



The Royal College of Pathologists
Pathology: the science behind the cure



**RCPATH/IBMS Advanced Specialist Diploma (ASD) in
Histopathology Reporting
(Gynaecological Pathology /Gastrointestinal Pathology/ Dermatopathology)
Assessment Arrangements Information for Candidates**

The Royal College of Pathologists (RCPATH) and the Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS) are committed to working together on the delivery of the ASD in Histopathology Reporting (Stages A, B and C) and the subsequent preceptorship qualification (Stage D). The RCPATH are responsible for delivering the Stage A and Stage C examinations. The IBMS oversee and administer the assessment of the portfolios for Stages A, B and C. The Conjoint Board is responsible for making a recommendation to the College Council of the successful completion of Stage D.

For each stage, the full requirements of the portfolio must be met before it can be submitted. Please refer to the guidance to candidates and trainers document on the IBMS website for more information for the evidence that must be submitted for each stage of each qualification.

Arrangements for 2022 (Updated 5 July 2022)

Portfolio Submission – General Information

Portfolios should be submitted electronically rather than in hard copy format via email to examinations@ibms.org or by sending to that email address a link to shared folder (such as Google Docs or One Drive) where the Head of Examinations can download your portfolio.

The assessment arrangements in 2022 for each stage are as follows:

Stage A Portfolio

Candidates who wish to sit the Stage A exam in September 2022 can submit their Stage A portfolio to [Chris Ward](mailto:Chris.Ward@ibms.org) at the IBMS from Friday 1 July 2022. The deadline for submission is **Friday 26 August 2022**.

The fee for the assessment of the portfolio is **£276** which must be paid to the IBMS. Candidates must submit the completed application form along with payment information and the portfolio by the stated date. Candidates may not have received the outcome of the marking of their portfolio before the application window for the exam opens however, they must still apply to sit the exam during that window. (See below)

Questions about the Stage A portfolio element can be directed to examinations@ibms.org

Stage A Examination (Thursday 22 September 2022 in Shrewsbury)

Candidates who wish to sit the Stage A examination will need to apply and pay online directly to the Royal College of Pathologists via the [RCPATH website](#). The cost of the examination in 2021 is **£281**. The exam application window for the Stage A examination will open on Monday 18 July and close on Friday 29 July. Both the overarching [RCPATH regulations and guidelines, complaints and appeals policies](#) and the [Stage A Regulations and Guidelines](#) will apply to candidates undertaking the examination.

Candidates will be notified of the date for the release of the examinations results once this has been confirmed by the College. Questions about the Stage A examination should be directed to exams@rcpath.org. To pass Stage A candidates will need to achieve a pass for both the portfolio and the examination.

Stage B Portfolio

There is no examination in Stage B and therefore candidates can submit their Stage B portfolio to [Chris Ward](#) at the IBMS at any point throughout the year. The fee for the assessment of the portfolio is **£276** which must be paid to the IBMS. Candidates must submit the completed application form along with payment information either prior to or with the submission of the portfolio. Questions about the Stage B portfolio element can be directed to examinations@ibms.org

Stage C Portfolio

Candidates can submit their Stage C portfolio to [Chris Ward](#) at the IBMS from **Friday 1 July 2022**. The deadline for submission is **Friday 23 September 2022**. The fee for the assessment of the portfolio is **£276** which must be paid to the IBMS.

Candidates must submit the completed application form along with payment information and the portfolio by the stated date. Candidates may not have received the outcome of the marking of their portfolio before the application window for the exam opens however, they must still apply to sit the exam during that window. (See below)

Questions about the Stage C portfolio element can be directed to examinations@ibms.org

Stage C Examination (Wednesday 2 and Thursday 3 November 2022 in Shrewsbury)

To sit the Stage C examination candidates will need to apply and pay online directly to the Royal College of Pathologists via the [RCPATH website](#). The cost of the examination in 2022 is **£686**. The exam application window for the Stage C examination will open on Monday 8 August and close on Friday 19 August. Both the overarching [RCPATH regulations and guidelines, complaints and appeals policies](#) and the [Stage C Regulations and Guidelines](#) will apply to candidates undertaking the examination.

The date for the release of the examinations results to candidates will be dependent on the date that the Stage C exam takes place. Questions about the Stage C examination should be directed to exams@rcpath.org. To pass Stage C candidates will need to achieve a pass for both the portfolio and the examination.

Stage D

The Conjoint Board will review the submitted portfolios and will recommend to the Royal College of Pathologists Council those candidates it feels has met the standard required. The College Council will ratify the decision of the Conjoint Board at one of their meetings. If they confirm the decision of the Conjoint Board that the candidate has met the standard the individual concerned will be invited to attend one of the RCPATH New Fellow Ceremony.

For there to be sufficient time for the Conjoint Board to review the portfolio and make a recommendation to the College Council candidates must submit their completed portfolio by **Friday 23 September** for the November Council Meeting.

There is no fee for the assessment of this portfolio and there is no examination at the end of Stage D.