



European Prosthodontic Association

Specialization Committee

Application for Specialty Recognition

The EPA will recognise three levels of application

1. Any prosthodontic specialist legally authorised by a government or professional body in a European country (in the same way as EC (EU) now recognises a medical or dental specialist in the listed specialties – e.g. for Dentistry Orthodontics and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery- may apply for EPA Specialty recognition and will automatically be recognised (Group 1).
2. Any prosthodontic specialist that has completed a well-documented specialty training programme (minimum 3 years full time program having accumulated 180 ECTS credits [European Credit Transfer System] or equivalent), which includes supervised clinical training and final examinations) may apply for EPA Specialty recognition and will be recognised after assessment of the Prosthodontic Specialty Training Programme by the EPA Specialisation Committee (EPASC) (Group 2).
3. Dentists with individual training who may not follow any formal pathway of training may apply for EPA Specialty recognition. After individual assessment of the training in Prosthodontics by the EPA Specialization Committee (EPASC) they may be offered the opportunity to be examined by the EPASC upon submission of 8 fully documented clinical cases, and will be recognised after successful outcome in the examination (Group 3)

Recognition for the above groups will be

1. Group 1: Automatic recognition of any legally Nationally approved European prosthodontic specialist
2. Group 2: “Direct recognition” of any European Dentist who has passed a Prosthodontic Specialty Training Programme that has been judged by the EPASC to have a standard that is of the same level as those in countries with legal recognition
3. Group 3: Individual recognition after evaluation of the submitted documentation and presentation of eight case studies and their defense before the EPA Specialisation Committee (EPASC)

APPLICATION for GROUP 1 and 2

All applicants must complete and e-mail to EPASC Honorary Secretary Dr Mario Bresciano (mariobresciano@me.com) the following:

1. The online application form, filled, signed and scanned.
2. A concise CV in English
3. Proof of EPA Membership
4. A portrait photo in digital format (JPG file)
5. Proof of payment of the application fee (€150). Online PayPal payment is preferred, although Bank Transfer is also accepted.

Bank Transfer	Beneficiary Name: European Prosthodontic Association IBAN: GR4501727940005794103275177 SWIFT_BIC: PIRBGRAA	
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For applicants in group 1

6. A copy of their National Specialist Certificate
7. A copy of their National Specialist Registration

For applicants in group 2

6. Proof that the candidate has attended full-time for at least 3 years (180 ECTS or equivalent) a Prosthodontic Specialty Program with supervised clinical training and final examination. This can be a copy of the diploma received at the end of training, with its English translation, or a letter in English from the head of the department certifying the completion of the above mentioned requirements.

APPLICATION for GROUP 3

Principles

Individual recognition, after evaluation of the Curriculum Vitae and of documented prosthodontic cases, and their defence before the EPA Specialisation Committee.

Requirements:

Applicants in group 3 should:

- Have a broad-based understanding of the theory and practice of Prosthodontics set in the context of total patient care, including relevant basic scientific concepts.
- Have a curriculum focused on clinical training so that the candidate attains competence to make diagnoses from patient history and collection of findings, and to formulate overall treatment plans. To implement these treatment plans and to critically evaluate the results. To acquire long-term experience through re-evaluation and further care of patients whom they have previously treated.
- Have reached a level of understanding appropriate to a three-year specialty training programme in Prosthodontics.
- Complete, document, and present 8 cases so that they display knowledge of the entire spectrum of prosthodontic care.
- Be prepared to defend their choices of treatment in front of the EPA Specialisation Committee and be aware of recent developments in their specialty field.

Application Process

The application for Group 3 is a three step process which involves different levels of evaluations.

STEP 1

Applicants must complete and e-mail to EPASC Honorary Secretary, Dr Mario Bresciano (mariobresciano@me.com) the following:

1. The online application form, filled, signed and scanned.
2. Proof of payment of the non-refundable application fee (€150). Online PayPal payment is preferred, although Bank Transfer is also accepted.

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3. Proof of current EPA Membership
4. A portrait photo in digital format (JPG file).
5. A detailed Curriculum Vitae in English which shall include
 - the number of years practicing prosthodontics
 - details of academic career and current position (if applicable)
 - list of publications (citation format)
 - full details of University Post-Graduate or Master Courses, which should include:
 - Title of degree course
 - Awarding body
 - Year of award
 - Module content with credits awarded
 - English Translation where necessary
 - full details of non-university continuing education structured courses e.g. certificate or diploma courses (one or two day courses are not acceptable) which should include:
 - Title of course
 - Awarding body
 - Year of completion
 - Length of course with CE credits awarded

Evaluation of STEP 1: CV evaluation

Once the application form and all the required documents are received by the Hon Secretary and sent to its members, the EPASC committee will:

1. Evaluate the CV of the candidate
2. Inform the candidate of:
 - a. her/his acceptance to Group 3 exam
 - b. her/his rejection with detailed feedback and suggestions for future acceptance

Criteria for Evaluation of CV

The EPASC will consider the entire career of the applicant, taking into account her/his clinical experience, scientific contribution, academic qualifications and continuing education attendance.

Although minimum criteria cannot be established, as a general guideline applicants are expected to have reached a level of understanding appropriate to a three-year specialty training program in Prosthodontics.

STEP 2

Once invited to participate in the examination, which is usually held during the annual EPA Conference, the candidate shall email to the Hon. Secretary Dr Mario Bresciano (mariobresciano@me.com) the following:

1. Proof of payment of the examination fee (€180). Online PayPal payment is preferred, although Bank Transfer is also accepted.

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2. Eight (8) PowerPoint or Keynote presentations of prosthodontic cases in **.pdf** format (medium quality). These should be sent using the free file transfer service “WeTransfer” (<https://wetransfer.com/>).
3. A signed declaration that all patients have given the candidate their permission for using their images, thereof exempting EPA from any legal responsibility regarding the patients’ privacy.

Please note that the examination fees are not refundable.

Case Presentations

The presentations **MUST** be sent at least three months prior to the next annual EPA Conference to allow for screening evaluation. Cases sent after the above-mentioned deadline will not be considered for examination until the following year.

To ensure a comprehensive evaluation of the candidate’s knowledge, the 8 presented cases **MUST** include:

- a full-mouth fixed-prosthodontic case, consisting of at least 20 restorations.
- a case of complete dentures or overdentures.
- a case with implant supported prostheses.
- a case of removable partial denture.
- the remaining 4 cases are left to the candidate’s choice

Each case MUST include:

- the patient's age, medical and dental history
- the collection of findings during pre-treatment examinations, including periodontal findings shown as a chart
- the initial radiographs and clinical photos
- the diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment plan
- all treatment procedures relevant to the prosthodontic treatment, including tooth preparations, impressions, try-ins, etc...
- the final radiographs and clinical photos
- the re-evaluation of the case after at least 1 year of treatment

The following slides are not permitted:

- slides showing commercial products
- slides pertaining to other patients

A sample templates of PowerPoint or Keynote presentations are available for download in the EPA Prosthodontic Specialization in Europe website area.

Evaluation of STEP 2: Screening evaluation.

Once the necessary documentation has been received, the EPASC will:

- check the adherence of the cases to the guidelines
- evaluate the overall quality of the documented cases
- inform the candidate of:
 - the acceptability of all her/his cases, and invite her/him to Group 3 oral examination
 - the rejection of all or some of her/his cases, with a detailed feedback and suggestions for future acceptance.

In the event of rejection of one or more cases, the candidate has three years to resubmit new or revised clinical cases. There will be no additional fees incurred for resubmissions.

STEP 3

Once invited to attend the oral examination, the candidate must present herself/himself at the appointed time for the oral examination.

Examinations will be normally held in conjunction with the Annual EPA Conference.

Evaluation of STEP 3: Oral examination.

The examination will consist of an interview during which the candidate will be asked to justify and defend her/his choices of treatment in all 8 cases.

The length of the interview may vary between 30 and 60 minutes, at the discretion of the EPASC Committee.

Every candidate will be examined by at least three Members of the Committee.

Passing or failing grade will be determined by a majority vote of the Committee, based on the results of the examination.

After the examination, the EPASC will meet and then inform the candidate of:

- the success of the examination
- the failure of the examination, with a detailed feedback and suggestions for future acceptance.