



**European Society of Endodontology**

**POLICY FRAMEWORK**

**Grand-parented and Mediated entry  
onto the Specialist Membership List of the  
European Society of Endodontology**

# **Routes of entry to the ESE specialist membership list in Endodontology**

## **Background**

One of the main objectives of the European Society of Endodontology (ESE) is to stimulate graduate education in Endodontology and recognise the experience and training of individuals so as to acknowledge their special status. The ESE has published guidelines on the minimum criteria for training specialists in Endodontology within Europe (*International Endodontic Journal* 2010; 43: 725-37) and has developed processes to accredit graduate programmes in Endodontology. This policy framework document defines the requirements and processes through which individuals can apply for and, if accepted, become Specialist Members of the ESE. The ultimate goal of the ESE is to reserve the acquisition of ESE Specialist Membership solely for graduates from ESE-accredited training programmes, however, the Society recognises that individuals without such a qualification should have the opportunity to be considered for specialist membership at this initial stage in the development of this new membership category. The ESE is attempting to meet the aspirations of ESE individual members who have extensive expertise (experience, knowledge and skills), acquired additional qualifications and/or have undertaken higher clinical training and/or research and wish to be considered for ESE Specialist Membership. The ESE will maintain a register of ESE Specialist Members.

## **Application process**

Applicants must be an individual member of a full member national society of the ESE (see: <http://www.e-s-e.eu/about-the-e-se/fullmember.php>).

Applications must be made online at:

<http://www.e-s-e.eu/members/specialty/>

Applications will be assessed by the Membership Committee for approval/rejection and subsequently for noting by the Executive Board. It should be appreciated that prior to a final decision being made, the Membership Committee may return the application if it is incomplete or indeed ask for further details regarding training and/or relevant experience.

# Entry Routes

## 1. Graduation from ESE-accredited specialist training programmes in Endodontology

**Individuals graduating from ESE accredited programmes** will be recognised as ESE specialist members without having to provide additional documentary evidence.

(In countries with a recognised specialty in Endodontology the accreditation of a programme by the ESE will be dependent on there being local/national recognition and approval of the programme by the competent authority).

### Application MUST include:

- Certificate of Completion (or equivalent award) from the accredited programme;
- FORM C - CV;
- FORM E - Record of Continuing Professional Development.

## 2. Grand-parenting of existing specialists

**Individuals who are bona fide (genuine) specialists** in countries that have national endodontic/dental societies affiliated with the ESE will be recognised as ESE specialist members following receipt of an application. Thus, applicants who have satisfied national requirements as specialists in Endodontology in countries affiliated with the ESE will be recognised as ESE Specialist Members. Only those individuals working in countries where Endodontology exists as a recognised speciality by the national government and/or the competent body within the country will be eligible for consideration via this route.

### Application MUST include:

- FORM A;
- Evidence from national government/competent authority of pre-existing specialist recognition and status;
- FORM C - CV;
- FORM E - Record of Continuing Professional Development.

## 3. Grand-parenting of existing *de facto* specialists

**Individuals regarded as *de facto* (in fact/actual) specialists (but without formal national recognition)** owing to prior knowledge, exceptional skills, reputation, experience and contribution to the specialty (over an extended period), but who may not have undertaken formal, structured Endodontic training at specialist level. Applicants will need to produce evidence that their training and expertise is of an equivalent level and based on the required skills and knowledge. They will also need to demonstrate a strong portfolio including appropriate detail regarding service development, clinical governance, case logs and references from referrers and professional colleagues to demonstrate equivalence.

### Application MUST include:

- FORM B;
- FORM C - CV;
- FORM D - Clinical Case Log;

- FORM E - Record of Continuing Professional Development;
- Fifteen (15) testimonials from referring dentists and 5 references from professional colleagues (signed by the dentists and on practice/institution headed notepaper so that the ESE has the ability to audit/verify).

#### **4. Mediated entry of dentists who consider their non-ESE-accredited training to be equivalent to ESE-accredited specialist trainees**

*Individuals who have completed training in Endodontology through, as yet, non-ESE-accredited programmes* who are not recognised as Specialists by their national government/competent authority. Applicants need to submit evidence of equivalent specialist training, knowledge and skills.

##### **Application MUST include:**

- Certificate of Completion (or equivalent award) from the accredited programme;
- FORM B;
- FORM C - CV;
- FORM D - Clinical Case Log;
- FORM E - Record of Continuing Professional Development;
- Fifteen (15) testimonials from referring dentists and 5 references from professional colleagues (signed by the dentist and on headed notepaper so that the ESE has the ability to audit/verify).

#### **5. Mediated entry of dentists, not having formal national recognition as a specialist in Endodontology but who can demonstrate evidence of a major contribution to Endodontology through education and research**

*Individuals who have not acquired any or sufficient formalised clinical training for specialist status* or do not have national recognition of such an achievement but may have acquired exceptional scholarship through their long-term involvement in educational and/or research programmes. Applicants will need to demonstrate their expertise through research qualifications, publications, grant income, supervision of research projects and portfolio of involvement in educational programmes, as well as case logs and references from colleagues.

##### **Application MUST include:**

- FORM B;
- FORM C - CV;
- FORM D - Clinical Case Log;
- FORM E - Record of Continuing Professional Development;
- Testimonials from professional colleagues (signed by the colleague and on headed notepaper so that the ESE has the ability to audit/verify).

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

### **FORM D - Clinical case log**

The Clinical Case Log is intended to provide information on an individual's experience in terms of clinical case-load and case-mix. For those making a case primarily based on equivalence of training, this must include evidence of reflective practice, which may be exemplified by reflective notes on each patient, preferably with peer review from supervising specialists. Those recently having completed specialist training are likely to have such case logs in their possession as part of their case portfolio of experience and may submit that as evidence. Practitioners who have been established in practice for some time may not have such a formal portfolio but will inevitably be involved in delivering clinical lectures and are likely to have well-documented cases that they have completed.

The case log is supplemented with a case log summary to depict the diversity and depth of experience. This is not merely about the time spent or the number of cases treated; it is about demonstration of a reflective practice that led to discernible progress in the quality of case management. However, it is likely that established practitioners will have many-fold more cases than the indicative numbers suggested, perhaps without equivalent reflective notes. It would therefore be useful for them to estimate the numbers treated per year and offer for audit (if requested) those treated during the previous year plus any cases of special interest or merit together with reflective notes.

For those practitioners more recently involved in endodontics who may not have in their possession a previously completed training case log and have more modest case-loads, a full spectrum of cases should be submitted in the case log summary in the knowledge that the assessing panel could request any of them for audit.

The clinical case log should contain 250 completed cases [180 molar & 10 surgical] with 20 fully documented cases with reflection.

### **FORM E - Record of Continuing Professional Development (CPD)**

To characterise the nature and extent of active continuing professional development a list of activities taken over the last 5 years is required. These must include certificates of attendance. The documents / certificates must be scanned and uploaded as individual PDFs in date order. The programmes included should be delivered by recognised, specialist and academic experts and should be quality managed with participant feedback. Activities should include academic as well as practical courses with evidence of integration of both.

### **Time-frame for the process**

Entry through accredited programmes will remain the main avenue of entry in the future as long as such programmes remain open and available. The ESE is planning to close the mediated entry route in 2020.

## Submitted evidence

The ESE requires documentary evidence to support applications so that decisions can be made on a fair and equitable basis on the **standards achieved** rather than **time spent** by the applicants. Qualification for the ESE specialist membership list will be judged by the accumulative points-score from the assessment of the domains listed below. To qualify for entry to the ESE specialist list, the applicant should exceed the threshold of **200 credit points**, 150 of which **MUST** originate from domains A, B or C (for maximum scores see Table below). Applicants should have a varied emphasis in the different domains; it is not expected that each applicant will show a fulsome submission in each of the six domains; however, all applicants should show an up-to-date CPD record (E).

**The ESE requires documentary evidence about the applicant in the following domains:**

Domain		Max credit points	
<b>A</b>	Evidence of formally recognised specialist status (through national governance mechanisms where available).	<b>150</b>	<b>At least 150 points required from sections A, B and C</b>
<b>B</b>	Demonstration of <b>equivalence to a bona fide specialist</b> in respect of training, learning and experience (from form B)	<b>125</b>	
<b>C</b>	CV (must include details of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• formal examinations of relevance to Endodontology;</li> <li>• relevant posts held;</li> <li>• relevant clinical experience acquired;</li> <li>• evidence of clinical leadership in endodontic education and research;</li> <li>• evidence and level of engagement with clinical governance (including audit) and endodontic service delivery;</li> <li>• relevant research and publications; membership, participation and contribution to relevant committees and specialist societies; evidence of relevant enabling activities such as mentorship and guidance to develop faculty or junior staff.</li> </ul>	<b>100</b>	
<b>D</b>	Training clinical case log of treated cases demonstrating experience acquired by case-load and case-mix MUST include reflective notes on 20 fully documented cases, preferably with peer review from a specialist where equivalence in training is the primary justification.	<b>50</b>	
<b>E</b>	Record of CPD MUST include a complete list of all courses attended in the last 5 years with validated certificates of attendance and completion.	<b>25</b>	
<b>F</b>	Testimonials and references from referrers, and professional colleagues MUST include verifiable addresses, signatures and be submitted on practice/institution headed notepaper.	<b>25</b>	
	Total Required		<b>200</b>

### Summary Documentation required

		Personal details	Form A Evidence of specialist status	Form B Equivalence in training	FORM C curriculum vitae	FORM D Log Book	FORM E CPD record	Other requirements
1	Graduation from ESE-accredited specialist training programmes in Endodontology	YES			YES		YES	<i>Certificate of Completion of programme (or equivalent)</i>
2	Grand-parenting of existing specialists	YES	YES		YES		YES	<i>Evidence from national competent authority of pre-existing specialist status</i>
3	Grand-parenting of existing <i>de facto</i> specialists	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	
4	Mediated entry where non-ESE-accredited training considered equivalent to ESE-accredited specialist trainees	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	<i>Certificate of completion of programme (or equivalent)</i>
5	Mediated entry - no formal national recognition as Endodontology specialist demonstrate evidence of a major contribution to Endodontology through education and research.	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	