

To all those interested in applying for the senior registrar scheme.

Each year I receive requests for guidance on both the application process and the expectations in relation to the scheme. The website details the processes that you need to go through. However, nothing succeeds like success so this year we have examples of interviews presentations and completed projects for you to look at.

This year's group have agreed to paste both their initial interview and final presentations. These presentations highlight what is expected of applicants to get onto the scheme and the achievements of those who have taken part. The key for the future from 2007 will be to attempt to secure funding for half your salary from the Trust or organisation with whom you will be undertaking your project. This is a tall order, however it is not impossible, as Susie Barnes shows. Having the organisation 'on your back to deliver' ensures that you are speaking with the right people at the right time. Six months is a short time and hitting the ground running and wanted is much more effective and fulfilling. Planning for the scheme therefore needs to start now. Not succeeding with joint funding will not jeopardise your application just as succeeding will not ensure you a place. This remains an educational process, shared funding obviously allows for more involvement and ownership of the project for the individual and more senior registrars for the Deanery.

The challenges for those involved in the scheme are twofold. Individual personal development needs to marry up with improvement of healthcare in a broader sense. I suggest that you contact your local organisations to see what their priorities are for the forthcoming year. These may be PCTs, collaboratives, Trusts Local Authorities etc etc. Clinical involvement is a must for most initiatives and as the potential leaders of the future, you are the people to be in there. I will be contacting all commissioning leads and highlighting the success of having joint investment within the scheme.

The local delivery plan (LDP), the public health reports, the local and government priorities, all of the new ways of working within health are out there. The first Senior Registrar hurdle is to link these wider views with your passion or project. The interview presentations will help and will hopefully show you the level aimed for on the scheme, the final presentations will show you how things change, develop and finally exceed all expectations. Please feel free to email me with queries, once you have undertaken your initial searches and project thinking.

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