

Prioritisation and Allocation Mechanism for MTI Applications

December 2016

The Academy worked alongside a sub-group of the MTI Leads to produce a process which will allow for a prioritisation and allocation mechanism for future MTI applications. The mechanism has been consulted on and agreed by all the medical royal colleges. The mechanism will come into force on **2 January 2017**.

The primary purpose of the MTI is to contribute to improving the quality of healthcare in developing countries. Whilst doctors from developed countries can apply, the main intention of the scheme is to provide doctors from developing countries with a period of training and development in the NHS before returning to their home countries where their patients and colleagues can benefit from the skills and experience they have obtained in the UK.

It is therefore essential that the users of the MTI scheme are clear on its purpose which is that the MTI is used for training doctors and not therefore be seen as a way to fill rota gaps with first world country doctors. This mechanism demonstrates support for the Department for Health's main focus, which is for doctors from the DFID priority and L&LMI countries to benefit from the scheme. Therefore, priority will be given to developing healthcare systems.

The prioritisation and allocation mechanism reflects the principles and intent of the scheme and therefore the following priority will be given when allocating MTI placements:

- 1st, [DfID priority countries](#)
- 2nd, [L&LMI Countries](#) who do not come under the DfID priority countries
 - [Low-income Countries](#)
 - [Lower Middle-income Countries](#)
- 3rd, All other applications.

Please note the Department for Health is involved in work being led by WHO to review the mechanism for defining a list of countries with fragile health economies. The Academy may choose to include this list in the priority setting process when it is available.

Within each category, applications will continue to be processed by the Academy in order of receipt.

Applications will be processed to a monthly quota. Any that are received after this is met will be given priority in the following month, *within* the category that they fall in. Third category [other countries]

applications will be processed in the fourth week of each month once the quota number for the priority countries has been ascertained.

Where doctors are from will be defined by their country of residence. The Academy will not accept exceptions to provide sponsorship based on a benefit of specialty training to a home country.

There is an allowance of 750 Certificates of Sponsorship per year, with flexibility to use them over a two year period. Therefore, there is scope for an upper limit of 1500 placements, which is the *absolute* maximum allowed.

Under this mechanism applications from DFID Countries will be processed within five business days of acknowledgement of receipt, subject to availability of allocated Certificates of Support to the Academy. Applications from L&LMI Countries will be processed within two weeks and other Countries within a period of three weeks, subject to placement availability.

Extensions are treated as separate to new applications and are processed automatically and not prioritised in the same way; subject to receipt of all documentation within 5 business days.