



## **Accelerated progression of Dental specialty training and bringing forward Completion of Training (CCST) date**

### **Background**

While specialty curricula have indicative durations, some Dental specialty trainees could progress to completion in a shorter time than indicated, due to acquisition of competencies during their programme ahead of that determined by the curriculum. The approach of tailoring programme duration to the individual is in keeping with the role of the statutory education bodies (SEBs) to deliver an effective and highly trained workforce for the NHS.

This document outlines the principles for reducing training time through accelerated progress based on individual circumstance.

Transition through a specialty curriculum will be determined by demonstration of competencies against relevant curriculum requirements and will be managed through the current ARCP process.

### **Guidance**

1. The recommendation for a trainee to bring forward their CCST date will *normally* be at their penultimate scheduled ARCP prior to their agreed CCST date. The decision rests with the Postgraduate Dean advised by the ARCP panel.
2. There will be occasions when a trainee progresses more rapidly than the expected rate of progress and in such cases the award of a Review of Competence Progression (RCP) Outcome 6 can be brought forwards. However, this can only occur if:
  - a. the trainee has gained all the relevant competencies (workplace-based assessments and generic curriculum) required in the curriculum.
  - b. The trainee has completed all the necessary summative assessments.
3. Early achievement of the CCST needs to be planned via the ARCP process and would not normally be advanced by more than one year. Minimum training times of 3 years whole time equivalent exist for Oral Surgery and Orthodontics.
4. Acceleration of training and change to a programme completion date will be based on evidenced current clinical capability and speed of progression to guide a learning needs assessment and estimation of the time needed to achieve the remaining curriculum competencies.
5. Acceleration of training due to previous experience prior to entering specialty training will be assessed by the APEL process. Rapid progression will only be assessed within 12 months of a CCST date. It is recognised that professional maturity and dealing with uncertainty are sometimes difficult to assess and that educators may err on the side of caution to ensure patient and practitioner safety.



A reduction in training time will not be agreed if there are unresolved concerns about capability or conduct, including progression in specialty examinations or assessments required by the curriculum.

6. Change to a programme completion date does not remove the need to meet contractual requirements with an employer or placement provider, including notice periods.

## Process

1. The decision to bring forward a CCT date will *normally* be at the penultimate ARCP. Applications after this time will not normally be considered on the basis that the penultimate ARCP would be able to identify outstanding competencies and judge the amount of time required. In programmes where there are discrete curriculum stages, ARCP panels may consider exceptional progression to the next stage earlier in the programme.
2. The application to accelerate training should be agreed by the Educational Supervisor and Dental specialty trainee and communicated to the Training Programme Director prior to the ARCP date. The Dental specialty trainee must ensure that there is demonstrable curriculum sign off, supported by appropriate evidence, to support such an application.
3. The Educational Supervisor will provide a statement of support to the ARCP panel if they agree that a change in programme end date is appropriate.
4. The ARCP panel will assess the information provided and determine whether sufficient evidence exists to reduce the overall training time required.
5. There is no appeal process for this decision, however it is expected that an ARCP panel rejecting an application will provide clear reasons for their decision.
6. The reduction in training time will be a minimum of a single placement within the programme, or 6 months (whichever is shorter).
7. The maximum reduction in programme duration rests with the ARCP panel and would not normally be in excess of 1 year unless exceptional circumstances apply.
8. Where the ARCP panel supports the request, they will write to the Postgraduate Dean to seek approval for a change to the CCST date and to define the next training year that will be entered. The final decision rests with the Postgraduate Dean.
9. Once agreed, any additional training time required will be provided as an extension as defined by Dental Gold Guide paragraph 5.32.



## Acceleration of Training (Fast-Tracking) - Notification form

A period of 6 months' notice is required to accelerate training.

Please complete this form with your Educational Supervisor and forward on to your TPD.

<i>Name:</i>	
<i>GDC No:</i>	
<i>Email Address:</i>	
<i>Current Level of Training:</i>	
<i>Last ARCP Outcome: (Date and Outcome)</i>	
<i>Training reviewed with ES with brief summary of discussion:</i>	
<i>Trainee Signature:</i>	<i>Date:</i>
<i>ES Name:</i>	<i>Date:</i>
<i>Signature:</i>	
<i>Programme TPD Name Programme TPD emailed:</i>	<i>Date:</i>

*\*Please note that CCST dates cannot be officially changed except at ARCP. The ARCP panel will review your e-portfolio and the evidence presented to fast track. If the panel agrees with the evidence, they will change your CCST date.*

### Trainees Only

By signing this form I confirm I have discussed the implications of fast tracking with my ES/TPD and understand that, if approved and training progresses appropriately, my training will finish early.