

The Primary Care Organisations can broadly be grouped into the three following areas when applying for approval:

1. Practices that continue to maintain the status quo with no change in configuration
2. Practices within Federations but who continue to maintain their individual NHS contracts, CQC registration and Autonomy
3. Practices that have undergone mergers and hold a single contract and unified approach to education.

1. Practices that continue to maintain the status quo with no change in configuration

Practices that maintain the status quo with no change in configuration will be approved/re-approved following the current guidelines.

2. Practices within Federations but who continue to maintain their individual NHS contracts, CQC registration and Autonomy

If practices within the new organisation have multiple separate contracts with NHS England and separate CQC accountabilities, then each practice must submit a separate Approval Application

3. Practices that have undergone mergers where the organisation has a single contract and a unified approach to education with a consistent application of their training policies and processes across all sites.

The approval should cover all those sites with the trainees being able to work at any sites providing there are appropriate on-site clinical supervision and appropriate premises and facilities. The organisation will need to complete a single Training organisation approval application form and attach all the appropriate evidence. The approval panel must pay particular attention to ensure appropriate premises and facilities and named supervisors for all the sites. This may mean visiting new sites for approval. The panel should at the end of the process indicate which sites have been approved to take trainees and those sites not approved for trainees

Transition period for merged practices:

1. Where all practices have previously been training practices
2. Where one or more practices in the merger have not previously been approved training practices
3. Where practices merge and move to a new site

1. Where all practices in a merger have previously been Training practices,
No immediate action is required following the merger until such a time when the next approval of the practice with the earliest approval occurs, its recommended that the organisation apply for re-approval as a new organisation

2. Where one or more practices in the merger have not previously been approved training practices
The existing training practices can continue until the earliest available date of Re-approval of one of the existing practices. If a non-approved site wants to start training this should trigger a visit. It should be noted that approval of a group of merged practices does not automatically confer approved status to all sites.

3. Where practices merge and move to a new site
This should trigger an approval visit within 3 months of the new organisation moving into new premises.