

MFSRH Examination Regulations

2023

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FSRH Membership Examination Regulations

This document describes the regulations for the Membership examination (MFSRH) and for admission of Members.

Introduction

The Membership of the Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare (MFSRH) examination comprises two parts:

- Part I: Single Best Answer (SBA) examination
- Part II: Knowledge Assessment Test (KAT) and Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) examination

The content of the qualification is based on the UK CSRH curriculum and assessment framework and on UK practices and guidelines.

Success in the MFSRH examination and subsequent admission to Membership does not imply the attainment of specialist or consultant status.

Regulations for Membership

Candidates for Membership are required:

- a) To comply with the regulations relating to eligibility outlined in this document.
- b) To pass the Part I examination before being entered for the Part II examination.
- c) To pass the Part I examination and pass the Part II examination.
- d) To complete both parts of the MFSRH Examination within seven years. The seven-year period commences from the date of passing the Part I. For any individual part of the examination (Part I and Part II) six attempts are allowed.
- e) To fulfil the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association in relation to declaration of conduct, admission by the President of the Council and payment of the prescribed registration fee and annual subscription.

Candidates infringing the regulations will be deemed unsuitable for Membership of the FSRH.

The FSRH reserves the right to refuse an application to attempt either part of the examination for reasons which the Education Strategy Board in its absolute discretion thinks fit.

Part I Examination

The Part I examination is a 2-hour paper which consists of 80 single best answer (SBA) questions. All questions are based on basic clinical science, covering areas of the CSRH curriculum, which is specified in the [MFSRH Syllabus](#)¹.

Eligibility

UK candidates are eligible to enter for the Part I examination when they have obtained their medical degree and are registered with the General Medical Council (GMC). For international candidates, a GMC registration number is not required if they are not working or training in the UK, and applications are approved on a case-by-case basis. The examination is not exclusive to clinicians practising in CSRH. However, active clinical practice in this area is recommended given the nature and intensity of this exam.

Applying for Part I

Applications for entry to the examination must be made through the FSRH website alongside payment of the examination fee by the closing date. The fee for the Part I examination is £425. Application opening and closing dates are published on the FSRH website. Late applications are not accepted.

When applying for the Part I candidates will be required to upload photographic ID and proof of medical degree. The name on an application must be the same as the name presented on the photographic identification documentation provided. Candidates who subsequently change their name(s) must notify the FSRH immediately and supply documentary evidence.

Candidates will be required to present their photographic ID at their exam for scrutiny by the invigilators. Candidates who fail to produce their ID will be refused entry to the examination.

Pass mark

The Part I examination is criterion-referenced: a candidate's performance is related to pre-set criteria not to the group average (norm-referenced). The pass mark is determined for each examination by applying Modified Angoff standard setting method. The pass mark will vary from year to year depending on the degree of difficulty of the questions that are set.

Results

Results are issued to candidates within 6 working weeks of the examination. Candidates will receive their results and post-examination feedback via email, to the email address provided at the point of application.

¹ <https://www.fsrh.org/documents/crsh-knowledge-requirements/>

Part II Examination

The Part II examination has two components: Knowledge Assessment Test (KAT) and an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE). The examination relates to the application of clinical science to the practice of sexual and reproductive healthcare, as specified in the [MFSRH Syllabus](#)².

Eligibility

For the Part II examination candidates must also have passed the Part I before the application closing date.

Applying for Part II

Applications for entry to the examination must be made through the FSRH website alongside payment of the examination fee by the closing date. The fee for the Part II examination is £665. Application opening and closing dates are published on the FSRH website. Late applications are not accepted.

When applying for the Part II candidates will be required to upload photographic ID and proof of medical degree. The name on an application must be the same as the name presented on the photographic identification documentation provided. Candidates who subsequently change their name(s) must notify the FSRH immediately and supply documentary evidence.

Candidates will be required to present their photographic ID at their exam for scrutiny by the invigilators. Candidates who fail to produce their ID will be refused entry to the examination.

Pass mark & passing criteria

The Part II examination is criterion-referenced: a candidate's performance is related to pre-set criteria not to the group average (norm-referenced). The pass mark is determined for each examination paper (KAT and OSCE) by applying Modified Angoff standard setting method. The pass mark for each paper will vary from year to year depending on the degree of difficulty of the questions that are set.

To pass the Part II candidates must:

1. Pass the KAT by achieving the pass mark for the KAT exam and,
2. Pass the OSCE by achieving the pass mark for the OSCE.

Candidates who fail to meet the pass mark for any of the above criteria will be deemed to have failed the Part II examination. Candidates who fail the examination will be notified which sections they have failed.

Results

Results are issued to candidates within 6 working weeks of the examination. Candidates will receive their results and post-examination feedback via email, to the email address provided at the point of application.

² <https://www.fsrh.org/documents/crsh-knowledge-requirements/>

MFSRH policies

Candidates are responsible for ensuring that they have read the MFSRH policies and any associated protocols or guidance documents.

Application policies

Cancellation

If an examination is cancelled by the Faculty candidates will be given the option to defer to the next sitting or receive a full refund.

Currency

Candidates must complete the MFSRH within seven years from the date they passed the Part I.

Deferral

Candidates may defer sitting the examination on a maximum of three occasions over a 2-year period; thereafter the whole examination fee is forfeited. Candidates who wish to defer sitting the examination must notify the FSRH at least 8 weeks prior to the date of the examination; and will be charged an administrative charge of £75 unless they have mitigating circumstances. If the exam fees change between the candidate deferring and taking the exam, they must be the difference for the current exam fee. Candidates whose deferment is followed by withdrawal will be liable to an administrative charge of £75. Deferrals are not granted less than 8 weeks prior to the date of the examination. If a candidate wishes to not sit the exam less than 8 weeks prior to the exam they will be withdrawn.

FSRH Principles of Care

Candidates undertaking a FSRH training programme, qualification or recertification of a FSRH qualification will be expected to abide by the [FSRH Principles of Care](#)³ standards in their ongoing personal practice. Candidates are required to accept the Principles of Care at the point of application for the MFSRH examination.

Late applications

Late applications for any component of the examination are not accepted for any reason, including technical difficulties. Therefore, candidates are advised to apply for the examination they wish to sit well in advance of the deadline. All deadlines are published on the FSRH website.

Name of candidate

Candidates who use more than one name (e.g. given name vs preferred name, or maiden name vs. married name) should inform the FSRH Education & Training team if the name stated on their application differs from that on their ID, as this will be verified and checked at application and entry to the examination. Candidates must use the same name on their examination record as stated on their application.

Non-attendance

Failure to attend an examination, without authorisation of a mitigating circumstances

³ <https://www.fsrh.org/documents/guidance-for-those-undertaking-or-recertifying-fsrh/fsrh-personal-beliefs-guidance-final-april-2017-for-web.pdf>

request, will result in a fail. This fail will also count towards the candidate's total number of attempts for that examination paper.

Number of attempts

Candidates can attempt each examination (Part I or Part II) up to six times.

Reasonable Adjustments

Reasonable adjustment requests must be made in accordance with the [MFSRH Reasonable Adjustments policy](#)⁴. It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure requests are submitted in line with the policy and that appropriate supporting evidence is provided.

Withdrawal

Candidates who wish to withdraw from sitting the examination must notify the FSRH at least 8 weeks prior to the date of the examination; and will be charged an administrative fee of £75 unless they have mitigating circumstances.

If a candidate withdraws less than 8 weeks prior to the exam they will receive a 50% refund of their exam fee. If a candidate withdraws less than 4 weeks before their exam they will not receive a refund for their exam fee unless they have mitigating circumstance. Mitigating circumstances will be reviewed on a case by case basis and will be reviewed in accordance with the MFSRH Mitigating Circumstances policy⁵.

Exam day policies

ID verification on exam day

Candidates will be required to provide photographic ID for scrutiny before being permitted entry to the exam. Acceptable ID for all MFSRH exams is limited to: a passport, a driving license including photograph and signature. Original documents must be provided, photocopies will not be accepted.

Intellectual property rights

On no account may the examination paper be removed from any room or copies recorded. Any candidate who attempts to remove or copy examination questions by writing or any other means will fail the examination and be forbidden from retaking the examination of any other component of the MFSRH. They will also be reported to their Educational Supervisor and Training Programme Director.

Lateness to the examination

Local examination (in-person)

If a candidate is late for the examination, they will be still permitted to sit the exam. However, the candidate must sign a declaration accepting that they are late and will sit the exam for the remaining allotted time.

Remote examination (online)

Candidates should refer to the relevant MFSRH Online Examination Protocols document for details on lateness to a remotely invigilated examination.

Leaving early

Local examination (in-person)

⁴ <https://www.fsrh.org/documents/reasonable-adjustments-policy-may-2020/>

Candidates who finish the examination early are permitted to leave prior to the final 10 minutes of the examination. Ten minutes before the end of the examination, the invigilator will give a final time warning, at which point no-one is permitted to leave until examination papers have been collected.

Remote examination (online)

Candidates may exit their examination platform if they finish the examination early but will not be permitted to re-enter the examination.

Misconduct Policy

Candidate must read the [MFSRH Misconduct policy](#)⁶ and any examination protocols prior to undertaking their examination. Candidates will be expected to abide by the rules set out within this policy and any associated protocols document. Failure to comply may result in termination of the examination.

Mitigating Circumstances

Candidates who experience mitigating circumstances that impact their ability to sit their examination or their performance within an examination may submit a mitigating circumstances request in accordance with the MFSRH Mitigating Circumstances policy.

OSCE Dress Code

For ease of identification, a candidate for the OSCE examination must ensure that their clothing is not worn in a way that obscures the face.

Candidates should dress as they would to work in a UK hospital, ward or other clinical setting, this would normally mean bare to the elbow with no watches, bracelets or rings. It is important that patients feel able to build a relationship with trust and communicate freely with their doctors, some patients may find for example that if a face covering worn by their doctor presents an obstacle to effect communication, candidates must be prepared to respond to the individual's needs. Role players are told that they must make it clear if the candidate wearing a face covering is unable to communicate effectively and the examiners are told that they should mark the candidate accordingly.

Post-exam policies

Complaints & Appeals

Complaints and appeals must be made in accordance with the [MFSRH Complaints & Appeals policy](#)⁷.

Probity

The FSRH reserves the right to bar any candidate from sitting or passing any component of the MFSRH. A non-exhaustive list of example reasons include:

- ▶ where there is any doubt concerning the sufficiency or authenticity of the certificates produced by the candidate.
- ▶ where there exists any other reason that causes the FSRH to doubt the fitness of the candidate to become a member or to hold the MFSRH. Such reasons may include

⁶ <https://www.fsrh.org/documents/mfsrh-online-examination-misconduct-policy>

⁷ <https://www.fsrh.org/documents/complaints-and-appeals-policy-may-2020/>

criminal behaviour or other professional misconduct.

- ▶ where the candidate is suspected of malpractice, cheating or attempting to cheat in this or any other examination.

Any probity issues will be recorded and investigated by a review panel after the examination. The panel will examine the allegations and the evidence and suggest a suitable outcome. Depending on the severity of the issue, the panel may see fit to report the candidate to the relevant postgraduate deanery and to the GMC.

Candidate feedback

Candidates will be invited to share feedback following each examination sitting. It is not a requirement for candidates to submit feedback, but it is strongly encouraged. Feedback obtained from candidates is collated and reported back to Exams Committee and is an important part of the post-exam evaluation.

Admission to Membership

The award of Membership of the FSRH will be awarded to those candidates who have passed the Part I examination and Part II examination.

The names of successful candidates will be reported to the Education Strategy Board for their election to Membership and subsequent admission by the President.

The prescribed registration fee (if applicable) and annual subscription are payable on election to Membership.

No one shall become a Member of the FSRH or use the designation MFSRH without having fulfilled all the conditions set out in these Regulations.

The Faculty reserves the right to refuse admission to the Membership for reasons which the Education Strategy Board in its absolute discretion thinks fit.

Each Member shall be entitled to the appropriate form of certificate under the seal of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

Recertification

The qualification of Membership is subject to recertification every five years.

In order to recertify candidates must collect at least 250 credits of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activity over the past five years to demonstrate that they have maintained and developed the necessary CPD. At least 150 credits of CPD must be related to SRH. Candidates must also agree to abide by the FSRH six principles of care in their practice. Further information regarding recertification is available on the Faculty website⁸.

⁸ <https://www.fsrh.org/recertification/recertification-of-membership-mfsrh--ffsrh/>

These regulations are regularly reviewed; it is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that up-to-date information is obtained.

Last reviewed: 6th November 2023