



RCPSG Postgraduate Diploma in Travel Medicine

Frequently Asked Questions

Note – This document will be regularly updated as we respond to questions so please refer to our website and download the most up-to-date version. If you have other questions please email PGDipTravelMed@rcpsg.ac.uk and we will respond to you and add to this document as relevant.

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Q: What time commitment will I need to commit to the course?

A: The Diploma complies with university requirements for a postgraduate level diploma in accordance with QAA and SCQF frameworks. The full course comprises 120 credits, built up over eight modules each with 15 credits.

Under QAA and SCQF frameworks each credit is equivalent to ten hours of learning for the average learner. This learning will comprise taught components (on the residential courses, the live tutorial sessions and the online learning) and self-directed study and research throughout the course. Credit points provide the associated measure for describing the volume of outcomes, and the actual time each learner spends will vary depending on their style of study and previous knowledge.

As a guide, each 15-credit module therefore equates to approximately 150 hours of study (a combination of self-directed study and attendance at lectures/seminars), and will be covered in a period of two months.

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Q: Which parts of the learning will require me to attend a live session?

A: There are three types of activity that will require attendance – the residential learning components of the course, the live (online) tutorial sessions and the final course assessments, which are expected to be online.

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Q: When and where are the residential components taking place?

A: The **first residential (online) component** of the course will run from Monday 31 January 2022 to Friday 4 February 2022 and you will be required to attend the course online. It will run daily from approximately 9am (BST) to 5pm (BST).

The **second residential component** of the course is planned to run from Monday 17 October 2022 to Friday 21 October 2022.

Given the uncertainties around travel that currently exist, it will be possible for delegates to choose to join the residential remotely using a blended learning approach. We highly

recommend face-to-face attendance for the best learning experience. We cannot guarantee



some of the interactive sessions will be open to remote participation. In this situation pre-recorded materials would be made available as an alternative.

Delegates will be assumed to attend in person unless an application is made in writing to attend using the blended learning approach. Those unable to attend in person will be asked to confirm this by a deadline date in April 2022. This will allow the College to ensure that delegates can access appropriate information and support. If delegates do not advise by the deadline date, it is possible that blended learning materials will not be created and you may miss vital learning, although we will endeavour to take into account changing travel guidance on an individual basis.

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Q: When are the live online sessions taking place?

A: There will be two online live sessions for each of the eight modules. These sessions will take place in the evenings and will run for 90 minutes – 2 hours. The dates and times will be confirmed prior to the start of each module and the sessions are expected to start at 6pm BST/GMT. You will be given as much notice as possible for these sessions and are expected to attend these. If you are not able to attend an individual session you will be asked to evidence work related to the session to the tutor as part of the course. These sessions cover essential information and are therefore compulsory. Individuals who do not attend these will miss out on crucial knowledge and may be disadvantaged in assessments.

During the weeks of 10 and 17 July 2023, participants will be required to attend online assessments, including evidencing practical skills in an OSCE (Objective Structured Clinical Examination). Dates and times of these sessions will be provided well in advance.

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Q: Will all of the sessions take place based on the UK time zone?

A: Yes, the course will be delivered from the UK, and sessions will be timed accordingly. You should build this into your planning if you are not within the UK.

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Q: How will I be assessed on the course?

A: There will be a variety of assessment methods used in each module of this course. This includes (but is not limited to) written assessments, presentations, OSCEs and case studies. As a guide, a single module may include written assessments totalling 3,000 words.

Q: What if I fail any of my assessments?

A: Each candidate will be given clear feedback for all submitted assessments, to help them achieve any re-sit they may have. Only two opportunities will be given to achieve any of the course assessments. However, if another attempt is necessary, a third attempt may be awarded by the Academic Panel, but only in extenuating circumstances. In other cases,



students may be required to complete the full module again.

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Q: What happens if I need to leave the course before completing it?

A: Each candidate will be fully supported throughout their studies to help them achieve the full award offered. However, life circumstances may intervene so each candidate will be assessed on an individual basis, and may therefore be possible for some candidates to defer until the next cohort.

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Q: What support will be available from tutors?

A: The course will be led by a Clinical Lead, who will be responsible for overseeing the full course. You will also have the support from individual Module Leads, for each of the 8 modules. These tutors will support you throughout your learning and you will be able to make contact with them if you have any concerns about your study. The College also provides appropriate administrative support and an Academic Lead to oversee the quality assurance aspects of the course.

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Q: When is the course fee due?

A: The total course fee is £4,395 with payment due on acceptance of application. A payment plan option may be considered. We will request a deposit of £450 to secure your place on the course, with the remaining fees being collected in two stages, one prior to the course commencing, and one in the Summer of 2022

The course fees include Affiliate Membership of the Faculty of Travel Medicine, and access to TRAVAX for the duration of the course. You are required to make your own travel and accommodation arrangements for the second residential and the College will provide accommodation recommendations.

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Q: What if I don't have the academic graduate entry criteria?

A: Each application will be assessed on an individual basis and those with relevant professional qualifications and appropriate travel medicine experience may be offered the opportunity to undertake an entrance assessment. This is designed to evidence academic ability at postgraduate Masters level. Applicants will be guided by the Course Lead on this.

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Q: What if I do not achieve the required level for this assessment?

A: The College may offer you an alternative condition, and may direct you to a lower level of study in preparation for continuing to Masters level in the future.

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