

MRCEM OSCE FAQs

Please see the MRCEM OSCE FAQs below, issued August 2022. If these FAQs do not answer your question, please contact 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 7-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 MRCEM OSCE examination.

Q – How many rest stations are there?

A – There are two rest stations included in the MRCEM OSCE

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 MRCEM 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 allowed 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. Candidates can request tape to cover their name / hospital name.

Q – Can I wear religious face coverings?

A – Clothing which covers the face (veil/niqab) is not permitted during the examination and candidates will be required to remove face coverings when signing in for the examination.

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 – 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 - 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.