

FRCEM OSCE FAQs

Please see the FRCEM OSCE FAQ pack (June 2022). If this pack does not answer your question, please get in touch with the exams team via email – exams@rcem.ac.uk.

Q – Can a timer be visible to candidates during the OSCE stations?

A – No, candidates are expected to prepare for an 8-minute station. Candidates are responsible for their own time management during the station. An analogue clock will be visible in each station should candidates wish to use this for time management.

Q – Are the iPads reliable when collating results? What happens if the iPad or software fails?

A – The iPads and the software used for marking is a robust and reliable method for marking. All marks are autosaved in real time, this means that if the Wi-Fi connection was lost, the iPad was to die, etc. no marks will ever be lost. If an iPad was to fail during a station, all examiners are advised to abandon the iPad and to continue marking on the paper marksheets provided. The exams team are on standby throughout the circuit to rectify any technical issues should they arise.

Q – Are there any double stations?

A – There are no double stations in the FRCEM OSCE examination.

Q – How many resuscitation stations are there?

A – The FRCEM OSCE will include 3 resuscitation stations. Please note, in addition to achieving the pass mark, candidates will be required to pass at least one of the resuscitation stations in order to achieve a pass overall.

Q – How many rest stations are there? Is the prep station included in the rest stations?

A – There are two rest stations built into the FRCEM OSCE examination. One of these rest stations can also be used as a prep station. Candidates are expected to be familiar with the CLA journal prior to examination so this station is purely to remind and refresh candidates of the content as a copy of the journal will be available in this station.

Q – What do I need to know about the new format with the SLOs?

A – Detailed information regarding the examination can be found in the [FRCEM Final Examinations Regulations and Information Pack](#) from page 9 to 12.

Q – Do I need to bring my stethoscope?

A – You are not required to bring your own stethoscope. If a station requires the use of a stethoscope, then one will be available in that station. If you would like to bring your own stethoscope you are welcome to, but this is not mandatory.

Q – Where can I leave my belongings?

A – Your belongings will be left in one of the College's meeting rooms. This room will be secured and will be made available to you at the end of your examination session. The examination team will take all communications devices (phones, smart watches, tablets, laptops, etc) during the registration window. These devices will also be held securely.

Q – What should I wear to my OSCE examination?

A – The FRCEM OSCE is a professional examination and therefore smart professional attire is required. You are welcome to wear scrubs if you prefer. Toilets are available onsite should you need to change prior to your examination.

Q – Am I allow to wear a scrub skirt?

A – Yes this would be acceptable.

Q – My scrubs have my name on them, is this an issue?

A – If you can wear plain scrubs this is recommended. However, if you only have scrubs with your name on them, you will still be able to wear these.

Q – When will I get allocated to a session?

A – You will receive your allocation approximately two weeks after the application closing date. We will always endeavour to have this information to candidates as soon as possible but in the instance that a delay to the allocation was to occur, all candidates would be notified via email.

Q – Can I apply for both the FRCM OSCE and FRCM SBA?

A – If eligible, you are able to apply for both exams simultaneously.

Q – Can I apply for the FRCM OSCE before I receive my MRCM SBA result?

A – No, you will need a pass mark in the MRCM SBA before you are able to apply for the FRCM OSCE.

Q – My visa hasn't arrived, can I change the date I sit my examination?

A – No, examinations do not allow for candidates to move dates once allocated.

Q – Can I transfer to the next diet?

A – No, the College does not facilitate transfers. You will need to withdraw from the examination and reapply for the next diet. Please be sure to note the cancellation policy when applying for any examination.

Q – Can I request a specific OSCE date?

A - No, date requests can only be made in special circumstances with supporting documentation. We cannot guarantee that any request will be facilitated, and allocation will be confirmed as outlined above.