



Professional Registration Exam (PRE)

Rules of Conduct

RCSI DEVELOPING HEALTHCARE LEADERS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE WORLDWIDE

NPIP Professional Registration Exam (PRE) Rules of Conduct

In order to register for the PRE you need to confirm that you have read, understood and will comply with this document. This document is specific to the next available sitting of the PRE. A version of this document must be signed for each individual sitting of the PRE.

Instructions for RCSI Interns Completing the PRE for the First Time:

RCSI Interns, completing the PRE for the first time, will be required to complete a questionnaire on the VLE. Completion of the VLE questionnaire is understood by RCSI as confirmation that you have read, understand and will comply with the conditions set out in this document (Professional Registration Examination (PRE) Rules of Conduct). Instructions on this process will be provided by the Programme Coordinator and will accompany this document.

Instructions for All Other Candidates:

All other examination candidates will be required to complete and sign where indicated below. Your signature will be understood by RCSI as confirmation that you have read, understand and will comply with the conditions set out in this document (Professional Registration Examination (PRE) Rules of Conduct). Instructions for returning this document will be provided and will accompany this document.

Name:	
Signature:	
Date:	

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These are the Rules of Conduct of the Professional Registration Examination (PRE) which is provided by the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland (RCSI) on behalf of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (PSI) (see General Issues in the Administration of the PRE, hereinafter GI (PRE) for the purposes of this document only).

1. PRE Schedule

The PRE consists of two parts, Part 1 and Part 2. Part 1 comprises of a Pharmaceutical Calculations MCQ and Part 2 consists of an 18-station OSCE.

For the purposes of the PRE, candidates are randomly assigned into groups (A, B, C etc.). The running order for the OSCE segment and the written exam (MCQ) will be determined by the group that you are assigned to. Details relating to your assigned group and your groups schedule will be circulated approximately prior to the examination in a separate logistics document. As you have been randomly assigned to your group, requests to change group cannot and will not be considered. Once you receive your logistics document you will need to take note of the venue where registration takes place for your group.

Details supplied in the logistics document:

- Registration Time
- Registration Venue
- MCQ start and finish time
- MCQ Venue
- OSCE start and finish time
- OSCE Venue
- Directional Map of RCSI

2. Admission and Registration

- **All candidates are required to report to their designated registration venue at the time stated in the logistics document.**
- Please note, you will not be able to register anywhere other than your designated registration venue. If you arrive late for registration you will not be permitted to sit the exam.
- Your RCSI Identification Card/Form of Identification **must** be presented for admission into your assigned Registration Room.
- Candidates who are not students of the RCSI and who are not in possession of an RCSI student card must present a credible form of identification (e.g. passport or drivers licence) for admission into the assigned Registration Room. If you are in doubt as to whether your form of identification is appropriate please contact mp Pharm@rcsi.ie in advance of the examination.
- Upon registration you will receive both a **colour-coded OSCE circuit label** to be worn on your person throughout the OSCE, and a **sheaf of labels** containing your examination number, to be used at each OSCE station as well as to label any electronics you may have in your possession.

3. Personal Belongings

- Students are not permitted the following items at any time while in the Registration Room:
 - Laptops;
 - Mobile phones;
 - Personal data assistants;
 - Music listening devices;
 - Electronic watches/timepieces;
 - Any other electronic equipment of any nature;
 - Any other device that can make a connection to the internet.

- Please do not bring the above items with you. Students arriving to the Registration Room with these devices must declare them and hand them to an invigilator.
- Second mobile phones must also be submitted.
- Any student found in possession of these devices will be automatically disqualified from the examination.
- Students are permitted a non-programmable calculator, which may be used for Part 1 of the PRE only. Calculators, if required for the OSCE, will be supplied.
- All personal belongings brought to the Registration Room must be left in the care of the Invigilator in the Registration Room while you are attending the MCQ or your OSCE rotation. These include:
 - Books;
 - Wallets;
 - Purses;
 - Passports;
 - Personal identification;
 - Hand-bags or briefcases;
 - Paper items;
 - Coats and outerwear;
 - All pocket contents.
- You are strongly advised not to bring any electronic items on the day of the exam, with the sole exception of a non-programmable calculator.
- Avoid bringing valuables to the examination, as RCSI will **NOT** assume responsibility for loss or damage.

4. Dress Code

Candidates are expected to dress in a professional manner. Please **do not wear strongly scented cosmetics/perfumes/aftershave**s as some individuals are very allergic to such substances.

5. Rules of the Registration Area

- Students cannot leave the holding area unsupervised by an invigilator. Students must be supervised by an invigilator if leaving the holding area to go to the bathroom.
- Students are permitted to bring paper notes and books into the holding area. These items are not permitted into the examination. Again laptops, electronic notebooks, tablets or e-readers will not be permitted at any time.
- Under no circumstances are students permitted to make contact with any other person outside of the holding area on the day of the examination. Students who attempt to do so will be disqualified from the examination process
- Ensure you have everything you require with you before you register on the morning of the exam. Students will not be permitted to return home to collect forgotten items.
- You will be based at the examination site for the day. Therefore all Interns are encouraged to eat well before arriving for the PRE.
- Food will **NOT** be supplied and will **NOT** be available for purchase on the day of the PRE. Therefore, students must bring their own food and beverages with them to the Registration Room.
- Food may be consumed while in the Registration Room during the designated break (held also within the Registration Room), but cannot be consumed in Examination Areas.
- If you must take any medication while at the examination site, bring it with you and show it to the examination staff at registration. Any packaging, inserts or related written material must be left at home or handed in to examination staff.

6. Examination Process

6.1. Before Starting the Examination

- You will receive a brief orientation to the examination procedures and schedule. Questions regarding possible examination content or appropriateness of responses will **NOT** be answered at this time.
- You will be allowed time to use the washroom facilities before the examination begins.
- It is inevitable that some cohorts of interns will have to wait longer than others before starting the examination and those in this position will be required to remain in a designated venue to ensure integrity of the examination. Please do not contact/e-mail RCSI with complaints in this regard as we will not, regrettably, be in a position to respond.

6.2 During the Examination

- From the time you enter an Examination Area until you leave you **MUST NOT** converse or communicate with other candidates in any manner. You **MUST NOT** speak or read out loud except when interacting with Standardised Patients or examination personnel. Violation of this rule may result in not being permitted to finish the examination and the cancellation of your standing in the session.
- You may converse with examination personnel as required, in a discrete and confidential manner.
- Each OSCE station lasts for 5 minutes. Stations are electronically timed and a 30-second signal warning is sounded prior to the end of each station. Candidates must start at the assigned circuit as defined by their **colour-coded OSCE circuit label** and follow the numerical sequence, candidates will have 1 minute to get to their next station, and must stand with their back to the station.
- As the duration of the OSCE segment of the PRE is 130 minutes, there will be three rest stations. During this time you may request permission to use the washroom facilities, accompanied/supervised by an examination staff member. Water will be provided in the rest stations.

6.3 Candidate Materials

- **MCQ**
 - During the MCQ component of the PRE, approved models of calculator are allowed in the Examination Area.
 - Pencils and rough work paper will be supplied.
- **OSCE**
 - All materials essential for the OSCE component of the PRE will be supplied to you in the OSCE stations.
 - You may **ONLY** use the references and examination materials which are provided in the OSCE stations.
 - No other materials may be used at any time while in the OSCE Examination Area.
 - Do **NOT** mark or deface any of the references or examination materials. Candidates who mark or deface the references or examination materials in any manner will be charged for the cost of replacement.
 - You may only write on supplied answer sheets which will be provided in the relevant stations.
 - Where appropriate rough work sheets will be supplied. They are clearly marked as such, and will not be awarded marks.

Note:

Any materials that may compromise the administration or security of the examination that were not left in the Registration Room will be confiscated and the candidate in possession of such items may not be permitted to proceed with the examination. Confiscated items will be sent to the Student, Academic & Regulatory Affairs Office (SARA) for inspection together with a report of the incident and will be kept until any inspection or investigation is completed.

7. At the End of the Examination

You must:

- Retrieve any personal belongings.
- Leave only when you are officially instructed to leave by the RCSI staff or invigilators.
- Continue to observe all procedures and Rules of Conduct until you leave the examination site.

8. Compensation and Results

8.1. Compensation

In order to pass the examination, candidates presenting for the PRE must have passed Part 1 and Part 2 independently of each other. There is no provision in place for candidates sitting the PRE to pass by compensation between Parts 1 and 2.

8.2. Results

The results of the PRE will be announced via personal email on the date stipulated in the circulated PRE Logistics document.

- Results for NPIP candidates will be announced via personal email by the RCSI Student, Academic and Regulatory Affairs office.
- Results for TCQR candidates will be announced directly by the PSI.

Note:

Successful candidates of the Pre-Registration Examination (PRE) will only be eligible for registration with the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland after conferring. Conferring ceremonies are held twice a year in June and November. Candidates may opt to be conferred in absentia if desired.

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RESEARCH LEADERSHIP POSTGRADUATE STUDIES SPORTS & EXERCISE MEDICINE DENTISTRY RADIOLOGY**