



RCSI SURGICAL
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Core Surgical Training Intake Report 2020 - 2024

Surgical Affairs					
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About this report

This report provides a high-level overview of candidates applying and appointed to Core Surgical Training each year.

The report is to help those with an interest in surgery to understand, promote and highlight the basic demographics of those who have applied and been appointed to Core Surgical Training (CST). The data is based on information provided at the time of application and presented at a point in time.

This report is updated each year with the most recent information and is subject to change based on policy changes and review as per the HSE/NDTP and the Irish Postgraduate Training Committee of RCSI (ISPTC).

Table 1 SUMMARY OF CST INTAKE NUMBER BY YEAR

CST INTAKE APPLICATIONS BY YEAR	
2017	111
2018	110
2019	120
2020	162
2021	250
2022	286
2023	263
2024	304

Table 2 SUMMARY OF CST INTAKE

CST Intake	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Applicants	162	250	286	263	304
Shortlisted	135	232	244	229	217
Ineligible / Not Shortlisted	27	18	42	34	84
Interviewed	130	212	228	215	200
First-round offers	60	80	79	80	79
Withdrew	4	0	16	14	2
Did not attend an interview	1	18	0	0	17
Commencing from previous intake (illness, mat leave)	0	0	1	0	1
Below the desired quality standard	0	142	138	122	123
Accepted First round Offers	59	77	77	76	77
Accepted Second & Third round offers	1	3	4*	4	2

* One additional place offered, for 2022 intake only, to accommodate work/ life balance.

Table 3 GENDER DEMOGRAPHICS

GENDER DIVERSITY SPREAD 2013-2022				
	CST APPLICATIONS		CST APPOINTMENTS	
	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE
2013	65%	35%	64%	36%
2014	60%	40%	54%	46%
2015	66%	34%	62%	38%
2016	70%	30%	66%	34%
2017	72%	28%	75%	27%
2018	59%	41%	65%	35%
2019	60%	40%	59.9%	40.1%
2020	52%	48%	56.7%	43.3%
2021	59%	41%	53.7%	46.3%
2022	61.25%	38.75%	60.5%	39.5%
2023	58.94%	41.06%	52.5%	47.5%
2024*	60.2%	39.4%	57%	43%

*0.4% other

Table 4 GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF APPLICATIONS

Country	2020 Applied	2020 Offers	2021 Applied	2021 Offers	2022 Applied	2022 Offers	2023 Applied	2023 Offers
Ireland	106	56	125	67	142	60	131	62
Belguim	1				1			
Canada	4	1	13	2	11	2	8	1
Malaysia	5		12	4	24	1	16	3
Sudan	3		12		17	1	23	1
Saudi Arabia	2		8		4	1	6	
India	3		6		2	1	2	
Trinidad and Tobago	2		5	1	7	1	3	2
Indonesia	1				0			
Italy			5		2		3	
United Kingdom	4	1	5	1	8	2	5	2
Nigeria	4		4		4	1	6	
Pakistan	2		4		15	1	11	1
Spain	5		3		1		1	
Hong Kong	1		3	1	3		2	1
Jordan	3		3	1	1		1	
Egypt			2		5	1	1	
United States			2		4	1	5	
Greece	4	1	2		0			
Portugal	1		2		2		3	1
Latvia	1	1	1		0			
Palestine, State of			1		0			
France			1	1	0		1	1
Iran	1		1		0			
Romania	2				0		2	
Slovenia	2				0			
South Africa			1		4	1	9	1
Lebanon			1		1	1		
Singapore	1		1		2		3	1
Guatemala			1		0			
Iraq	4		1		4	2	1	
Cyprus			1	1	0			

Syrian Arab Republic			1		0			
Oman			1		1		1	
Japan			1	1	0			
Czech Republic			1		3	1		
Bulgaria					2		1	
Korea, Republic of			1		3			
Germany					1			
Poland					1		3	
Maldives					1		1	
Malta					1			
Netherlands					3		3	2
Turkey					1		1	
Ukraine					1			
Zambia					1			
Lithuania					1		1	
Australia					2	1	1	
Bahrain					2	1	1	
Brazil							2	
Albania							1	
Denmark							1	1
Myanmar							1	
Nepal							1	
Zimbabwe							1	
Total	162	60	232	80	286	81	263	80

Table 4 GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF APPLICATIONS CONTINUED

Country	2024 Applied	2024 Offers						
Ireland	135	57						
Belguim								
Canada	11	3						
Malaysia	15	4						
Sudan	30	3						
Saudi Arabia	8							
India	6	2						
Trinidad and Tobago	4	2						
Indonesia								
Italy	1							
United Kingdom	6							
Nigeria	4							
Pakistan	30	2						
Spain	1							
Hong Kong	0							
Jordan	2							
Egypt	2							
United States	4	1						
Greece								
Portugal	1							
Latvia	1	1						
Palestine, State of								
France	2							
Iran								
Romania	1							
Slovenia								
South Africa	8	3						
Lebanon	1							
Singapore	6							
Guatemala								
Iraq	2							
Cyprus	2							

Croatia	1							
Sweden	1							
Syrian Arab Republic	2							
Oman	2							
Japan	1							
Czech Republic								
Bulgaria								
Korea, Republic of								
Germany	1							
Poland	2							
Maldives	1							
Malta								
Netherlands	1							
Turkey	1							
Ukraine								
Zambia								
Lithuania								
Australia	2							
Bahrain								
Brazil	2	1						
Albania	1							
Denmark	0							
Myanmar	1							
Nepal	1							
Zimbabwe	1							
Total	304	79						

Table 5 AGE PROFILE

	Application	Offer
MEAN AGE 2018	28.4	27.0
MEAN AGE 2019	28.2	27.7
MEAN AGE 2020	27.0	27.0
MEAN AGE 2021	28.8	27.4
MEAN AGE 2022	28.2	27.6
MEAN AGE 2023	28.7	27.8
MEAN AGE 2024	28.92	28.25

Table 6 APPLICANT MRCS STATUS

Total	2020 At Application	2020 At Offer	2021 At Application	2021 At Offer	2022 At Application	2022 At Offer	2023 At Application	2023 At Offer
Part A	38 (23%)	25 (41.6%)	43 (17%)	21 (27.5%)	72 (25.17%)	32 (39.51%)	61 (23.19%)	30 (37.5%)
Part B	7 (4.3%)	4 (6.6%)	11 (4%)	4 (5%)	24 (8.39%)	12 (14.81%)	17 (6.46%)	7 (8.75%)
Total	162	60	250	80	250	81	263	80

Total	2024 At Application	2024 At Offer						
Part A	95 (31.2%)	40 (50.6%)						
Part B	27 (8.8%)	10 (12.6%)						
Total	304	79						

Table 7 APPLICANT DEGREE ENTRY METHOD

Degree Entry Route	2020 % At Application	2020 % At Offer	2021 % At Application	2021 % At Offer	2022% At Application	2022 % At Offer	2023% At Application	2023 % At Offer
CAO Direct Entry	36%	58%	27%	40%	29.02%	40.74%	31.94%	52.5%
CAO - Graduate entrant	20%	14%	20%	30%	18.18%	29.63%	13.69%	16.25%
CAO- School leaver entrant	7%	13%	4%	6%	3.5%	1.23%	4.56%	5%
International entrant - non-EU	19%	2%	29%	13%	31.12%	18.52%	27.38%	12.5%
International entrant - EU	7%	5%	7%	1%	6.64%	3.71%	7.22%	3.75%
Other	7%	5%	10%	5%	9.8%	4.94%	11.79%	6.25%
CAO - Mature entrant	1%	3%	3%	5%	1.75%	1.23%	3.42%	3.75%
Total	162	60	250	80	286	81	263	80

Degree Entry Route	2024 % At Application	2024 % At Offer						
CAO Direct Entry	26.60%	41.90%						
CAO - Graduate entrant	17.50%	25.30%						
CAO- School leaver entrant	2.60%	2.50%						
International entrant - non-EU	6.90%	15.20%						
International entrant - EU	30.20%	1.30%						
Other	13.20%	10%						
CAO - Mature entrant	3%	3.80%						
Total	304	79						

Table 8 APPLICANT MEDICAL DEGREE UNIVERSITY

Medical University	2020 % Application	2020 % @ Offer	2021 % At Application	2021 % @ Offer	2022 % At Application	2022 % @ Offer	2023 % At Application	2023 % @ Offer
The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland	19.8%	15%	22.4%	26.25%	16.78%	18.52%	17.87%	18.75%
Trinity College Dublin	16.7%	16.7%	15.2%	25%	11.88	13.58%	12.93%	23.75%
University of Limerick	6.8%	3.3%	11.2%	17.5%	6.29%	8.64%	7.98%	10%
University College Dublin	12.3%	18.3%	8.4%	8.75%	11.18%	18.52%	9.89%	12.5%
National University Of Ireland, Galway	14.2%	23.3%	8%	11.25%	10.83%	16.05%	9.89%	15%
University College Cork	8%	15%	6.8%	7.5%	9.09%	9.88%	7.98%	10%
Queens University Belfast	1.2%	1.7%	.4%	0	.69%	0	0%	0%
Other	21.0%	6.7%	27.6%	3.75%	33.21%	14.81%	33.46%	10%

Medical University	2024 % Application	2024 % @ Offer						
The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland	16%	19%						
Trinity College Dublin	10.80%	15.20%						
University of Limerick	7.20%	8.80%						
University College Dublin	10.20%	11.40%						
National University Of Ireland, Galway	9.80%	16.50%						
University College Cork	6%	15.20%						
Queens University Belfast	0.30%	0%						
Other	39.70%	13.90%						

Table 9 YEARS POST MEDICAL DEGREE

2024 Intake Medical School Graduation Year	% Application	% Offer
2023	30.30%	24%
2022	12.50%	17.70%
2021	16.10%	30.30%
2020	10.20%	11.40%
2019	7.20%	2.50%
2018	7.90%	7.60%
2017	4.90%	3.80%
2016	4.60%	0%
2015 & earlier	6.30%	2.70%
Total	100.00%	100.00%

2023 Intake Medical School Graduation Year	% Application	% Offer
2022	23.19%	22.5%
2021	19.39%	21.25%
2020	16.35%	27.5%
2019	11.03%	10%
2018	10.65%	11.25%
2017	4.18%	1.25%
2016	3.42%	0%
2015	3.04%	2.5%
2014 & earlier	8.75%	3.75%
Total	100.00%	100.00%

2022 Intake Medical School Graduation Year	% Application	% Offer
2021	21.68%	32.11%
2020	26.22%	22.22%
2019	16.43%	18.52%
2018	13.29%	12.35%
2017	6.99%	6.17%
2016	4.55%	1.23%
2015	2.45%	0%
2014	2.8%	3.7%
2013 & earlier	2.8%	3.7%
Total	100.00%	100.00%

2021 Intake Medical School Graduation Year	% Application	% Offer
2020	32.76%	32.5%
2019	22.41%	27.5%
2018	18.53%	25%
2017	8.19%	8.75%
2016	5.60%	5%
2014	3.02%	1.25%
2015	2.59%	0%
2012	2.16%	0%
2011	1.29%	0%
2013	1.29%	0%
2009	0.86%	0%
2021	0.43%	0%
2008	0.43%	0%
2010	0.43%	0%
Total	100.00%	100.00%

2020 Intake Medical School Graduation Year	% Application	% Offer
2019	29.61%	22.22%
2018	38.81%	49.21%
2017	17.11%	20.63%
2016	6.00%	7.94%
2015	3.29%	0%
2014	2.00%	0%
2013	0.66%	0%
2011	0.66%	0%
Total	100.00%	100.00%

Table 10 Non-EU Rank @ Offers

	2020 Count of Nationality (60)	2021 Count of Nationality (80)	2022 Count of Nationality (81)	2023 Count of Nationality (80)	2024 Count of Nationality (79)
Rank of the top three Non-EU Candidates	3, 11, 47	10, 16, 29	2, 7, 17	3, 10, 30	12, 70, 71
Number of Non EU candidates in (60) (80) (81) & (79)	4	17	14	11	10

* Prior to allocation of places rule

