

CESR FAQs: Applicable to all versions of the curricula

Q. Why does CESR only take into account the 6 years prior to the application?

A. An applicant needs to demonstrate that their knowledge, skills and experience across the depth and breadth of the curriculum is up to date at the point of entry to the specialist register. The GMC has a Currency of evidence for CESR/CEGPR applications policy https://www.gmc-uk.org/-/media/documents/policy---sat---currency-of-evidence-for-cesr-and-cegpr-applications-policy---dc13786_docx-87227302.docx. (The policy refers to a period of 5 years, although for surgery this is for 6 years.)

Q. What should I do about the period of time lost to Covid?

A. If an applicant who is planning to apply for CESR and is still gathering evidence is disrupted from doing this by either being redeployed or isolated for long periods, they should have the opportunity to gain this after the period of work disrupted due to the pandemic. For example, if at disruption, they still need 6 months to gain some competencies, we could count 5½ years prior to disruption and then a further 6 months post-disruption.

Q. Will you look back further than 6 years if I have been working less than full time (LTFT)?

A. Provided that there is enough up to date evidence of competency across the specialty, a longer period of time than 6 years could be considered in terms of numbers. However, the same does not apply to evidence of competency (WBAs) as this may have lessened over time/may have become deskilled.