

MEMBERSHIP OF ACCEA COMMITTEES

Background

The ACCEA is an independent, Non-Departmental Public Body whose main function is to receive and assess applications from NHS consultants and academic GPs for Clinical Excellence Awards.

The current Clinical Excellence Award Scheme has been under review for over two years. In December 2012 the DH published the Review Body on Doctors' and Dentists' Remuneration (DDRB) report on a 'Review of compensation levels, incentives and the Clinical Excellence and Distinction Award schemes for NHS consultants'. The proposals in this report which are wide ranging are currently the subject of discussions between the BMA and the NHSE. As a new scheme cannot be in place until 2014 at the very earliest ACCEA is anticipating that there will be a 2013 round of Clinical Excellence Awards although at this stage formal authorisation to hold a round has not been given.

On the assumption of a 2013 round ACCEA wishes to continue with its established principle of having a regular turnover of regional sub-committee members.

Sub-committees

Therefore, there are frequently vacancies for Professional, Lay and Employer members in all the regional sub-committees in England and Wales, see further information.

The sub-committees are responsible for assessing applications from consultants and academic GPs for new national awards and applications for renewal of existing national awards. They take account of recommendations from employers, National Nominating Bodies and Specialist Societies and submit their recommendations to the Chair and Medical Director of ACCEA. Members are appointed not as representatives of any organisation or group but as individuals who will use their background knowledge and experience to assess applications in a fair, transparent and equitable manner according to ACCEA guidance. Each sub-committee receives up to 300 new applications and about 50 applications for renewal of awards. Each sub-committee member is required to score on-line about half of these applications within a specific time period and to attend two meetings of their sub-committee.

Professional members are experienced NHS consultants or academic GPs of good standing who do not hold formal positions in a National Nominating Body (eg Royal Colleges) or Specialist Society although they can have held such positions in the past. The majority of sub-committee members already hold a national award themselves although it is the policy of the scheme to also have some local award holders on its national sub-committees.

Employer members on each sub-committee are ideally a mix of Chief Executives, HR Directors and Medical Directors.



Lay members should be knowledgeable about the working of the NHS and have informed lay involvement in health and the patient's perspective, perhaps through serving on a Trust Board

Chairs and Medical Vice-Chairs of sub-committees

Chairs should be lay members who are knowledgeable about the NHS and have informed lay involvement in health and the patient's perspective.

Medical Vice-Chairs should be NHS consultants or academic GPs and in receipt of a gold or platinum Clinical Excellence Award or an A or A plus Distinction Award or someone who once in recent of one of these awards and has very recently retired.

Main committee of ACCEA

The main committee has professional, employer and lay members with representation from the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, Universities UK and the Department of Health.

The main committee sets the policies by which the scheme operates, based on the Framework Document of 2003 on which the scheme was established. In particular it establishes the criteria against which candidates will be assessed and sets up and administers the process by which applications will be judged. The main committee decides on the final recommendations to be made to the Minister for new awards and the renewal of awards. These recommendations are based on the recommendations brought to the main committee by the ACCEA Chair and Medical Director from the regional sub-committees and after consideration of the rankings of applications by National Nominating Bodies.

Further Information

Please contact Julie.O'Connell@dh.gsi.gov.uk at the ACCEA secretariat for further information.

