

Specialist Registration by Portfolio Assessment: Factsheet

What is SRbPA?

SRbPA is UKPHR's route to Specialist Registration for experienced public health professionals who are already working at newly qualified consultant level but haven't completed the Specialty Training Programme. It looks back at what you've already achieved: you provide evidence that you already meet the competencies, rather than training or developing as you go.

This is not a developmental route - it is for those who are 'portfolio ready' - meaning all competencies can be evidenced, or there are only small gaps with a clear plan to address them.

The two-stage process

Stage	Timescale	What's involved
1. Pre-application	Outcome typically within 3-4 months of submission	Application form, CV, job description, competency matrix, structured reference, CPD evidence, 360 feedback, certified certificates/qualifications/ID
2. Portfolio submission	Submit within 18 months after pre-application approval; assessment takes about 12 weeks	A full portfolio, which includes a narrative outlining how each Know How and Show How competency is met, with clear links to evidence

Building your portfolio can take 2-4 years and 10+ hours a week on top of your day job - plan ahead!

Am I eligible? You must:

- Be **Working at** (or recently worked at) the level of a **newly qualified Consultant in Public Health**
- Have a **Postgraduate qualification** at Level 7 or above (Level 11+ SCQF in Scotland), or equivalent Undertaken **at least one year** of formal, reflective CPD before submitting your pre-application
- Have an up-to-date appraisal, PDP, and a 360-degree feedback report (dated within 3 years)
- Have evidence that you meet all key areas of public health practice

Before you apply

- **Read the guidance thoroughly** - pre-application and portfolio guidance, and the Know How / Show How competencies. These documents are detailed but essential
- Talk to your employer early and secure their support and protected time, if possible
- Find a mentor who has experience with a UKPHR portfolio route
- Complete the competency matrix honestly to identify any gaps before submitting
- **Be realistic** about your knowledge and experience – you must be working at newly qualified consultant level across ALL competencies
- **Consider the DFPH exam** before your pre-application - if you pass it within 5 years of submitting your portfolio, you're exempt from most Know How evidence

Key things to remember

- **Fees:** apply at each assessment stage - see ukphr.org/fees-and-charges
- **AI use:** you must write your application and portfolio narratives yourself - AI tools are not allowed (although spelling and grammar checkers are fine)
- **Data protection:** you must redact other people's personal details from all evidence, although information already in the public domain does not need to be redacted
- **Currency of evidence:** at least half of your Show How evidence must be no more than 5 years old; some Know How areas also require current knowledge, even if you've passed the DFPH exam (see UKPHR's Portfolio applicant guidance)

Support available

- UKPHR podcasts on Know How / Show How competencies - available on our [YouTube channel](#)
- Public Health Specialist Portfolio Network (run by ADPH) - email portfoliogroup@adph.org.uk
- Regional/national support programmes - ask senior colleagues or your local public health workforce team
- Employer FAQs are available to share with your line manager

Further information and contact

Full guidance, forms, competencies, and fees: ukphr.org/specialist-registration-by-portfolio-assessment

Queries: register@ukphr.org