence your e-vetting. It may be helpful to add the following email address to your address book (evetting.donotreply@garda.ie) to avoid the email invite being classified as spam or junk. Please check your email regularly. A delay in activating this link may result in the requirement to resubmit documentation listed above and subsequently delay commencement of internship, if offered a post.

Appendix 4 – Information on Review Procedure

Should you wish to raise a concern in relation to your experience of any aspect of the selection process, please submit by email to National Recruitment Service at applyintern@hse.ie. Please submit any concern within 5 working days of any decision notified to you to enable a timely review. It is important to note that any review undertaken relates only to the process as it has been applied and where it may impact on decisions made.

Appendix 5 - Frequently Asked Questions

Please note: A Guide to Application and Appointment to Intern Training in Ireland which includes information on Matching process and full Frequently Asked Questions, Intern Job Specification and further information on the Intern Year, the Intern Training Networks, and Clinical Sites in each Intern Training Network, Intern Training Programmes and Progression through training and sign-off is available at <https://www.hbsrecruitmentservices.ie/medical-interns-stage-2/>

1.0 Post Preferences

1.1 What happens if all of my preference posts have been filled by higher ranked applicants?

If all of your post preferences have been exhausted, you will be matched to the next available post in the highest available Intern Training Network of your choice (secondary preferences) where posts remain available.

1.2 What happens if all of my specific post preferences have been filled by higher ranked applicants and I did not choose all six Network Preferences?

If all your specific post preferences have been exhausted, owing to higher ranked candidates being matched to these posts, and you did not choose to select all six Network Preferences, you may risk not being matched to an Intern post. You will be placed on the top (in order of merit) of the Reserve List and may be offered a declined post which matches one of your specific post preferences or network preferences.

1.3 Can I change my mind about my post preferences and opt to take my second or subsequent preference post?

No. You cannot opt to take your second or subsequent preference post. A single match will be carried out and, if you are successful, you will be allocated to a single post. If successful you will receive one offer only. You should therefore choose your post preferences carefully.

1.4 Will I get an intern post through this recruitment campaign?

That depends on a number of factors, including:

- Whether you are eligible to apply and you submit the required application documents
- Your centile based on your overall degree award OR overall exams
- Whether you are a CAO entry student / non-CAO entry student to Medical School, as this will affect the order in which your application is considered in the matching process
- Whether you are an EEA national / non-EEA national who does not require an employment permit to work in Ireland / non-EEA national requiring an employment permit to work in Ireland, as this will affect the order in which your application is considered in the matching process
- Non-EEA nationals who have not submitted evidence of permission to work in the State with their application but have permission to study a full-time course on the official Interim List of Eligible Programmes (ILEP) for a specified period in Ireland (i.e. are in possession of a Stamp 2 IRP) will be ranked above those who do not have permission to study a full-time course on the official Interim List of Eligible Programmes (ILEP) for a specified period in Ireland.
- If allocated to an intern training post, successful completion of all necessary pre-employment checks by the individual employer
- The number of intern posts available
- Whether or not you have already secured an Academic Intern Track post. For more information, please refer to Appendix 9 in this document.

1.8 How does the entry route to an Irish Medical School affect appointment to intern posts?

The appointment of applicants to intern posts will depend on whether you accepted an Irish medical school place through a CAO offer or whether you accepted an Irish medical school place directly from the medical school.

In practice, this means that all applicants for intern posts who accepted a place in an Irish medical school through a CAO offer will be allocated to posts ahead of applicants who accepted an Irish medical school place directly from the medical school.

1.4 What happens if I do not receive an offer of an intern post?

Eligible applicants who remain unmatched after all posts have been allocated will be placed on the Reserve List. In the event that an applicant matched to a post chooses not to proceed, the post will be offered to the highest ranked applicant on the Reserve List. This reserve list will remain in place only until all Intern posts have been filled and the Medical Internship campaign has concluded. Candidates on the reserve list will be contacted once the matching process is complete.

2.0 Garda Vetting and Police Clearance

2.1 I underwent Garda vetting as a student – is this sufficient?

No. A separate process of Garda vetting must be undertaken prior to commencement of employment; vetting undergone while a student is not sufficient.

2.2 Will I have to undergo Garda vetting for each of my intern rotations?

No. The Garda vetting process completed for employment as an intern covers the 12 month period of internship.

2.3 Will I have to undergo Garda vetting for every subsequent medical post in the Irish health service?

No. Subject to continued employment in the Irish public health service, Garda vetting will be required periodically but will not be required for every appointment and/or rotation.

Information on Pre-employment Clearances i.e. Police Clearance and Vaccinations are available in 2026 A Guide to Application and Appointment to Intern Training in Ireland on the following link:

<https://www.hbsrecruitmentservices.ie/medical-interns-stage-2/>