

CLINICAL IMPACT AWARDS FOR SENIOR ACADEMIC GENERAL PRACTITIONERS 2022 ROUND

RCGP/SAPC GUIDANCE FOR POTENTIAL APPLICANTS FOR NATIONAL LEVEL AWARDS

This guidance has been prepared by the RCGP/SAPC to assist senior academic GPs (SAGPs) considering applying for national level Clinical Impact Awards (CIA) in the 2022 round. These awards were previously known as Clinical Excellence Awards, administered by the Advisory Committee on Clinical Excellence Awards (ACCEA) (which is now known as the Advisory Committee on Clinical Impact Awards (ACCIA)).

The current Clinical Impact Award scheme will be open from 27 April 2022 with a closing date of 22 June 2022. Details are available on the ACCEA/ACCIA website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/clinical-excellence-awards-application-guidance>

There are some important changes to the awards this year and the following is taken from the Applicants' Quick Guide:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/clinical-excellence-awards-application-guidance/applicants-quick-guide-2022-awards-round>

“What the changes bring

More awards

After the transition period, we plan to have up to 600 awards each year in England and 37 in Wales.

A new brand

The national Clinical Impact Awards shows that it is the effectiveness of the work you do that matters.

3 award levels

In England:

- national 1 (lowest)
- national 2
- national 3 (highest)

Four levels in Wales: 0 to 3, plus local awards.

5 domains

1. Service delivery and development
2. Leadership
3. Education, training and people development
4. Innovation and research
5. Additional national impact

An easier application process

A single-level application process, and the level of the award you get is based on your score so you can get a higher award more quickly.

Simplified for employers

Employers only need to indicate their support or lack of support, and provide a citation for each applicant.

No pro-rated awards

Those working less than full time (LTFT) will receive the full value of award payments.

No renewals

All awards are held for 5 years. You can then re-apply for a new award.

No pensionability

NCIAs are not pensionable or consolidated” although there are transitional arrangements for colleagues currently in receipt of a national Clinical Excellence Award, if successful when applying for a national Clinical Impact Award.

1. Eligibility

According to current guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/clinical-excellence-awards-application-guidance/guide-for-applicants-national-clinical-excellence-awards-2021-awards-round#part-2-check-you-are-eligible> you are eligible to apply if you are:

- “employed by an NHS organisation (in England or Wales), DHSC or its arm’s length bodies, the Welsh Government or similarly associated Welsh Government organisations, a university, medical or dental school, or local authority. Applications from employees of other organisations may be eligible, including those on consultant contracts providing contracted out NHS services. Please contact us at accia@dhsc.gov.uk before you apply, if you need any clarification
- an academic GP, if your responsibilities are the same as consultant clinical academic staff and you are fully registered with a licence to practise. You can apply for awards if you:
 - work at least half your hours as an academic GP
 - are a practising clinician providing some direct NHS services
 - do at least 5 PAs or equivalent sessions that help the NHS, including teaching and clinical research”

The eligibility of **honorary contract holders** for awards will be based on the contribution made to the NHS defined in wider terms than direct care to patients. For most SAGPs in England the honorary contract will be with NHS England.

As noted above, the entitlement to eligibility for an award is based on five programmed activities (or equivalent sessional time) beneficial to the NHS, including teaching and clinical research. Applicants should summarise the job plan agreed at their (Follett) joint appraisal between their NHS appraiser and University. It is important to include in the job plan all programmed activities spent on NHS work, including face to face contact with patients (one PA = 4 hours), patient and NHS related administration, supporting professional activities (continuing professional development, RCGP/SAPC work and national committees), hands-on clinical teaching, and hands-on clinical research. These activities should be distinguished from academic programmed activities including regional, national and international commitments to R&D, and contributions to the organisation and management of teaching (undergraduate, postgraduate, and academic training pathways).

Postgraduate Deans of Medicine and Dentistry are eligible for CIAs if they are ‘a definitive Postgraduate Dean appointed in competition from both General Practitioners and consultants and with responsibilities for postgraduate trainees across all specialties’.

2. The RCGP/SAPC process

When applying for a national Clinical Impact Award, applicants can nominate only one organisation as their National Nominating Organisation (NNO).

The RCGP and SAPC have agreed with ACCIA that, for the 2022 round, the RCGP will be the sole NNO for SAGPs wishing to have their nomination from a primary care organisation. RCGP and SAPC have, however, agreed to work together on assessing and ranking applications.

RCGP is responsible for providing citations and rank-ordering applications and will send these directly to ACCIA.

Completed Applications

It is up to SAGPs to ensure that paperwork is completed in time for the College's deadline. The College will not chase those people who have submitted notification of intent to apply but have not submitted completed paperwork.

Details of information needed by the RCGP are listed below. Please do **not** use abbreviations or acronyms in your documentation. Full applications to the RCGP should consist of:

- A copy of the **formal application form**. (If you have not already submitted your completed on-line application to the ACCEA by the RCGP deadline, you should nevertheless send a copy of your latest draft version to the College so it can be adjudicated).
- **Information for Citation:** Please send a covering letter/email of no more than 900 characters (150 words) reminding us of relevant achievements. This should be phrased differently to the information given in your personal statement. Do not be over-modest; emphasise work you have done for patients, the NHS and the College/SAPC (or other relevant organisations) on a national or international scale (remembering that it is national impact that is considered most important in the guidance). Once the citation is submitted, the College would not normally show this to the applicant.
- You will receive confirmation that the citation has been sent by accessing the on-line application system.
- RCGP/SAPC cannot guarantee to provide citations for applications sent after the College deadline and the applicant will not be included in its ranking. You may submit directly to the ACCIA without a College citation. Regional committees pay a good deal of attention to citations and rankings from NNOs, however, so applicants should bear this in mind.

Both documents should be sent to ncia@rcgp.org.uk by **Friday 20 May 2022 at 12:00 (noon)**.

The Clinical Impact Awards Advisory Group responsible for preparing the College's rank-ordered recommendations is a sub-committee of the RCGP Awards Committee, chaired by the President.

The Advisory Group for the 2022 round will consist of Dame Clare Gerada (RCGP President & Chair of CIA Panel) and up to 15 academic GPs (representing RCGP and SAPC) and a lay representative. The advisory group and the College's CIA activities are administered by Kate Messent (ncia@rcgp.org.uk 020 3188 7534).

Completed applications received in the College by 20 May 2022 will be considered by all panel members working independently, and the group's consensus rank order will be submitted to the ACCIA.

We would not wish anyone to canvass members of the advisory group.

In accordance with the usual practice of other Royal Colleges, the RCGP rank order list will remain confidential.

3. Results

Annual results will be publicised by the ACCIA.

4. Finally ...

I, or Kate Messent ncia@rcgp.org.uk will be happy to try to answer any queries you have about the process.

**Dame Clare Gerada, President
College Lead Officer, RCGP ACCIA Awards**

Appendix I - Deadlines – ACCIA AWARDS 2022

As soon as possible

Notify ncia@rcgp.org.uk of intention to apply for award, including your GMC number.

27 April 2022

ACCIA round opens. Further details and forms available on website:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/clinical-excellence-awards-application-guidance>

Friday 20 May 2022: 12:00, noon (or in advance if possible)

Application form (latest draft if necessary) and background information for citation to ncia@rcgp.org.uk

This deadline is non-negotiable

23 May - 10 June 2022

Completion of RCGP/SAPC adjudication and ranking. Decisions, together with citations sent to ACCIA in time for their deadline.

ACCIA deadline Wednesday 22 June 2022

Applications received even a few minutes after the ACCIA deadline CANNOT be accepted by the ACCIA (the website will close at that point).