



UNION EUROPEENNE DES MEDECINS SPECIALISTES
EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

SECTION & BOARD OF SURGERY - GENERAL SURGERY DIVISION

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA and GUIDANCE

The requirements below apply to Qualification (Fellowship) through examination.

Conferment of the Honorary FEBS General Surgery is now restricted to colleagues not already in possession of the FEBS, who are called to be examiners at the UEMS EBSQ General Surgery Examination. It will not any longer be conferred in response to a proposal or an application.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

General requirements:

The UEMS EBSQ General Surgery Examination is open to any general surgeon, provided that the Division is satisfied and that the training, skills and qualifications meet its standards. As a minimum, the applicant must be medically qualified, have completed six years of post-graduate surgical training and be a surgeon able to perform independently most basic general procedures. A Certificate of Completion of Surgical Training or a specialist registration are not prerequisites.

1. Application Form: filled and signed.

It is the responsibility of the candidate to make sure his/her referee's contact details (email address and/or mobile telephone number) are accurate. The email addresses of the Head of Department and/or Medical Director and/or Coordinator of training have to be current and belong to an official domain. If said contact details cannot be checked by the committee, the candidate may be deemed ineligible.

2. Curriculum Vitae: A curriculum Vitae must be provided (see template).

3. Qualification: Scanned evidence of **Primary Medical Qualification** such as a certificate of successful completion of an undergraduate medical course, a pass at final medical school examinations, or a University medical graduation diploma, must be provided. They must clearly show the country of qualification, the date and the issuing body.

4. Training: Scanned evidence of a minimum of six post-graduate years in surgical training and/or surgical practice, in a Medical Centre where the applicant has been supervised. These years are counted from the date of the primary degree to the closing date of application for the Examination, if there is a continuum, or in total if there were gaps.

5. Registration: A scanned copy of a current National Authority registration certificate i.e. a document certifying that the candidate is registered as a practicing medical doctor with his/her National Authority needs to be submitted. Specialist registration is not necessary.

6. Identification: A scanned copy of the photograph page of the passport or EU national identity card is necessary. The name as spelled on this document will be used by the UEMS for all matters pertaining to the examination.

7. Logbook: The logbook is a very important part of your application. You must provide evidence of competence on the template provided (please see 'Evidence of competence Logbook' on website).

An endorsed logbook of comparable layout and consolidation, such as an eLogbook, may be acceptable; in this case, endorsed Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) should appear as well (see website).



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Whatever the format, each page must show your name and the name of the hospital and be endorsed by your Training Tutor, Head of Department, Clinical Director or equivalent.

8. Credit points: The candidate must have a total of 25 credit points based on the following criteria:

- Participation at recognized international congress (4 points)
- Participation at recognized international congress with presentation (8 points)
- Participation national congress (2 points)
- Participation at national congress with presentation (4 points)
- Participation at relevant International Postgraduate Course (6 points)
- Publication (first authorship) in peer reviewed national surgical journal (8 points)
- Publication (first authorship) in peer reviewed international surgical journal (12 points)

A consolidation of documents submitted with the number of credit points claimed must be included.

9. Recommendations: Candidates have to be recommended by two Referees. The referees must be surgeons of Consultant Grade or equivalent, who have had direct knowledge of the applicant during the training or work period. Referees need not be Fellows of the European Board. One of those Referees must be the current Training tutor, Head of Department or Clinical Director. These referees are also required to counter-sign the application form.

The recommendation letter should be given on the template provided and must show clearly the name and position of the referee. A reference letter written for a different purpose than this particular exam may be accepted as long as it is less than two years old and addresses most of the points mentioned on the template, on the Eligibility Committee decision.

10. Payment: Payments must be made via Paypal directly on **the QuizOne web platform dedicated to registrations.**

The eligibility fee is to be paid when the applicant registers for the certification.

The examination fee should be paid once the eligibility of the applicant has been confirmed, within two weeks following confirmation of selection, to finalise the registration for the examination.

All fees paid are non-refundable. The exam fee may be transferred to another exam sitting if more than 30 days' notice is given.

For those who have been assessed eligible, you may postpone for up to 24 months without having to pass and pay the eligibility assessment again. After 24 months you must go through the eligibility assessment again.

11. Cancellation:

- **Cancellation/Postponement up to 30 days before the exam:**
Exam fees (if paid) postponed to next sitting + an admin charge of 90 euro will be charged when candidate re-apply for the exam.
- **Cancellation/Postponement less than 30 days before the exam:**
Exam fees are not transferred to the next exam and not refundable. When re-applying for the exam, the candidate must pay the exam fee again + 90 euros administration fee.

Reasonable cancellations within 30 days of the exam will be considered on a case by case basis at the discretion of the Board of Examination. Supporting documentation is required.



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For those who have been assessed eligible, you may postpone for up to 24 months without having to pass and pay the eligibility assessment again. After 24 months you must go through the eligibility assessment again and pay its fee.

All fees paid are non-refundable. The exam fee may be transferred to another exam sitting if more than 30 days' notice is given.

ELIGIBILITY GUIDANCE

Language: The candidate must be able to communicate in the English language. Examinations in the local national language(s) may be additionally organized, at the discretion of the Division and Board.

Certification: Diplomas and registration certificates must be submitted as scanned originals or scanned certified copies. Scanned simple copies of recommendation letters and course attendance certificates may be accepted. It is the responsibility of the candidate to make sure his/her referee's contact details (email address and phone number) are accurate. The email addresses and/or contact numbers of the Head of Department or Medical Director or Coordinator of training have to be current and belong to an official domain. If said contacts cannot be checked by the committee, the candidate may be deemed ineligible.

Translations: Documents which are not in English must be submitted with an attached certified English translation (translation by a sworn translator or certified as correct by an official Institution: Notary, Ministry for Foreign Affairs).

Verification: The Eligibility Committee reserves the right to verify the documents submitted and to contact referees directly if considered necessary.

Number of attempts at the exam: A candidate is not allowed to sit the UEMS EBSQ General Surgery examination for more than four times.

Probity: Issues of fitness to practice such as past or present investigations or suspensions must be disclosed to the Eligibility Committee at the time of application. Should such issues occur after the eligibility decision has been made, the candidate must inform the Chairperson of the Examination as soon as possible. Failure to do so could end in the result of the Examination being declared null and void.

Fee: The Eligibility process doesn't start unless the current eligibility fee has been paid. Applications will not be considered without this first payment. Should the candidate be subsequently found eligible to sit the examination, a second payment, for the examination fee, will be necessary before sitting the examination. None of the two fees (eligibility and examination) is refundable.

Please refer to the 'Payment' section.

OTHER IMPORTANT POINTS about ELIGIBILITY

Places are limited and early, **early applications** are strongly encouraged.

A **checklist** is provided at the end of the application form; its use is strongly recommended.

Because the emphasis and attitudes regarding the spectrum of competences and education within General Surgery varies significantly between individual states, applicants are **not** expected to have attained Entrustable Professional Activity (EPA) competency in each and every item listed. The Eligibility Committee will apply the correct degree of **flexibility** in its assessment of applications, allowing for equivalence and compensation of some procedures.



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Should your application be complete, the Eligibility Committee is committed to let you know as soon as possible of its decision.

The UEMS Office is available for informal enquiries if points relating to how to prepare your application remain unclear. However, a definite answer as to your eligibility cannot be provided until the due eligibility process has taken place.