# EoE Public Health Training Programme

MPhil Guidance

This policy outlines the training programme’s expectations of registrars in public health funded and supported on the MPhil in Public Health. The policy covers funding arrangements, attendance, expenses, leave (including study leave), supervision and examinations.

### General Information

The curriculum for public health requires a sound knowledge foundation which is delivered in phase one of training and assessed through the Faculty of Public Health Diplomate exam (DFPH). A master’s degree is not a prerequisite for CCT.

The East of England PH training programme supports StRs in gaining the knowledge foundation through attendance at the MPhil in Population Health Sciences at the University of Cambridge (<https://www.phs.masters.cam.ac.uk/>).

New recruits who already have elements of the knowledge foundation through previous study may attend modules as relevant in discussion with the Training Programme Directors.

Attendance on this course does not signify full time student status. Registrars are salaried employees during this period and are expected to deliver a degree of service work at their training location outside of term-time. Registrars should expect to spend a significant amount of their personal time in private study to complete the required elements of the course.

#### Course Structure

The course is delivered over three terms. The timetable is available from the MPhil administrator.

The course is generally timetabled over four days each week. StRs wanting to work less than full time during the first year can enrol for a part-time MPhil over 2 years, in agreement with the TPDs.

##### Attendance

StRs are expected to attend all sessions. Absence should be notified to the MPhil Administrator and NHSE EoE Programme Administrator. Time outside university terms must be spent full time in the service base.

During these periods StRs should be undertaking service work relating to their phase 1 learning outcomes. The dissertation element of the MPhil is prepared between the MPhil written examinations and the end of July. StRs may work full time on their dissertation during this period.

##### Supervision

StRs will be allocated an academic supervisor during induction to the MPhil.

##### Examinations

StRs registered for the MPhil are expected to sit the University examinations in June.

Normally StRs will sit the Diplomate exam DFPH in the following March (their second year). StRs wishing to sit the DFPH exam early should discuss their case with the Training Programme Directors. StRs may not defer their March sitting without agreement of the Training Programme Directors; deferment without agreement will be seen as failure to progress and addressed at the next available annual review of progress.

**Examination Support**

The programme runs a DFPH preparation programme during the autumn preceding the exam. The preparation programme is based on peer learning and support through one or more cohort revision groups but also includes formal revisions sessions, sessions on exam technique, mock exams, and a peer mentoring system.

**Study Leave**

StRs in their first year are not entitled to study leave other than for attendance at the MPhil, induction and PHREE days. Time spent on the MPhil counts as study leave. (Please also see the [EoE PHTP Study Leave Policy June 2023](https://heeoe.hee.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/eoe_phtp_study_leave_policy_-_june_23_final.pdf))

**Leave**

Leave should not be taken in term time without permission of the academic director. Annual leave taken during time outside term must be in accordance with standard leave policy and agreed by the educational supervisor.

##### Expenses

The cost of the MPhil is typically borne by the programme, including basic college registration fees and tuition costs (totalling more than £12,000).

StRs may claim the cost of accommodation and travel in line with the [Relocation and Travel](https://leademployer.sthk.nhs.uk/media/Documents/Policies%20and%20Forms/Removal%20relocation%20and%20excess%20milage/HEE-National-Relocation-Framework-Final-1-November-2020.pdf)

[Expenses policy.](https://leademployer.sthk.nhs.uk/media/Documents/Policies%20and%20Forms/Removal%20relocation%20and%20excess%20milage/HEE-National-Relocation-Framework-Final-1-November-2020.pdf)