

The Royal College of Anaesthetists – Primary FRCA MCQ Examination

ON-LINE APPLICATION – INFORMATION SHEET

Completing your application and payment through exams On-Line Services (exams OLS)

- Eligibility:** The detailed rules for eligibility can be found in the College's **Examination Regulations** <http://www.rcoa.ac.uk/document-store/primary-and-final-frca-examinations-regulations> Applicants must read the regulations before completing applying for examinations on-line.
- Examination centres:** FRCA examinations are held in the UK only. The College makes every effort to meet candidate's preferences. However we are restricted by the number of spaces available at each centre. Early application will give a much higher chance of being given the centre requested. Written examinations are held in London, Sheffield, Manchester, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast and Birmingham. The College is unable to move candidates from one centre to another from ten working days before the examination, as numbers will be finalized with each centre.
- Number of attempts/validity:** The number of attempts allowed at the Primary MCQ is limited to six. A pass in the Primary MCQ is valid for three years as part eligibility towards the OSCE/SOE exam.
- Disclosure of Information:** Under the Data Protection Act 1998, the information provided on this form and your examination result may be processed and passed to examiners, your College Tutor, Postgraduate Dean, employer, etc. for legitimate purposes connected with your training. If you are registered or anticipate being registered with the GMC then your personal data, including data about your exam results, will be passed to the GMC for quality assurance and research purposes and to facilitate the awarding of certificates of completion of training (CCTs).
- Supporting Documents:** There is no requirement to submit supporting documents before applying for the Primary MCQ examinations through Exams OLS
- Working through the on-line application process:** The correct contact information is important, so that we are able to contact you at anytime during the examination process. Ensure you submit and update information appropriate to you. All applicants are requested to check the details held on the system and update them as required.
- Your confirmation:** By confirming the declaration you are confirming that you have the support of your CT or anaesthetic consultant to sit the exam you are applying for (see note 8).
- Your College Tutor or Consultant's signature is not required:** However Trainees/MTI (IP) applicants will need to have discussed their application with their College Tutor and have their full support to sit this exam. Non- trainees are required to obtain the support of their supervising anaesthetic consultant. You will now declare that you have done this when confirming the declaration.
- Adequately prepared for this exam:** Applications received by the College will be accepted as an indication that you are adequately prepared for the examination applied for.
- Examination fee:** The examination fee is set out on the examinations calendar. The cost of the Primary MCQ for 2015 – 2016 is **£320**.
- Confirming receipt:** You will receive an email to notify you when your eligibility has been checked and when payment has been processed by PayPal. If you have not received confirmation within five working days or if you apply on-line close to the closing date and are concerned that your application has been accepted then do call the exams dept 020 7092 1528/9 exams@rcoa.ac.uk
- Waiting lists:** There are no waiting lists for Primary FRCA MCQ examinations.
- Before the closing date:** You can withdraw before the closing date and receive a refund less a small admin charge. You must advise the examination dept of your intention to withdraw via email to exams@rcoa.ac.uk.
After the closing date: You can withdraw after the closing date. This will not count as an attempt. Refunds are not *normally* given after the closing date unless it is a reason beyond your control such as illness or family bereavement. If this is the case then you must contact the exams dept exams@rcoa.ac.uk give the reason and ask your College Tutor to confirm that they support your withdrawal, again by email. Refunds are not given for lack of preparation.

14. **Admission notice:** You should receive An email from the College which confirms you are booked onto the exam; your **Admission notice, around 5 working days after the closing date.** This will state your 'candidate number' a three figure number that is unique to you for this exam only, the timing of your exam, and your exam venue (exam venue details are available on the College website. Please print out your Admission notice and bring it with you when you attend the exam. You will be directed to your exam desk by the use of your 'candidate number'.
- 15.. **Results:** You will be given a date and time on which a pass/fail list will be published on the College website. This will be posted on the Primary MCQ – Results and Statistics page: <http://www.rcoa.ac.uk/primary-frca-mcq/results-and-statistics>
- A few days after the pass/fail list is published the College will send you your results letter which will confirm your result and provide a further breakdown of your performance. see Appendix 10 of the examinations regulations for further advice on the feedback supplied to exam candidates.
16. **Guidance:** Guidance interviews are not provided following an unsuccessful attempt at the Primary MCQ..