

DFSRH Recertification Guide

What is recertification and why is it important?

If you hold the DFSRH, we require you to recertify your qualification every five years. This enables you to:

- demonstrate the learning outcomes achieved from your Diploma qualification have been maintained
- show you have the knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviour needed to provide safe and effective sexual and reproductive health care (SRH)
- meet the requirements of commissioners/employers, who often require clinicians to have certified qualifications
- showcase your competence and status as an SRH leader with a nationally recognised qualification
- provide evidence to support your appraisals and revalidation.

Failure to recertify should be disclosed to your commissioner/employer if it is their requirement that the qualification is held.

Relevant topic areas for Diploma recertification

To recertify, you must demonstrate that you are able to achieve the DFSRH 2020 learning outcomes. View the webpages for an overview of the most up to date [learning outcomes](#).

When should I recertify?

You should apply for recertification no more than six months before your recertification date,. You can find your recertification date in 'My FSRH' and on the LMS. It is also on your initial certificate and on any recertification communications that you may have received.

It is important that you keep your contact details up-to-date. You do this by logging into MyFSRH.

How do I recertify?

To recertify your Diploma, you need to:

- be registered with an FSRH recognised regulatory body ([see the website for the most up to date list](#))
- have achieved 10 CPD credits over a 5-year period
- re-confirm you have read and abide by our [Personal Beliefs Guidance](#).

We recommend that you aim to achieve 2 credits each year, covering a range of topics that relate to the DFSRH 2020 [learning outcomes](#).

How do I apply?

Recertifying your DFSRH qualification is very straightforward. Read the recertification verification statement in the recertification section of your DFSRH in the LMS (under Learning and Recertification) and self-verify that you meet the requirements. You are still subject to the T&Cs of the DFSRH 2020 Learner Charter. You will automatically be recertified.

Audit process

You are not required to provide a record or evidence of your CPD as part of your application. However, the FSRH audits a percentage of applications and you may be asked for evidence. This will allow the team to quickly check that you meet the DFSRH 2020 requirements. Please note that the team may contact you for any additional evidence. You may lose your recertification status if sufficient evidence is not provided as requested.

Is there a charge to recertify?

There is no extra charge to recertify as this is a benefit included in your annual membership fee. However, you must have paid your membership fee continuously for the five years leading up to recertifying. If you have not, and wish to recertify, please contact our team to discuss your options. Find details on the [FSRH website](#).

What happens if I fail to recertify in time?

Our records will show that you are not recertified. If a prospective employer contacts us, this is the information we will share. Please contact our team to discuss your options. Find details on the [FSRH website](#).

If you would like to apply for an extension on your recertification date, please contact the team to discuss options.

10 years plus since the award or recertification of your FSRH Diploma qualification

You will be expected to undertake the full FSRH Diploma training programme. There are no exceptions.

CPD – our guiding principles

We believe that:

- You are responsible for your own learning and for recording CPD that you consider has educational value, including how it impacts on your practice.
- Your CPD focus should be on outcomes or outputs of your learning, not simply the amount of time spent on an activity
- CPD should encourage and support specific changes in practice and development and be relevant to your practice.
- It is your responsibility to undertake and record a range and balance of activities to support the needs of your practice, as well as your own development.
- CPD should be recognised as a contractual commitment by employers and contractors and should be adequately resourced in terms of time, finance and staff levels.
- We support evidencing competences and development through the recertification of several of our qualifications to show that you are safe and current in your practice.

Why is CPD important?

Lifelong learning is key to supporting healthcare professionals to maintain and improve knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours across all areas of their professional practice.

CPD refers to any formal or informal learning activities outside of undergraduate education or postgraduate training. Any activity which provides educational benefit to you is eligible for CPD. This includes a wide range of activities including gaining qualifications, attending courses, conferences, to reviewing journal articles. You should be able to demonstrate the value of the learning activities and demonstrate how this has supported your development.

HCPs are required to demonstrate CPD in their appraisals, for recertification of qualifications and revalidation with their regulatory organisations.

General guidance

- The Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AoMRC) provide useful core principles for your CPD

- Doctors can view further CPD guidance at the GMC website
- Nurses can view CPD guidance at the NMC website

CPD credits

As a guide, 1 hour of learning equates to 1 CPD credit. We recommend that you collect and record evidence to support your record of CPD activities.

We suggest that you upload and collate your CPD activities and reflections while current. This should be done at least annually.

Useful CPD resources

We offer a range of activities and resources to support your CPD including:

- Events
- Standards & Guidance
- Qualifications
- Webinars
- BMJ SRH Journal

Reflection

It is important to reflect on what you have learnt from your CPD activities and record whether your CPD has had any impact (or is expected to have any impact) on your performance and practice.

- The AoMRC provide guidance on reflective practice.
- You can also find useful reflection templates on our FSRH website.

Contact us

If you have any questions or would like to discuss recertification of your Diploma with us. Find details on the [FSRH website](#).