

## Foundation ‘Taster’ Request information

### Definition

A “taster” is an opportunity for you to experience working in a speciality, which you are seriously considering as a career. Most “tasters” will last 5 days. During your ‘taster’ you will be encouraged to work independently under supervision within that speciality

### Timing

A foundation doctor who would benefit from a taster opportunity should undertake a taster programme in the specialty of their choice during either the final 4 months of foundation year 1 (using study leave ‘borrowed’ from FY2) or early within foundation year 2

### Procedure

Trainees wishing to do a taster must initially discuss their plans with their Educational Supervisor.

They must then get in touch with the relevant Educational Supervisor of their chosen “taster” speciality to discuss timings and educational objectives. If agreed the trainee must then fill in the “Taster Application Form” (See Appendix A). This form requests details regarding educational objectives and how they will be met (e.g. by completion of reflective project, or presentation) as well as signatures from the Educational Supervisor, receiving ‘Host’ Taster Supervisor, Clinical Supervisor of current post and FY1 Training Programme Director.

The form must be filled in at least 6 weeks before the date of the taster. At the end of the taster, the trainee must fill in a reflective piece/project/presentation relating to the learning objectives of the taster. A copy must be sent to the FY1 Training Programme Director via the Foundation Programme Advisor in Medical Education.

If the trainee has decided to take Study Leave in order to complete the “taster session”, they must complete a study leave form. This must also be submitted at least 6 weeks prior to the “taster” session taking place.

### Rules

It is the trainee’s responsibility to liaise with the department manager, his/her consultant, rest of team and rota coordinator to book leave. This must be done at least 6 weeks in advance of date. **It is the trainee’s responsibility to swap on-call duties if necessary.**

## Foundation Taster Request Form

<b>Foundation Doctor name</b>	
<b>GMC Number</b>	
<b>Date form completed</b>	
<b>Current placement</b>	
<b>Placement at time of taster</b>	

<b>Proposed dates of taster</b>	<b>Start date of taster:</b>
	<b>End date of taster:</b>
	<b>Total number of days:</b>

<b>Taster request approval</b>	
<b>Educational Supervisor</b>	<b>Signature:</b>  <b>Print name:</b>  <b>Date:</b>
<b>Clinical Supervisor</b>	<b>Signature:</b>  <b>Print name:</b>  <b>Date:</b>
<b>Receiving 'Host' Clinical Supervisor</b> (with whom you have agreed to undertake the taster)	<b>Signature:</b>  <b>Print name:</b>  <b>Date:</b>
<b>Rota Coordinator</b> (confirming you can be released from service to undertake the taster)	<b>Signature:</b>  <b>Print name:</b>  <b>Date:</b>

Please outline the taster request; including how will the Educational Objective be met.

Also give a brief explanation of why this will be beneficial to your personal development, where the proposed taster will be held (if external please state why) and with whom and an overview of how the taster will be structured:

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Once fully complete, please submit your taster request form to the Foundation programme Supervisor- Sally Bambrough

Please note: All request forms must be processed and submitted to the Foundation TPD for consideration and final approval prior to the Taster commencing.

**For completion by the Medical Education Team only:**

<b>Medical Education</b>	Date form received:
	Form received by:
<b>Foundation TPD</b>	Foundation TPD signature:
	Date approved:

Further information and requirements can be found on the UKFPO Website:  
<https://foundationprogramme.nhs.uk/programmes/2-year-foundation-programme/>