



# RCSI

**Faculty of Dentistry Regulations for  
Membership of the Faculty of Dentistry**

**Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland**



# RCSI

---

## Table of Contents

1.	General Regulations	2
2.	Membership of the Faculty of Dentistry (Entry Requirements & Examination Format)	3
3.	Withholding and/or annulling results	6
4.	APPENDIX I - Candidate Code of Conduct	7



# RCSI

---

## 1. General Regulations

The General Diplomas of the Faculty of Dentistry, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, in the disciplines outlined in this document may be granted to those who are qualified dentists, comply with the regulations and pass the relevant examination.

The requirements to present for the examinations are outlined below.

The dates of the examination and the fees payable for admission to the examination are set out in the examination calendars, which are published annually by the College and are available on the Faculty of Dentistry website <https://facultyofdentistry.ie>. The examination is conducted in the English language.

Applications must be made online through <https://postgradexams.rcsi.ie/>

Prior to formally applying, please ensure that you carefully read the following information that can be found on our Faculty [website](#)

- Exam regulations
- Exam Rules of Conduct

The online application must be received by the SARA Department (Student Academic and Regulatory Affairs) on or before the closing date of the examination. Once applications have reached the maximum quota, which may be in advance of the advertised closing date, no further applications will be accepted.

Once your online application has been processed you will receive official confirmation, along with your examination number.

The SARA Department will be in contact with you prior to the examination regarding further details of venues, timetables, etc.

The required certificates and the full amount of the fee payable for the examination must accompany applications for admission to an examination.

Candidates should make themselves familiar with the Examination Policies available on our [website](#)

Candidates withdrawing from an examination must adhere to the examination policies regarding withdrawal.

The College or Board of the Faculty reserves absolute discretion to refuse to admit to the examination, proceed with the examination of, any candidate who (a) infringes any of the Regulations or (b) who is considered by the Examiners to be acting in a manner prejudicial to the proper management and conduct of the examination or (c) whose conduct has rendered them in the College's or Board's opinion, unsuitable for conferral with the Diploma/Membership of Faculty of Dentistry of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

Candidates who wish to appeal should review the appeals policy.

## 2. Membership of the Faculty of Dentistry

### MFD RCSI Entry Requirements & Examination Format

#### MFD RCSI – Entry Requirements

The requirements to present for the examination of Membership of the Faculty of Dentistry RCSI, MFDRCSI are:

The requirements to present for the examination of MFD RCSI are as follows:

#### MFD Part 1

Can be taken any time following graduation from Dental School

#### MFD Part 2

Candidates should be a) a minimum of 12 months graduated from Dental School and b) a minimum of 12 months licensed to practice dentistry (after completing any pre-registration requirements where applicable) when presenting for MFD Part 2

[Please note,

- For candidates who qualify in dentistry from the European Union, the UK or any other jurisdiction where there are no pre-registration requirements, this means 12 months after the qualification with entitlement to practice dentistry has been granted
- For candidates qualifying from Universities where provisional registrations are applicable following the granting of the dental degree, this means 12 further months following the completion of 12 months' pre-registration requirements.

Possession of MFD Part 1 or equivalent (Part 1MFDS, MJDF) **OR** possession of the Diploma of Primary Care Dentistry [DipPCDRCSI]

#### CPR:

CPR Certificate completed within two years. Certificates **must** be valid on the date that the exam takes place. Out of date BLS certificates will not be accepted.

#### Exemptions from MFD Part 1

**Candidates who have completed three years Specialty Training In Dentistry will be exempt MFD Part 1.**

**Candidates who hold the MRCS qualification will be exempt MFD Part 1.**



## MFD – Examination Format

### Notes

The MFD Examination is intended to provide evidence of knowledge, experience and clinical competence of general professional training beyond that recognised by the primary dental qualification. Award of the Diploma will indicate that the candidate has enhanced his/her knowledge and understanding well beyond the primary qualification level to the standard required to proceed into specialist training.

The MFD Diploma Examination has two Parts, Part 1 and Part 2.

There is reciprocity between both parts of the MFD RCSI examination and both parts of the MFDS of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Glasgow & MJDF Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Components	Description
Part 1	<p>Part 1 of the examination consists of one three-hour examination paper which is composed of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>75 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) each consisting of a stem and five branches, with each branch being independently <b>TRUE</b> or <b>FALSE</b></li> <li>33 Single Best Answer Questions (SBAs) each consisting of five statements with only one correct answer.</li> </ul> <p><b>Part 1 will examine both Section 1 and Section 2 of the MFD RCSI syllabus. Candidates being awarded either a pass or a fail. The paper in Part 1 will each contain 50% of the questions from Section 1 and 50% of questions from Section 2 of the syllabus.</b></p> <p><b>Candidates must pass Part 1 and have completed the requirements below (or be entitled to an exemption as noted in these regulations) before they may sit Part 2.</b></p>
Part 2	<p><b>The MFD RCSI Part 2 examination may be delivered in a variety of formats.</b></p> <p><b><u>On-Line Version:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A paper consisting of Clinical Reasoning Assessment (CRA) requiring application of non-specialist- clinical knowledge over 90 minutes.</li> <li>To pass the examination, candidates must reach the threshold for passing along with passing at least <b>half</b> of the questions in the Structured Clinical Case Assessment.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Face to Face (Hybrid) Version:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clinical Reasoning Assessment (CRA) requiring application of non-specialist-level clinical knowledge. (40 minutes Duration)</li> <li>Viva voce section of the exam. This will be structured to</li> </ul>



	<p>assess both applied basic sciences and clinical skills.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Candidates will be awarded a pass or fail. Candidates must pass both sections of the assessment, as well as passing at least half of the questions in the Structured Clinical Case Assessment</li></ul>
<b>Award of the Diploma</b>	<p>To be eligible for the award of the Diploma all candidates must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Possess a primary dental qualification that is acceptable to the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland</li><li>• Have obtained a pass in MFD Part 2</li><li>• Have complied with all the regulations</li></ul>
<b>Procedure for successful candidates applying for Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland</b>	<p>The candidate, after having passed all parts of the examinations for the Diploma of Member of the Faculty of Dentistry, shall be given a Notice subscribing his/her name to the Bye-Laws and the required declaration; that it rests with the Board of Faculty to confer upon them the Diploma of Member; and that until the granting of such a Diploma by the Board, they are not in any circumstances, entitled to make use of the letters MFDRCS Irel. After their name, or to exercise any other rights conferred by the membership.</p> <p>The successful candidate's name will be added to a list referred to the Dental Register of Ireland for registration of the candidate's diploma as an additional registrable qualification.</p> <p>When conferred by the Board of Faculty, the successful candidate shall receive a Diploma bearing the seal of the College and the Diploma shall state that such Member has been successful in the examination.</p> <p>Every Member shall pay each year such annual subscription as may be determined from time to time by the Board of Faculty with the concurrence of the College Council.</p>



# RCSI

## Withholding and/or annulling results

Candidates are advised that the Faculty of Dentistry RCSI may withhold or annul results and require a candidate (or a group of candidates) to re-take any part of their examinations. This action will be taken if the Faculty of Dentistry RCSI is present with: Sufficient evidence that the security of any part of the examination has been compromised.

The Faculty of Dentistry RCSI reserves the right to enforce this in the absence of evidence of direct candidate involvement in any activities that may be investigated under the misconduct regulations.

The Faculty of Dentistry RCSI reserves the right to decline to accept applications from candidates where concerns have been highlighted in relation to candidate behavior under these guidelines.



# RCSI

---

## APPENDIX I

### Candidate Code of Conduct:

RCSI can reasonably expect professional behaviours and to rely on candidates own registration with their professional bodies as indicative of understanding requisite professional behaviours and standards, including as they pertain to academic integrity and examination conduct.

RCSI and the Faculty of Dentistry are required to ensure that their assessments are equitable, valid and reliable. Any form of cheating poses a threat to the academic standards of the qualifications, and to the integrity of qualifications awarded to the vast majority who achieve their qualification entirely by legitimate means (based on QAA guidelines , 2013, 2016 cited in [OIAHE: The good practice framework: disciplinary procedures 2018](#)).

The objective of these regulations is to help and encourage all candidates behave in a professional manner including but not limited to adherence to relevant codes of conduct, Examination / Assessment Regulations and Protocols, and other published standards of professional behaviour of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (“RCSI”) or relevant training bodies.

Together, with the statements below, these outline the defined standards and principles by which candidates must abide. These standards are considered by RCSI as evidence of fitness to study and practice in the chosen profession.

- Membership of a healthcare profession requires the highest standards of professional and ethical conduct. Candidates must behave professionally at all times and in all dealings with RCSI.
- Every candidate is personally responsible for their own acts or omissions.
- These regulations are based on the following core principles:
  - a. Your primary concern must be to maintain and improve the health, wellbeing, care and safety of patients.
  - b. Act according to the highest ethical principles at all times.
  - c. Demonstrate professional responsibility and behaviour.
  - d. Develop your professional competence, skills and standing so as to bring health gain and value to the community and society.
  - e. Be accountable for your own actions. Be honest and trustworthy and show respect for others.
  - f. Conduct yourself in a manner which enhances the service provided to society and which will maintain the good name of your profession.
  - g. Be aware of your obligations and do not do anything which constitutes a breach of these standards



## **Candidate acknowledgement of the code of conduct for examination**

By enrolling in an examination held by the Faculty of Dentistry, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, I, a candidate for examination, confirm that I have read, understood and accepted the following code of conduct for the examination:

### **The Code of Conduct in respect of disseminating examination information:**

1. I confirm that I will not disseminate in any way (written, oral or electronic) information regarding the content of this examination. I will maintain the confidentiality of the examination materials. I will not reproduce or attempt to reproduce examination materials through recording, memorization, or by any other means. I will not provide information relating to examination content to anyone, including those who may be taking or preparing others to take the examination. This includes postings regarding examination content and/or answers on the Internet.
2. Should RCSI obtain information that I had prior access to or was involved in, reproducing or disseminating RCSI examination question materials, I understand that I may be prohibited from ever taking or retaking any RCSI certification examinations.
3. I understand that prior knowledge of or disseminating information on the content of the Written Examination (both on line or paper based), could constitute a breach of my responsibility as an RCSI examination candidate.
4. I understand and accept that any violation of the above notices may mandate an investigation that may subject me to disciplinary and/or legal action taken by RCSI. The RCSI may, at its discretion, refuse to examine me or, having examined me, may refuse to issue a certificate based upon its above-described investigation. Should I already have become a Fellow, Member or Diplomate of the Faculty of Dentistry, RCSI, such violation may result in the revocation of my certificate. It would also be customary for RCSI to inform such violation to the relevant professional governing body with whom I am registered in the practice of dentistry.

### **Penalties for Examination Offences**

**Examination offences are taken extremely seriously.** Anyone either suspected of or caught committing an examination offence or for breaching the code of conduct in relation to the dissemination of examination information will be reported immediately to the Faculty and College Authorities. Further action may be taken.