Broad Based Training – Frequently Asked Questions

Why do this programme?
A lot of doctors entering their specialty training programme straight after Foundation will have a limited experience of other specialties that deliver care to patients. The specialties in this programme (Acute Medicine, Psychiatry, Paediatrics and General Practice) have identified this need and designed the Broad Based programme to address it and thus, will help develop a generation of postgraduate doctors who have had significant experience as a doctor in a number of specialties in different health-care settings. The latter feature is becoming more important with changes to health care provision where less is delivered in acute hospitals and more in community settings.

The programme has been developed to provide you with the opportunity of experiencing a number of specialties before having to decide on the specialty in which you wish to train. Feedback from the Foundation Programme has demonstrated that a significant number of trainees coming to the end of their two years remain unsure in which specialty they wish to continue. Furthermore, a significant number of trainees start a specialty training programme but then wish to change track or try to continue in a specialty that does not suit them.

A decision to apply for this programme should be a positive wish to experience in more depth the four specialties that make up the Broad Based Programme in order to broaden your overall understanding of modern health care; you may or may not have decided your future specialty. It is not aimed to meet your needs if you have failed to get into your first choice specialty programme.

What are the entry requirements?
Entry to the programme will be for those successfully completing a Foundation Programme or equivalent and you will need to apply via the Oriel Recruitment System. Applicants should note that, although they do not have to apply to GP to apply for BBT, they must successfully complete all stages of the BBT and GP recruitment processes to be offered a BBT post. More information can be found on the GP recruitment website: http://gprecruitment.hee.nhs.uk/. Appointment to the BBT programme will then provide you with experience of both the separate specialties but more importantly begin to see how integration between the various sectors of healthcare can promote better outcomes for patients.

What sort of posts will I undertake?
Each of the placements is at the level of first year specialty training as each of the placements is in a new specialty. You will have the normal increment in pay at the end of the first year. Your educational supervisor will be appointed for your first placement and will usually be the same person throughout the two years. You will have a clinical supervisor for each post. You will participate in the
on-call rota of the departments in which you are working. You will also be encouraged to gain experience in at least one of the other component parts of the BBT programme during any particular placement e.g. experience of acute medicine for part of your GP attachment in an effort to follow patients through a specific healthcare pathway.

Every effort will be made to arrange all four placements in the same health community, i.e. the acute trust, its associated mental health trust and a GP placement which refers to both.

More detailed job descriptions will be available from the LETB. It is important to recognise some Medical Trusts and Psychiatric Trusts are based around a series of sites.

**Which post should I do first?**
If you already know which specialty you wish to work in then you are strongly advised to ask for that placement first. However it is important to recognise that this may not be possible if all the successful applicants wish to do Medicine as their chosen career for example. By doing your preferred speciality post first you are likely to have an Education Supervisor appointed from that speciality. If as mentioned above this is not possible your Educational Supervisor will be in close communication with other supervisors in the BBT programme and can access and provide you with relevant career guidance and advice.

All BBT trainees will have an ePortfolio using PRISM which has been built for this programme.

As you will be moving seamlessly into a specialty training programme in your chosen specialty the LETB will need to match the placements on this programme with ST1 vacancies. The number of placements in each specialty will therefore be fixed and the LETB will allocate your placements. It remains very likely that a specific LETB will be able to accommodate trainees in the specialty of their choice.

**What if I change my mind?**
Everyone who enters the programme will experience a placement in all four specialties and it is accepted that some programme members will decide to change their training pathway during the programme. If you decide you wish to leave the programme without completing all placements you will have to apply for specialty training at ST1 level through the usual channels.

**How will my education programme be organised?**
Your main learning will be work-based, and experiential, as you have already experienced during your Foundation Programme. There will be both formal and informal work based teaching in each specialty setting and you will participate in the on call programme for your department. There will also be, throughout the 2 years, a programme of core study in which the whole BBT programme cohort will
work together. This will be organised by the Training Programme Director and you will have the opportunity to have some input as to the content and to provide feedback. Each placement will have its own workplace-based assessment as decided by the respective Royal College; this includes an appropriate ARCP process organised by the LETB.

**Is there a curriculum for this programme?**
A curriculum has been developed by the four component colleges of the programme and this has been approved by the GMC. It is made up of five main sections; a common core programme based on the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges core competences, and specialty specific elements from each of the colleges. The latter are based on the specialty curricula.

The curriculum can be accessed on [https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/bbt](https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/bbt)

**How can I access careers advice?**
The LETB has a comprehensive careers service and this should be your first port of call via their website. It may also be helpful to discuss your plans with your educational and/or clinical supervisors as you pass through the programme. You will also be able to get help from the specialty of the college concerned – your programme director or LETB office can help point you in the right direction.

**When should I apply for specialty training?**
On successful completion of the BBT programme you will be able to move to your chosen specialty programme within your LETB. This means that trainees will advance to the equivalent of second year training in any of the specialties.

For the aspiring physician this will mean a further single year of training during which full Membership of the Royal Colleges of Physicians must be attained to allow the trainee to apply for an ST3 post in one of the medical specialties.

For each of the other specialties progression to CCT will be simply dependent on satisfactory progress through the specialty training years including passing the relevant specialty examinations.

All trainees will have to take the postgraduate examinations relevant to their future career as they progress in their training and should bear this in mind as they progress in the Broad Based Programme. None of these examinations are, however a mandatory part of completion of the BBT programme.
Will there be a contract for the whole programme?

There will be a single contract of employment in KSS for the two years held by the Acute Medical Trust. Rates of pay, terms and conditions and the procedures for appeals and disputes will be agreed nationally and administered through the host Trust on behalf of the LETB.