



FRCS Ophthalmology – Part 3

Frequently Asked Questions

Answers to frequently-asked questions regarding the online Part 3 examination are given below. We hope this information will provide the details you require. The Regulations for the examination are available on our website at www.rcpsg.ac.uk

Applying for the Exam

1. [What is the format of the online examination?](#)
2. [When will the examinations take place?](#)
3. [How are places allocated?](#)
4. [How do I apply for a place?](#)
5. [What is the examination fee?](#)

Preparing for the Exams

6. [Where can I sit the exam?](#)
7. [What technical equipment will I require?](#)
8. [Will I get a chance to test the system?](#)
9. [Where will I find the syllabus?](#)
10. [How do I complete and submit the clinical videos?](#)

Taking the Exam

11. [What time should I log in to the exam?](#)
12. [What ID will I need?](#)
13. [What am I allowed to bring into the examination room?](#)
14. [What happens if I am disturbed by someone during the exam?](#)
15. [Can I ask questions of the proctor \(invigilator\) during the exam?](#)
16. [What will the online proctor \(or invigilator\) do during the exam?](#)
17. [What if I experience problems during the exam?](#)

Results

18. [When can I expect to receive my results?](#)

Further Information

We will continue to provide information over the coming weeks and you will receive guidance on completing the video recordings. We will ensure that you have all the information you require in the weeks leading to the exam.

FRCS Part 3: frcs3@rcpsg.ac.uk



Applying for the Exam

1. What is the format of the online examination?

The examination syllabus and standards have not changed; however, the format of the clinical examination has been altered to enable online delivery.

The online exam (structured orals and four clinical stations) will be delivered via Microsoft Teams. In addition, candidates will need to submit two videos;

- One recording of the candidate demonstrating a visual fields assessment of a patient or subject
- One recording of the candidate demonstrating a neurology assessment of a patient or subject

Further details and candidate guidance documents will be published shortly on the College website. This will include full details of the online format, equipment requirements and guidance on the candidate submitted videos section.

2. When will the examinations take place?

We are beginning to deliver the examination online. Dates will be published on our website as soon as they are confirmed. We will be unable to confirm any dates prior to publication on our website.

3. How are places allocated?

The first online diets are only open to candidates whose examination place was cancelled for Malta in March 2020. Priority for subsequent diets will be given to those who had a confirmed place on the cancelled diets from Amman in March 2020 and Glasgow in June 2020. Only once these candidates have been accommodated will the application process open to other candidates.

4. How do I apply for a place?

Candidates who had a place cancelled in Malta, Amman or Glasgow 2020 will be contacted directly to advise when places are available and how they will be allocated. Information on the application process for other candidates will be published on the website when examination dates are made available.

5. What is the examination fee?

The fee for the Part 3 examination will be £1,435.



Preparing for the Exams

6. Where can I sit the exam?

It is up to each candidate to identify a suitable location to sit the exam. This could be at home, at a work place or at another location; however, you must be alone in the room. It is important that the venue you choose is:

- Quiet;
- One in which you will not be disturbed during the whole period of the exam;
- Comfortable and well lit; and
- One with good, reliable WiFi.

7. What technical equipment will I require?

In order to sit the examination remotely, candidates will need a computer or laptop with a camera and microphone, along with a stable internet connection. We do not recommend that you use a hot spot.

You will also need have a Microsoft Account that connects to MS Teams

8. Will I get a chance to test the system?

Yes – we will provide guidance which will allow you to view the system and how it works. You will also have a chance to test your equipment prior to the exam.

9. Where will I find the syllabus?

This information is available in the Regulations on our website.

10. How do I complete and submit the clinical videos?

Further details and candidate guidance documents regarding the completion and submission of candidate videos will be published shortly on the College website. Candidates will not require access to specialist equipment to record their videos.

Taking the Exam

11. What time should I log in to the exam?

Candidates are advised to log in to your exam around 20 minutes before their scheduled start time. Candidates must be on time for your exam as they may not be admitted after the scheduled start time.



12. What ID will I need?

Candidates must bring photographic ID to each examination. This must be an official document, such as a current passport or driver's licence that includes the candidate's name, signature and photograph. The proctor will check your identification at the start of your exam.

If your photographic ID is not in English, or the name on your ID does not match that on your PMQ, you will need to contact the College for further information.

13. What am I allowed to bring into the examination room?

Candidates may bring a small transparent bottle of water into the Examination. This must remain on the exam table at all times. Mobile phones, smartwatches and other electronic devices are not allowed in the exam room with you.

14. What happens if I am disturbed by someone during the exam?

The proctor will note any disturbances during the exam and may ask candidates to confirm what has occurred. Candidates may be asked to re-confirm that they are alone in the room. The proctor may refer any incident for further investigation/adjudication if malpractice is suspected.

15. Can I ask questions of the proctor (invigilator) during the exam?

Candidates should only speak to the invigilator if problems arise in their exam environment during the exam. The invigilators will not be able to comment on any questions in the exam.

16. What will the online proctor (or invigilator) do during the exam?

The online proctor will have the same duties as an invigilator in the exam hall. They are there to ensure that candidates start the exam at the correct time, know how much time remains, assist them with any issues during the paper and to ensure that the exam environment is secure. They will do this via webcam rather than being there face-to-face.

17. What if I experience problems during the exam?

The online proctor will be on hand to deal with any issues you may experience during the exam



Results

18. When can I expect to receive my results?

Result will be published no later than 8 weeks after the exam. Candidates will be advised by e-mail prior to the examination of the exact date of publication.

Further Information

We will continue to provide information over the coming weeks and you will receive guidance on completing the video recordings. We will ensure that you have all the information you require in the weeks leading to the exam.

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