

FAQ – GP Fellowship in Greater Manchester

How long is a session?

4 hr 10mins

Can I be a Locum and be part of the Fellowship?

No, you need a substantive job. You can have a part time substantive job and a part time locum job and be part of the fellowship, but you cannot be part of the fellowship if you only have a locum job.

When can you start the Fellowship?

At any point within 24 months of CCT qualification

What is the aim of the fellowship?

To make you feel loved, wanted and needed in an area. To get you involved and become part of the primary care team and see how it all fits into the wider area. It is also about recruitment and retention, the first five years is when a newly qualified doctor is likely to burn out but by getting those additional leadership skills, by having a mentor place, connecting with peers we want to develop your resilience.

Who finds a mentor?

Greater Manchester Training Hub will find a mentor for all GP Fellows. If a GP Fellow knows an experienced GP they wish to be the Mentor then GMTH will liaise with that GP to see if it is possible.

Do the opportunities for portfolio working take place in the extra session that's funded by NHSE?

Yes

Does it matter what type of practice contract you have? e.g GMS, PMS

No

Is this session fixed to a certain day or is it more flexible?

The Fellowship session is flexible to fit in with you, It is 4hrs 10 minute a week, but don't think of it as all in one go. You may listen to a podcast for 30 minutes one day, watch a 2 hour class another day, read around the set-up of ICSs and PCNs for half an hour another day, then you may not even fill the remainder of time that week, so the following week you could do more or less - another week if you sit on a PCN clinic that could be the entirety of your sessional work for that week in one go but there could be a first five meeting that same week you want to attend for 2 hours. Once you get to the PCN work that may be more structured depending on what you choose, but you'll still be aiming to fit that around your schedule.

Could this be a way towards a clinical track e.g. chronic pain or palliative care? Like wise If I was interested in dermatology for example, is there a specific fellowship job which I would need to apply for or would I need to organise this and put the offer forward?

Unless your PCN has a specific requirement for setting up a service like that then no, you may be more suited to the HEE Fellowship.

Regarding the requirements to be within 2 year of qualifying for being eligible for mentorship; is this limit flexible given the current climate of Covid and also for new GP coming back into a salaried role after locuming initially?

The limit is not flexible in these instances, there is only a little flexibility due to maternity or sickness, otherwise the 2-year post CCT deadline is fixed.

How does it work with time commitment per week? Is it expected to be less if you are only working LTFT and sessions are considered pro rata? How does that fit in with the structured learning (masterclasses etc)?

The session per week is no longer Pro Rata, every GP Fellow gets paid for 1 full session per week, regardless of number of clinical sessions you work.

The masterclasses are likely to be monthly, but it is a rolling program so if you didn't have time to do them in year 1 you could do them in year 2 and if you are available to attend a year 2 class in year 1 you can do so.

If I work Less Than Full Time will the course be over more than 2 years.

No, the programme is no longer Pro Rata, the course will still be over two years.

If I have already accepted a post and been in it for the last few months can I still apply for this fellowship?

Yes, provided you are within 2 years of your CCT and your practice agrees.

I moved into the area post CCT - I've been in a salaried post for a few months so would I have to apply elsewhere to do the fellowship or can I still apply?

You can still apply for the Greater Manchester NHSE Fellowship programme as long as you are working within Greater Manchester. You do need to be within 2 years of qualifying for your CCT.

If I am working at my current practice 8 sessions could I 'bolt on' the extra session?

That would be up to you and your practice to decide between you - but every current GP Fellow has added on the Fellowship session additional to their clinical work.

What would we be doing in the first few months during our sessions?

For the first six months, Fellows would utilise their time to attend PCN meetings, practice meetings, look for a portfolio opportunity or two to work on within the PCN, job shadow PCN and practice colleagues and attend a few of the classes we put on topics such as remote consultations, how the money goes round and population health and listen to the podcasts.

Is there any form of assessment for the program?

No

How is the portfolio and work recorded?

We will be requesting every Fellow to fill out a brief record at 3 intervals during the Fellowship. You will use whatever appraisal tool you currently have to store and record your evidence.

Primary Care Knowledge Boost podcast! Where can I find more info about those please?

<https://www.pckb.org/> and they are on Spotify

How does payment work

GMTH pay your practice £1137.50 paid monthly, in arrears on the 1st of every month via standing order. The practice take off their employer contributions of NI/Tax/Pension, so it costs them nothing to have you as a Fellow, this works out at approx. 30%. The remaining amount (approx. £875.00) will be paid to you via payroll where your tax/ni/pension is taken off as normal. The amount taken off is approximate as it is slightly different for everyone as their pension/NI bracket & contributions may be different.