

Additional Information on the Intern Year

Intern Governance

A Medical Intern Board was established in 2017, by both the HSE and the Medical Council of Ireland, with responsibility for the governance and strategic direction of the intern year.

Intern training is based on collaboration with the Intern Network Executive, the Irish Medical Schools Council, the Forum of Postgraduate Medical Training Bodies, the HSE National Recruitment Service and the Medical Council of Ireland.

Intern Training Networks

There are six Intern Training Networks, each based around an existing Medical School. Intern posts are structured so that all rotations take place within a single intern network. Each Intern Network is led by the Intern Network Programme Director, who is a consultant doctor with educational experience. This appointment is made by the Medical School in each Network and is supported by the HSE.

The Intern Network Programme Director is responsible for organising and overseeing intern training within their network and ensuring the provision of appropriate, agreed educational programmes for interns. The Intern Network Programme Directors collaborate collectively through the Intern Networks Executive and with the HSE on a national basis to ensure consistency across the Networks.

Intern Network Programme Directors are also expected to meet requirements set by the Medical Council in relation to intern training and sign-off, in order to satisfy the Council's criteria for granting a Certificate of Experience. Medical Council guidelines on this area are available at: www.medicalcouncil.ie

All intern posts are aligned on a geographical basis within Intern Training Networks. Considerations such as health service reform and the changing roles of some hospitals are taken into account in the distribution of intern posts.

The Six Intern Training Networks:

Dublin/Mid-Leinster (DML)

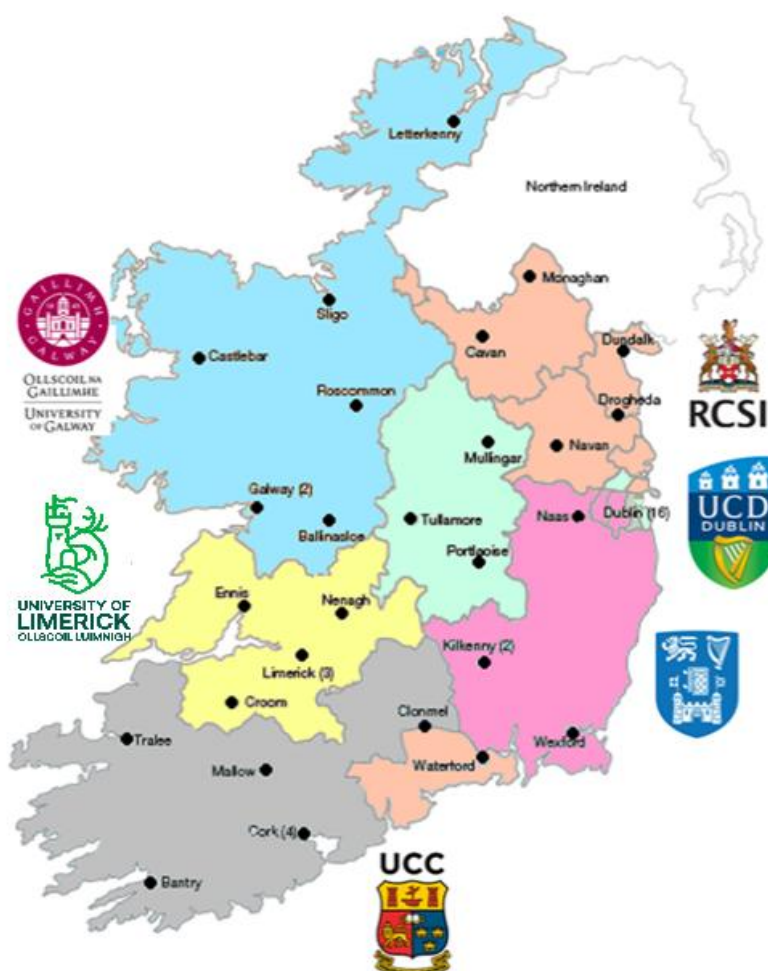
Dublin/Northeast (DNE)

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 is subjected to changes.

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
	Letterkenny GP
	UH Galway Claddagh Medical Centre
	Bon Secours Galway
	Sligo GP - GP Health Centre, Dromahair, Co. Leitrim
	Arlington House Medical Centre, Oranmore
Dublin North-East	Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI)	University Hospital, Waterford
	Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda
	Beaumont Hospital
	CHI - Temple Street
	National Orthopaedic Hospital Cappagh
	Cavan General Hospital
	Mercers Medical Centre
	Edenpark Medical, Tonlegee 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
	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
	CHI - Temple Street
	The Brophy Family Practice, Navan Road
	Tully Family Practice

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
	Tallaght Cross GPs
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
	Red House Family Practice, Mallow Primary Healthcare Centre
	MyCorkGP, St. Mary's Primary Care Centre, Cork
	Living Health General Practice Mitchelstown
	Ross Medical Centre, Killarney, Co. Kerry
	Imokilly Medical Centre, Midleton
	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
	Primary Care, Ennis Medical
	Mungret Medical Centre

Intern Training Programme

The National Intern Training Programme (NITP) for Education and Training in the Intern Year is designed to be a challenging and rewarding year. It is providing graduates with a supervised and supportive learning environment that will provide them with the basis for future practice as a doctor in their chosen field.



Online learning modules have been developed, which complement the on-site training provided to interns in hospitals and general practices. A range of modules will be available for interns commencing in July 2026.

All Intern Training Networks must provide clinical skills training, life support training and formal educational events.

Intern training provided must be in line with the NITP, although the precise content of the educational elements will vary across individual networks. Examples of training that may be provided include grand rounds, journal clubs, multidisciplinary case presentations, and “Human Factors” training and specialty/topic-specific study days.

The HSE has formal Service Level Agreements in place with the Universities/Medical Schools for the provision of intern training.

Each intern will be required to sign a Training Agreement, which sets out the training that will be provided to the intern by their Network and the intern’s responsibilities, such as minimum attendance rates.

Intern Training Posts

Details of intern posts available in July 2026 will be provided to applicants who are deemed eligible after Stage 1 of the application process. The total number of posts available nationally, currently stands at 879, including 48 Academic Track posts.

Academic Track for Internship

In parallel to the clinical internship posts, for the 2026 Intern intake, an academic internship will be available. The academic internship provides an opportunity for doctors at the beginning of their careers to continue, or to develop de novo, research, teaching and leadership/management skills in addition to the competencies outlined as part of the National Intern Training Programme.

Academic track interns will undertake one full rotation (3 months) in an academic internship post and then complete their other clinical rotations as normal. Further details can be found at Appendix 8.

Induction

All incoming interns are required to complete a mandatory induction course and a mandatory Overlap/Shadowing week prior to commencement of employment. The induction course will ordinarily take place at the location of the intern’s first training module or another specified site

within the Intern Training Network. July 2019 saw the introduction of a standardised paid induction programme for interns in all networks. This takes place before work commences at clinical sites. Following assignment to a post, successful applicants will be notified of the time and location of the induction course.

Those interns on the academic internship programme are also expected to attend the mandatory induction provided by their clinical site.

Employment Contract

Interns will receive the Contract of Employment for Non-Consultant Hospital Doctors. The contract will be provided by the employing authority after the applicant has successfully been allocated to an intern post and received an offer of employment from the employing authority, subject to relevant satisfactory clearances.

The required clearances will be notified to the successful applicant by the employing authority when the offer of employment is made. In some cases, where an individual intern is employed by more than one employing authority (e.g., a voluntary hospital and a HSE hospital), separate contracts may be issued.

The total duration of internships commencing in July **2026** will be 12 months. Interns should return their signed contract to their employer. The NCHD contract can be seen at <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/jobs/job-search/medical-dental/nchd/interns/>.

Progression through Training & Sign-Off

The Intern Training Programme for posts commencing July 2026 is for a defined period of 12 months and interns will be employed in each training rotation for a finite period. Interns are expected to complete their training within this period. The Intern Training Network is required to ensure that all interns under their remit are progressing in a manner which ensures patient safety and may assign remedial action on an individual basis.

If the Intern Training Network considers that an intern's progress in the programme is unsatisfactory, the intern may be required to undertake additional training or assessment.

Failure to meet these additional requirements may result in removal from the Intern training programme and/or employment.



Where remedial training is required, the Intern Training Network will inform the employer and/or the HSE and/or the Medical Council of any concerns regarding the intern's continued practice. Additional training will usually be required to be undertaken within the period of the rotation or a subsequent scheduled rotation.

If a recommendation for additional training remains upon completion of the 12-month period, this will be facilitated. Such matters will be handled on a case-by-case basis and are subject to agreement from the Employer.

Applicants should consult the NCHD Contract, at http://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/Jobs/Job_Search/Medical_Dental/nchd/Interns for more information on employment matters.

In such circumstances, interns may be assigned to a different training site and/or different specialty areas. The usual contractual arrangements will apply in relation to employment matters.

The Medical Council (of Ireland) is statutorily responsible for granting Certificates of Experience to medical practitioners who have successfully completed a period of internship. Information on the criteria and process for the sign-off of the intern year Certificate of Experience are available from the Medical Council at www.medicalcouncil.ie.