

Emergency Medicine ST3 ACCS National Recruitment

2025 Applicant Handbook



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Introduction

The National Recruitment Office for ST3 ACCS is NHS England North East and Yorkshire. We are recruiting to ST3 posts across England, Scotland and Wales.

This handbook aims to provide applicants with information regarding all aspects of the 2025 ST3 ACCS recruitment process.

General information about applying to specialty training posts is available on the [Specialty Training website](#) and in the Medical Specialty Recruitment Applicant Handbook which can be downloaded from the [Oriel Resource Bank](#). We recommend that all applicants read this document in full.

Timeline and Key Dates

Recruitment to ST3 ACCS in 2025 will follow the timeline below:

Applications open	At 10am on Thursday 14 November 2024
Application deadline	At 4pm on Thursday 5 December 2024
Self-Assessment Validation	TBC
Interviews	4 th or 5 th March 2025
Initial offers released on	By 5pm on Tuesday 15 April 2025
Holding deadline	At 1pm on Wednesday 23 April 2025
Upgrade Deadline	At 1pm on Thursday 24 April 2025

Please note: all dates are subject to change at any time


Contact details

We have a recruitment helpdesk to assist applicants through the recruitment process. You can contact the recruitment helpdesk in the following ways:

By email: england.emrec.yh@nhs.net We aim to respond to all emails within 48 working hours. However, please be aware that this may not always be possible.

Vacancies

NHS England (NHSE) is responsible for educating and training doctors, dentists, nurses and all healthcare professionals in England. Medical and Dental training programmes in England are managed locally by NHSE's Local Offices. Training programmes in Wales are managed by Health Education and Improvement Wales. Training programmes in Northern



Ireland and Scotland continue to be managed by Deaneries. Links to the individual Local Offices and Deaneries are provided in [Appendix 2](#).

Vacancy numbers will be published on the [national Emergency Medicine recruitment webpage](#) once confirmed.

LAT Vacancies

Recruitment to Locum Appointment for Training (LAT) posts in England ceased on 1 January 2016 for all specialties. Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland may continue to recruit to LAT posts.

All vacancy numbers are indicative and are subject to change at any time.

Application

Applications will only be accepted through the [Oriel recruitment system](#). For further guidance on creating an account, registering and submitting your application using the system please refer to the Oriel Applicant User Guide which can be downloaded from the [Oriel Resource Bank](#).

Completing your application

The application form for Emergency Medicine will open at 10am on Thursday 14 November 2024. Use the Vacancy Search tool to navigate to the national Emergency Medicine vacancy and click “Apply”. The advertisement in the vacancy will state if the vacancy is ST3 ACCS Emergency Medicine or ST3 DRE-EM.

Please complete all sections of the application form in full before submitting it. Once you have submitted your application, the only sections you will be able to change are your personal details and your referee details.

Self-Assessment Questions

There are a number of multiple-choice Self-Assessment questions built into the application form. For these questions, you need to select the most appropriate response from a drop-down list. The Self-Assessment questions, the list of responses and details of suitable evidence can be found on the [national Emergency Medicine recruitment webpage](#).

Your responses to the Self-Assessment questions will be validated against the evidence you submit following application. Evidence to substantiate your answers must be easily identified and follow the strict guidance given in the policy.


The Recruitment Office is not able to advise you about which response you should select for any question. You must select the response you feel you will be able to justify to the shortlisting panel, using the evidence you provide.

If it is discovered that any response is false or misleading or if you provide evidence containing Patient Identifiable Data, you may be referred to a Probity Panel. The Probity Panel procedure can be found in [Appendix 1](#).

You will need to upload your evidence to a separate electronic system between **10am on 6th December and 10am on 13th December 2024**. An applicant user guide for the Self-Assessment Evidence Portal can be found in the “Self-assessment Evidence Portal - Applicant Guide.pdf” located in the [Specialty Training – Resource bank](#).

Application Deadline

The deadline for submitting applications is **4pm on Thursday 5th December 2024**. After this time no applications will be accepted. **There will be no exceptions to this deadline.** You are advised to complete and submit your application at least 24 hours ahead of the deadline to allow for any unforeseen problems.



When you submit your application, you should receive an automatic confirmation email. If you do not receive this email within two hours you should check to ensure that you have successfully submitted your application.

Academic Benchmarking

If you have applied for local ST3 Emergency Medicine Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF) vacancies at ST3 or above and require clinical benchmarking, you must complete a National ST3 Emergency Medicine application and be deemed appointable at interview.

For more information about clinical benchmarking and the ACF process please see the Medical Specialty Recruitment Applicant Handbook which can be downloaded from the [Oriol Resource Bank](#).

Eligibility and Longlisting

The eligibility criteria for ST3 ACCS are listed in the [2025 Person Specification](#). It is your responsibility to demonstrate that you meet the eligibility criteria. Applications will be assessed against the eligibility criteria both during longlisting and after offers where necessary. Any applications which do not meet the eligibility criteria will be longlisted out of the process and will not progress to the next stage.

By allowing applicants to progress to the interview stage, NHS England North East and Yorkshire DOES NOT accept or confirm that applicants meet all eligibility requirements. This includes immigration status, evidence of achievement of core competencies or equivalent, and requisite length of time in training as per the national [2025 Person Specification](#). This list is not exhaustive and is applicable to all eligibility criteria.

You may still be withdrawn from the application process at any stage, including after the interviews have taken place, if the evidence pertaining to an eligibility criterion is found to be unsatisfactory.

GMC Registration and Licence to Practice

Applicants will need to hold full General Medical Council registration status and a current licence to practice by the time of appointment (in most cases this will be Wednesday 6 August 2025). You will be asked to confirm that you will meet this requirement on your application form. Any offers made will be subject to you meeting this requirement by the time of appointment.

Essential Courses

Applicants must have current Advanced Life Support skills, at time of application. This must be demonstrated by providing either:

- In date course certificates

OR

- Work based assessments, simulation and faculty statement (must have all 3 types of evidence)

Failure to upload evidence of your life support skills will prevent you from submitting your application form.

Scanned copies of each piece of evidence must be uploaded to your application as a single document.

Assessment of Competency

The competency requirements stated in the ST3 ACCS Person Specification can be demonstrated in the following ways:

Evidence of achievement of CT/ST1 competences in ACCS specialties at time of application, acceptable evidence includes satisfactory ARCPs.*

Evidence of CT/ST2 competences in ACCS specialties by time of appointment, acceptable evidence includes satisfactory ARCPs, work-based assessments of clinical performance (DOPs, MiniCEX, CBD, ACAT) and Multi Source Feedback or equivalent.

****This evidence must be submitted at the time of application.***

Scanned copies of each piece of evidence must be uploaded to your application as a single document.

Applicants who submit their competency evidence within the application window will only have 1 opportunity to resubmit incomplete or inaccurate competency documents. Applicants who fail to submit a competency document during the application window will only have 1 subsequent opportunity to submit the form. Please therefore ensure that you have thoroughly read the guidance and checked the document you are providing carefully before submitting.

Immigration/Right to Work

You must have the right to work as a doctor in training in the UK. Your application will be assessed based on your immigration status at the time of application.

Applicants requiring visa sponsorship in order to take up a post are eligible to apply.

Career Progression and Experience

You must provide a complete employment history going back to completion of your primary medical degree on your application form. If you are in a rotational training programme, please also list posts that you are *due* to rotate to up until the end of July 2025 or until completion of your Training Programme if this is later. You must provide an explanation for employment gaps of more than four weeks.

Trainees released or removed from a training post or programme

Specialty training posts and programmes are not normally available to anyone who has previously relinquished or been released/removed from a training post/programme in the same specialty. When applying for a post you will be asked if you have previously relinquished or been released or removed from a training programme in the specialty to which you are applying.

If you answer yes to this question, you will need to upload a completed “**Support for Reapplication to a Specialty Training Programme - Exclusion Policy Support Form**” to your application no later than the application deadline. This form can be downloaded from the [Oriel Resource Bank](#).

Trainees applying to continue training in a different region

Applicants who are currently undertaking a specialty training programme (and who have a National Training Number), who are reapplying to continue their training in a different region must declare this on their application form.

If you are reapplying to continue your training in a different region, you must also upload a completed “**Support for Reapplication of Specialty Training in a Different Region - Support Form**” to your application no later than the application deadline. This form can be downloaded from the [Oriel Resource Bank](#).

Applicants on the Specialist Register

You are not eligible to apply if you already hold, or are eligible to hold a Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) in Emergency Medicine. You are not eligible to apply if you are currently on the specialist register in any EU member state.

Criminal Records and Fitness to Practice

The application form contains a Criminal Records and Fitness to Practice Declaration. If you answer ‘**Yes**’ to any of the questions on this page you must fully complete and submit a separate ‘**Fitness to Practise Declaration Form**’. **This must be received no later than 4pm on Thursday 5 December 2024.**

This form is available from the [Oriel Resource Bank](#) and must be submitted to england.ftprec.yh@nhs.net. Please mark your email ‘**CONFIDENTIAL – Emergency Medicine**’.

Both declarations and any information provided in relation to them will be kept securely and in confidence, and access to it will be restricted to designated persons within the Recruitment Office and other persons who need to see it as part of the selection process and who are authorised to do so.

If you are successfully appointed to a training post, this information will be passed to designated persons in the NHSE local office / Deanery which will be responsible for your training and subsequently to your employing organisation and any organisations through which you rotate as part of the training programme.

No information relating to your declaration form will be made available to any members of the selection panel at any time during the recruitment process.

Applying for a Deferred Start Date

Applicants can request deferred entry to specialty training programmes on statutory grounds (e.g. maternity leave, ill health etc.) only. Deferred entry to training programmes is not permitted for any other reason. Refer to the [Gold Guide](#) for more information about deferring start dates.

If you intend to apply for a deferred start date you should indicate this on your application form. If offered a training programme you will need to apply separately for a deferred start date via the Local Office/area where you are offered a post.

The final decision regarding any deferment will be made by the NHSE local office / Deanery which will be responsible for your training according to their local policies.

Applying for Less Than Full Time Training

Trainees may train on a Less Than Full Time (LTFT) basis for a variety of well-founded reasons. Refer to the [Gold Guide](#) for more information about Less Than Full Time Training.

All posts offered through this recruitment process will be offered as full time posts. If you intend to request Less Than Full Time Training, you can indicate this in the relevant section on the application form.

If offered a training programme you will need to apply separately for Less Than Full Time Training via the Local Office/area where you are offered a post. You will only be able to apply for Less Than Full Time Training once you have accepted a full time post.

The final decision regarding Less Than Full Time Training will be made by the NHSE local office / Deanery which will be responsible for your training according to their local LTFT policies.

Shortlisting

Applicants will be shortlisted using their validated Self-Assessment score with the highest scoring applicants being invited to attend an interview. Please read the [Self-Assessment section](#) of this handbook for more information.

Shortlisting is a method of reducing the field to a manageable number of applicants, being unsuccessful at shortlisting does not affect subsequent applications.

Please Note: If there is a significantly greater number of applications than the interview capacity, we will shortlist out candidates whose self-assessment score is too far away from the interview capacity cut off to have a chance of being shortlisted. Where this is the case, we will withdraw candidates at an early stage, usually soon after applications close once numbers can be assessed against capacity.

Self-Assessment Verification

Your responses to the Self-Assessment questions on the application form will be verified against the evidence you upload to the Self-Assessment portal. Your evidence will be reviewed by a panel of clinicians who will confirm the scores awarded. Following verification, you will be provided with a copy of your scoresheet confirming the scores awarded for each question. If the panel have been amended any of your scores a written explanation will be provided.

Appeals

Once you have received your Self-Assessment scoresheet, if you feel you have been scored incorrectly you can submit an appeal. Instructions for submitting an appeal will be included in the email containing your scoresheet. You will be given 72 hours to submit your appeal. You will not be able to upload any additional documents during the appeals process; appeals can only be made using the evidence originally submitted.

An appeals panel will review your appeal. Scores awarded by the appeals panel are final and there is no further recourse to appeal.

Interviews

Booking an Interview Slot

If you are invited to attend an interview, you will need to book an interview time slot in Oriel. Interview slots are offered on a first come first served basis. You must book your interview slot by the deadline stated in the invite email. Please refer to the Oriel Applicant User Guide for instructions on booking your interview slot. You can download a copy of the Oriel Applicant Guide from the [Oriel Resource Bank](#).

You should receive an automatic confirmation email once you have booked your interview slot. If you do not receive this email within two hours of booking, please check your Oriel account to ensure that you did successfully book a slot.

If you experience problems booking your interview slot please contact england.emrec.yh@nhs.net for assistance.

Interview Dates and Venue

The interviews for Emergency Medicine will take place online on the **4th or 5th March 2025**.

You will be sent a link and joining instructions after booking your interview and in advance of the interview date.

Applicants with Disabilities

If you have a disability which may require specific arrangements or adjustments to enable you to attend an interview please indicate this on your application form and contact england.emrec.yh@nhs.net to discuss your requirements.

Documents Required at Interview

You will be required to prove your identity at the start of the interview by showing your Passport or Driving License. You will be notified of all requirements on the invite to interview sent via Oriel.

Technical requirements for the Online Interview

All interviews in 2025 will be held online via Qpercom VIDs. Full details of the system, and instructions for attending an interview will be provided to applicants in due course.

When undertaking your online interview you must ensure that you are in a location with a stable and reliable internet connection and use a device that is suitable for a video interview with a camera and microphone. The administration staff from NHSE and panel members will be unable to assist you with any technical issues.

In the event of technical difficulties during the interview, we will attempt to resume the interview once the issue has been resolved. However, if we are unable to resume the interview at the scheduled time we will, where possible, aim to rearrange the remainder of the interview at a later date or time however we cannot guarantee this will always be possible. Where the interview has been partially completed, only the sections that were disrupted will be rescheduled; scores from interview questions that are completed without disruption will stand.

Technical issues that happen outside of the interview itself must be reported to the Recruitment Team, with details of the issues experienced, providing screenshots where possible, within one hour of the allocated interview time. Technical issues reported outside of this timeframe cannot be considered.

Your interview will not be recorded by NHSE or panel members. Applicants are also not permitted to record the interview. If it is found that you have recorded any part of the interview process a probity panel will be convened to investigate. Details of the Probity Panel procedure can be found in [Appendix 1](#).

Interview Format

The interview will consist of a multi-station 30 minute interview panel designed to assess the selection criteria detailed on the [2025 Person Specification](#)

Please note that the panel members will be using a device to record your scores into a secure online system.

The interview will be split into three 10-minute stations:

- **Clinical/Ethical Scenario Station**
- **Prioritisation Station**
- **Communication Station**

Before each station there will be 5 minutes of reading time when a document will be shared with you. Candidates may make brief notes during this time. Candidates are instructed that this information should be confidentially destroyed as soon as the interview has taken place and should not be shared by any means (physically, verbally, typing online or photographically).

Lay Representatives

A Lay Representative may be present during your interview to observe the process. The Lay Representative will not score or assess your performance in the station; they are there to ensure the process is fair and consistent.

Confidentiality

You should ensure that the content of the interview assessments remains confidential and must not be discussed with other applicants or published where they can be accessed by other applicants. This includes on websites, online forums or discussion groups and all other forms of social media.

Remember, this is a competitive process, and you may reduce your own chances of appointment by giving an unfair advantage to other applicants.

Reporting Issues During Your Interview

The vast majority of interviews are conducted without issue. However, if there are any issues during your interview which may affect your assessment, it is vital that you report them to a member of the NHSE North East and Yorkshire Recruitment Team by emailing england.emrec.yh@nhs.net

Any issues must be reported as soon as possible and **ideally within 1 hour of the completion of your interview**. This will give us the best possible chance to investigate and, if necessary, take action to remedy the issue. It is not usually possible to investigate issues or take remedial action once the interviews have concluded.

Scoring and Ranking

Your performance in each domain will be scored using a structured scoring system. The scores from each interview station will be combined to produce your overall interview score.

Your ranking will be based upon your overall interview score and your individual station scores. NHSE may set a minimum required score in any individual domain and should your score in an individual domain not meet that requirement you will be ranked 0.

Appointability

To be considered appointable you will need to achieve the following scores:

TBC

Tied Scores

In the event of tied overall interview scores, the individual station scores in the order below will be used to differentiate between applicants:

TBC

References

References will only be requested through the Oriel system once an offer of training has been accepted. Referees will be contacted by email, so it is important that the contact details provided are correct. We strongly advise that you inform your chosen referees so that they are aware they may be asked to provide a reference.

If a referee is unable to complete the reference prior to the deadline date, responsibility for requesting and collecting the reference will pass to the employer. You and/or your referees will be contacted directly by the employer if further references are required. There is no need for you or your referees to do anything until this contact is made.

Offers

All recruitment offices will be using the Oriel system to make offers to training posts in all specialties. You can download a copy of the Oriel Applicant Guide from the [Oriel Resource Bank](#).

Selecting Your Preferences

You will be asked to rank your preferences using the Oriel Recruitment System. You will receive an email when Preferencing opens. Please note that this may not take place until after the online interviews have taken place.

Once preferencing is open, it will remain open so you can change your preferences at any point in the process, including during and after the offers process.

For guidance on submitting your preferences please refer to the Medical Specialty Recruitment Applicant Handbook and the [Oriel Applicant User Guide](#) which can be downloaded from the [Oriel Resource Bank](#)

Receiving and Responding to Offers

The initial offers for Emergency Medicine are expected to be released by 5pm on Tuesday 15th April 2025. If this date changes we will contact eligible applicants via Oriel.

If you are offered a post you will have 48 hours from the time of your offer (excluding weekends but not bank holidays) to decide whether to accept, reject or hold it. You must respond to the offer through the Oriel system. No other form of response will be accepted.

For guidance on responding to offers, please refer to the Medical Specialty Recruitment Applicant Handbook and the [Oriel Applicant User Guide](#) which can be downloaded from the [Oriel Resource Bank](#)

Any offer made through this recruitment process is an offer of an allocation to a training programme; it is not an offer of employment. Offers of employment can only be by an employing organisation following completion of satisfactory pre-employment checks.

Withdrawing from the Recruitment Process

You may withdraw from the recruitment process at any time up until offers are released via your Oriel account. Once you have withdrawn your application it cannot be reinstated.

Once an offer has been accepted, applicants wishing to withdraw will need to contact the recruitment office directly.

You are reminded of the GMC's Good Medical Practice guidance which states: "*Patient safety may be affected if there is not enough medical cover. So you must take up any post you have formally accepted, and work your contractual notice period before leaving a job, unless the employer has reasonable time to make other arrangements.*"

Feedback

Feedback will be provided at the following stages of the recruitment process:

Longlisting

If you are not longlisted you will be provided with the reasons for this.

Self-Assessment Verification

Following the Self-Assessment Verification process, you will be sent a copy of your verified scores and any written feedback provided by the verifier.

Interview Ranking

You will be able to view your total interview score and rank online through their Oriel account once offers are released. Please note that a thorough Quality Assurance and

validation process is carried out on all applicants' scores following the interviews. No scores will be released until this process is complete.

Interview Scores

Following the conclusion of the offers process, you will be able to view a breakdown of your interview scores including a breakdown of the scores you achieved in each interview station online through your Oriel account. You will also receive an electronic copy of your interview scoresheets, including your scores and written feedback.

Evaluation of the Selection Process

Following the conclusion of the 2025 recruitment process, an evaluation of the recruitment process will be carried out. This will include an analysis of anonymised interview scores, appointment data and feedback from a number of groups involved in the process.

Feedback Surveys

Feedback about the recruitment process will be collected from the following groups:

- Applicants
- Interview Panel Members
- Lay Representatives

This feedback will be analysed and will help to inform changes and improvements to the recruitment process for 2026.

Privacy Notice

In order to manage and quality assure your training, NHS England needs to collect, store and process information about you. This is done in compliance with the **General Data Protection Regulation**. Among other matters, this requires that your data must be processed fairly and lawfully.

We will process data about you in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation, and will do so for three main purposes:

1. Processing your data during the recruitment process.
2. Processing of successful applicants' data by NHS England's local offices, Deaneries and Royal Colleges.
3. Use of recruitment data for evaluation, research and testing purposes

For more information about how we safeguard and process your data please see our [Privacy Notice](#).

Appeals, Complaints and Confidential Concerns

Appeals

With the exception of the [Self-Assessment](#) appeals process, it is not possible to appeal the scores you are awarded or the outcome of any part of the recruitment process. If you have

evidence that the published recruitment process has not been followed correctly, the Complaints Policy and Procedure should be followed.

Complaints

However hard we try to respond to the wishes and aspirations of the healthcare professionals accessing our recruitment services, we do recognise that, on occasion, our service may fall short of expectations.

The Complaints Policy and Procedure explains how you can make a complaint and how it will be handled. A copy of the Policy can be downloaded from the [Oriol Resource Bank](#). Complaints must be submitted using the Complaint Submission Form linked within the policy.

Confidential Concerns

If you have a concern that falls outside of the national complaints policy e.g. fraudulent submissions by other applicants you can confidentially email the MDRS Recruitment Team on england.mdrs.confidential@nhs.net. This address cannot be used as a way of raising a complaint and bypassing the process detailed in the complaints policy.

Appendix 1: Probity Panel Procedure

An applicant may be referred to a Probity Panel for a variety of reasons including when the veracity of the information contained an applicant's application form or documentation provided at interview is brought into question.

In the event of such an occurrence the applicant will be asked to explain in writing and provide copies of any supporting documentation upon which they will seek to rely. When a response is received, or in the absence of a response within the deadline, a Probity Panel will be convened. The panel will be made up of at least three people including a Postgraduate Dean or their representative and a medical workforce/HR professional.

The Probity Panel will decide whether or not the applicant should remain in the recruitment process. The panel will also recommend whether any further action should be taken which may include referral to the GMC.

Appendix 2: Useful Links

Online Recruitment Systems

System	Link
Oriel Recruitment System	https://www.oriel.nhs.uk/web/

NHSE Local Offices and Deanery Websites

Offices	Link
NHS England - East Midlands	https://www.eastmidlandsdeanery.nhs.uk/
NHS England - East of England	https://heeoee.hee.nhs.uk/
NHS England - Kent, Surrey and Sussex	https://www.kssdeanery.ac.uk/
NHS England - London	https://london.hee.nhs.uk/
NHS England - North East	https://madeinheene.hee.nhs.uk/
NHS England - North West	http://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/
Northern Ireland Medical & Dental Training Agency	http://www.nimdta.gov.uk/
Scottish Medical Training	http://www.scotmt.scot.nhs.uk/
NHS England - South West	http://www.severndeanery.nhs.uk/
	http://www.peninsuladeanery.nhs.uk/
NHS England - Thames Valley	http://www.oxforddeanery.nhs.uk/
Health Education and Improvement Wales	https://heiw.nhs.wales/
NHS England - Wessex	http://www.wessexdeanery.nhs.uk/
NHS England - West Midlands	http://www.westmidlandsdeanery.nhs.uk/
NHS England – Yorkshire and the Humber	http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/

- **Other Useful Organisations**

Organisation	Link
RCEM Curriculum	https://rcem.ac.uk/curriculum/
Royal College of Emergency Medicine	https://rcem.ac.uk/
General Medical Council	http://www.gmc-uk.org/
Medical Specialty Training	http://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk
NHS Employers	http://www.nhsemployers.org/
Health Education and Improvement Wales	https://heiw.nhs.wales/
Scottish Medical Training	http://www.scotmt.scot.nhs.uk/
UK Visas and Immigration	https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration