



# RCP fellowship proposal

## Sponsoring a UK candidate for fellowship

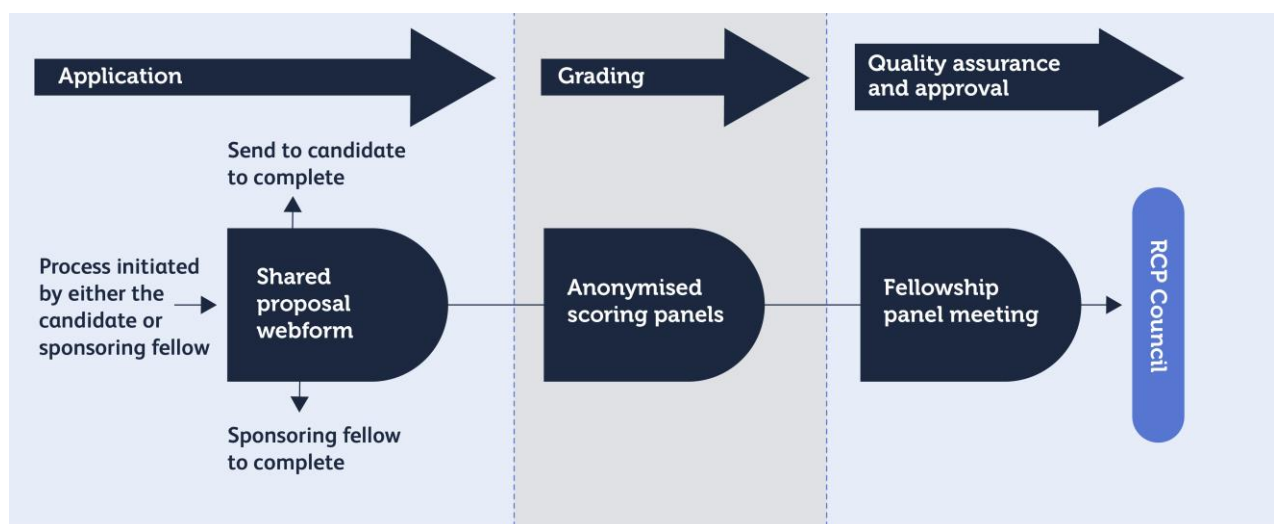
### Background

Successful election to the fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians (RCP) requires eligible candidates to demonstrate the values expected of a fellow, which go beyond standard contractual obligations and support and deliver clinical excellence. Fellows of the RCP are established clinicians and will usually have been in substantive employment at consultant or equivalent level for several years. Eligibility for fellowship of the RCP is not, however, dependent on the length of time served. It is rather a marker of impact and achievement.

Candidates must:

- > be licensed to practise
- > be participating in annual appraisal and revalidation
- > make a declaration of good standing.

This is now an open process and candidates are aware of, and able to contribute to, your proposal. The proposal is therefore a joint application. Conversely, self-proposed candidates will actively seek out fellows to be their supporting sponsor.



## How do I sponsor or propose (nominate) a candidate?

- > Go to the [RCP proposal webform](#). Only basic information is required to initiate the process and it is not onerous or time-consuming.
- > Complete the form and share it with the candidate you are proposing, before submitting it to the RCP.
- > Or, if you are being asked to act as a sponsor by a candidate who has self-proposed, complete the form at the request of the candidate.
- > Submit the jointly completed form via the automated process.
- > The automated process will also assign the anonymised proposal to a scoring panel.

## FAQs

### How long will it take to start the process?

It is very simple to initiate the process with the agreement of your candidate. Basic information will include name, place of work and General Medical Council (GMC) number of the candidate, if they are working in the UK. A doctor's GMC number is publicly available at [www.gmc-uk.org](http://www.gmc-uk.org).

You will then be asked to support your candidate's proposal by completing some supporting information. Please read the [Supporting information guidance document](#) for more details.

### Why should I tell a candidate that I am proposing or nominating them?

This is a decision of RCP Council, which wants to make the proposal and nomination process more transparent. To be proposed by a peer or near-peer colleague is a mark of the prestige of the accolade of fellowship and we will be actively encouraging existing fellows to propose a colleague for fellowship. To make the process more transparent, we have created more detailed proposal information in the [Supporting information guidance](#), which explains the criteria for fellowship in more detail.

### What do I do if the candidate has already filled in the proposal webform and I am acting as the sponsoring fellow?

The process is the same as that for proposal (nomination) but in reverse. Please read and check your candidate's form for accuracy and provide additional information based on the criteria in the proposal guidance document. Ensure that you are comfortable with the validity of all the statements.

Contact: [fellowshipqueries@rcp.ac.uk](mailto:fellowshipqueries@rcp.ac.uk)

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