



Licentiate of the Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine

(LFFLM – General Forensic Medicine and Sexual Offence Medicine) Regulations and Information for Candidates



Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine
www.fflm.ac.uk
forensic.medicine@fflm.ac.uk



Royal College of Physicians
11 St Andrew's Place
London
NW1 4LE

Foreword

The Licentiate was instituted by the Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine (FFLM) on 01 May 2014. Its purpose is to set national quality standards for the professional care which healthcare professionals provide in the fields of General Forensic Medicine (GFM) and Sexual Offence Medicine.(SOM).

The Examination for the Licentiate in both GFM and SOM is divided into 2 parts:

Part 1 is a Single Best Answer (SBA) examination covering medico-legal and clinical forensic medical practice.

Part 2 consists of a Short Answer Questions (SAQ) Examination and Observed Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE).

Candidates are advised to read the FFLM General Examination Regulations for further information.

The Examinations are open to registered:

- Medical practitioners
- Nurses and midwives
- Paramedics

who have achieved a basic level of knowledge and experience in the fields of General Forensic Medicine and Sexual Offence Medicine and who are in active clinical practice. Both Part 1 and Part 2 must be completed for a person to hold one of the Diplomas of the Faculty. Successful completion of both parts entitles the candidate to apply for Licentiate of the Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine and then to use the postnominals LFFLM.

The LFFLM Regulations apply from 01 April 2024 and cover the LFFLM Part 1 Single Best Answer (SBA) (Knowledge Test), the Short Answer Questions (SAQs) and the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE).

Contact Details

Administrative Office

Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine

www.fflm.ac.uk

forensic.medicine@fflm.ac.uk

Royal College of Physicians

11 St Andrew's Place

London

NW1 4LE (only use in exceptional circumstances)

Contents

1	Duties of a Healthcare Professional	4
2	Purpose of the Regulations	4
3	Purpose of the assessment.....	4
4.	Constitutional Framework: Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine for GFM and SOM.....	4
5	Academic Framework: The Aims and Objectives of the LFFLM (GFM and SOM) Examination	5
6	LFFLM (GFM/SOM) Part 1 Examination	6
7.	LFFLM (GFM/SOM) Part 2 Clinical Examination.....	6
8.	How to enter the LFFLM (GFM and SOM) examination	7
9.	LFFLM Examinations	9
10	LFFLM Part 2 Examinations.....	11
11	LFFLM (GFM or SOM) Part 2 Clinical Examination Format	13
12	After the LFFLM (GFM /SOM) Part 2 Clinical Examination (OSCEs and SAQs).....	14
13	Preparation for the LFFLM (GFM and SOM) Examination	16

The following Regulations apply to candidates entering the LFFLM (GFM and SOM) examinations.

1 Duties of a Healthcare Professional

All registered healthcare professionals have a duty placed on them by their regulatory body to be honest and trustworthy. Candidate performance in LFFLM assessments is reviewed by healthcare professionals who themselves have a duty to notify the General Medical Council (GMC), Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) or Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) if they have concerns. Misconduct before, during or after assessments or evidence of gross lack of competence may be referred to the appropriate Regulatory Professional Body.

Candidates whose registration (or its equivalent overseas) is subject to suspension, referral or any condition must provide the FFLM with full details in advance of sitting the assessment.

2 Purpose of the Regulations

The LFFLM – GFM and SOM examinations will continue to change to reflect developments in both areas of Forensic & Legal Medicine. While every attempt has been made to ensure that this document is accurate, further changes may be implemented over time.

Candidates should refer to the Examinations area of the [FFLM website](#) for the most up-to-date information, where any such changes will be detailed. In addition, wherever changes are made, notices will be issued indicating the nature of these changes. In addition, where changes are made, notices will be issued indicating their nature. In order to ensure candidates are fully briefed about the status of any proposed changes they are advised to read these notices along with this publication.

These revised Regulations apply from 01 April 2024 and supersede any previous version.

3 Purpose of the assessment

- 3.1 Success in this examination demonstrates the attainment of the minimum level of competency expected of a doctor or other healthcare professional in training and the ability to apply this knowledge to problem-solving in General Forensic Medicine (GFM) and Sexual Offence Medicine (SOM).
- 3.2 A healthcare professional who successfully completes the LFFLM (GFM or SOM), is in current forensic practice and in good standing with their regulatory body is eligible to be considered for Licentiate Membership of the Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine.

4. Constitutional Framework: Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine for GFM and SOM

- 4.1 The Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine has the power under Standing Orders:

- 4.1.1 to set professional standards for admission to membership of the FFLM; and
- 4.1.2 to conduct examinations and award the LFFLM (GFM or SOM) qualification and the LFFLM Diploma of Licentiate.

4.2 The Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine has the power to:

- Determine the terms and conditions of entry to the LFFLM (GFM and SOM) examination. The Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine reserves the right to refuse admission to any part of the LFFLM (GFM) examination.
- Recognise appropriate periods of training, in fulfilment of the entry requirements of the LFFLM (GFM and SOM) Part 2 examination and reserves the right to determine when this training has been completed successfully by candidates.

5 Academic Framework: The Aims and Objectives of the LFFLM (GFM and SOM) Examination

5.1 It is the aspiration of the FFLM that the LFFLM Examination will play an essential role in the overall educational experience and continuing professional development of healthcare professionals in the United Kingdom.

5.2 The LFFLM (GFM or SOM) Examination will play an important key role in the international arena of postgraduate Forensic & Legal Medicine. It will provide a professional standard against which healthcare professionals working outside the United Kingdom can measure their level of attainment. It may also be used by medical educationalists in other countries in respect of their local postgraduate assessments.

5.3 Aim

The aim of the LFFLM Examination is to demonstrate those healthcare professionals who, having undertaken a period of specialist training, have acquired the necessary professional knowledge, skills, and attitudes to enable them to practise as independent practitioners within the specialty of General Forensic Medicine or Sexual Offence Medicine.

5.4 Objectives

5.4.1 The LFFLM (GFM or SOM) Examination evaluates the basic professional competence of healthcare professionals who are working in the field of General Forensic Medicine or Sexual Offence Medicine. It does not denote expertise in the field.

5.4.2 The standard of the various parts of the examination will reflect the development in the knowledge, skills and attitudes which can be expected during training, and is in keeping with the principle of lifelong learning.

5.5 Assessment methodology

The LFFLM (GFM or SOM) Examination includes questions and assessments which require an understanding of the legal framework that underpins medicine in general and specifically that of General Forensic Medicine or Sexual Offence Medicine.

5.6 All judgments by all standard setters on all questions and OSCEs are then analysed, and a criterion-referenced pass mark is established. In order for wild fluctuations in the pass rate to be avoided, there are limits outside which it has been decided the pass rate

may not fall. As a result of the standard setting and the restrictions on pass rates, the pass mark and pass rate can vary slightly from one examination to the next.

6 LFFLM (GFM/SOM) Part 1 Examination

- 6.1 The purpose of the LFFLM (GFM/SOM) Part 1 Examination, which is a Knowledge Test, is to identify those healthcare professionals who have a basic knowledge of General Forensic Medicine or Sexual Offence Medicine. All aspects of the syllabus will be tested in Part 1.
- 6.2 The aim of the LFFLM Part 1 Examination is to test the acquisition of a representative sample of general forensic medicine/sexual offence medicine knowledge as specified in the published Syllabus for the LFFLM (GFM or SOM) Examination.
- 6.3 Validity - All elements of Part 2 of the LFFLM must be completed within 4 years of passing Part 1. There is no limit to the number of entries to Part 1.

7. LFFLM (GFM/SOM) Part 2 Clinical Examination

- 7.1 Purpose - The purpose of the LFFLM (GFM/SOM) Part 2 examination is to demonstrate in a practical setting the application of the knowledge, skills, and attitudes appropriate for a healthcare professional in General Forensic Medicine or Sexual Offence Medicine.
- 7.2 LFFLM Part 2 consists of 2 parts:
 - Short Answer Questions (SAQs)
 - Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE).
- 7.3 Candidates must have passed the Part 1 examination (Single Best Answer paper), within the last 4 years, to be eligible for entry to the Part 2 examination.
- 7.4 Part 2 can be entered a maximum of 4 times. Thereafter the process would require repeating, to be repeated with a re-sitting of Part 1 and a further 2 attempts at Part 2.
- 7.5 The Diploma of Licentiate will only be awarded when candidates have completed all the components satisfactorily, are appropriately registered and in good standing with their regulatory body. After successful completion of all parts of the examination, candidates can formally apply to the FFLM to become a Licentiate Member. On acceptance by the Faculty Membership & Fellowship Committee and the Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine Board, they can then use the postnominals LFFLM after their name.
- 7.6 The LFFLM (GFM/SOM) Part 2 Clinical Examination (SAQs and OSCEs) will test medico-legal principles as well as clinical and forensic understanding, making clinical and forensic judgments and formulating appropriate management plans. It will also test the ability to:
 - demonstrate the skills of history and consent taking.
 - obtain consent to examine an individual to obtain appropriate further information.
 - interpret findings either factual or physical/forensic signs.

- make appropriate diagnoses/interpretations.
- develop and discuss immediate and long-term management plans.
- appreciate the ethical issues that relate to the relevant specialty.
- appreciate the requirements of the criminal justice system as it applies to their speciality.

7.7 Format: Short Answer Questions

This is a set of 8 questions which allows an in depth assessment of clinical topics than in the SBAs and allows the candidate to demonstrate clinical knowledge and clinical reasoning.

Each of the 8 questions is composed of several sub questions. The marks available are shown within each section.

Practical Assessment Skills (OSCE)

- 7.7.1 The Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) assesses the ability to integrate and apply clinical, professional, communication and practical skills appropriate for GFM or SOM and forensic and legal medicine. The Candidate is assessed in scenario-based consultations, relevant to forensic and legal medicine, using simulated patients/clients. A range of scenarios, drawn from forensic and legal practice, is used and each consultation is marked by a Faculty Examiner. The role of the patient/client is taken by a trained actor.
- 7.7.2 The OSCE is currently composed of 14 stations and are split between online and face to face. **Online OSCEs take place during March/Spring with Face to Face OSCEs arranged at a specified location e.g. Birmingham, London in June/Summer.** Each station is assessed by an independent examiner. Candidates will start at any one of the stations and then move round the circuit of stations at 10-minute intervals until the cycle has been completed. Two minutes of reading time is allowed for each station. Differences in the number of stations for the LFFLM SOM (a) and the LFFLM SOM (c) exams will be organised and candidates will be notified of the arrangements.
- 7.7.3 Candidates must be prepared to keep both days of the weekend free for the March online OSCEs and the June face to face OSCEs, as in exceptional circumstances, the OSCEs may need to be held over 2 days.
- 7.7.4 Candidates will be expected to attend both the online and face to face OSCEs. Candidates are not able to sit them in different examination diets (years).
- 7.7.5 An external examiner or observer may be present at an OSCE station at any time to observe and review stations, as part of the examination quality assurance procedures.

8. How to enter the LFFLM (GFM and SOM) examination

- 8.1 Candidates must ensure they have read the **current** version of the regulations and can apply for the LFFLM (GFM/SOM) examination by completing and submitting the application form available on the [FFLM website](#) and paying the appropriate fee. It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure they have applied for the correct examination and to check the confirmation provided by the FFLM examinations office shows the

correct examination. If an error is noted the candidate must contact the FFLM examinations manager – (exams@fflm.ac.uk) immediately. This cannot be corrected on the day of the examination and the entry fee cannot be refunded.

- 8.2 It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that their application is completed by the required closing date. The candidate is responsible for ensuring their application is completed by the required closing date. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted unless there are exceptional circumstances. Paper applications will **not** be accepted.
- 8.3 The LFFLM (GFM/SOM) Part 1 Examination will be held online. Candidates should refer to the Exams page of the [FFLM website](#) for the most up-to-date information.
- 8.4 The LFFLM (GFM/SOM) Part 2 examination – OSCE stations will be held online and face to face, usually in a venue in London, UK. Differences in the number of stations for the LFFLM SOM (a) and LFFLM SOM (c) exams will be organised and candidates will be notified of the arrangements. Candidates will be expected to attend both online and face to face OSCEs.
- 8.5 Number of attempts allowed:.
- Candidates can apply and sit the LFFLM (GFM/SOM) Part 1 examination as many times as required. However, LFFLM (GFM/SOM) Part 2 candidates are only allowed **four** attempts. After four attempts, the process would start again by: sitting Part 1 and a further 2 attempts at Part 2.
- 8.6 Discounting of LFFLM (GFM/SOM) Part 2 attempts: candidates who are prevented from attending the examination owing to the following circumstances (which does not include social events) may apply to have that attempt discounted:
- a. Illness just before or during the examination.
 - b. Involvement in an accident.
 - c. Death of a close relative (such as parent, sibling, spouse/partner, child).
 - d. Exceptional circumstances such as national emergency.
 - e. Unexpected pregnancy complication.
- Candidates wishing to withdraw from an examination must complete an online [Exam Withdrawal Request Form](#). This form is available on the FFLM website and should be completed in all cases.
- 8.7 Documentary evidence is required in all cases.
- 8.8 Any request for a discount must be submitted to the Administration Office within one month of the date of the examination. Any later will not be accepted.
- 8.9 Decisions about discounting attempts are made by the Chief Examiner in consultation with the Chief Examiner's Committee, whose decision is final.
- 8.10 Discounting of attempts will only be allowed for a maximum of two occasions. After this the exam fee will be forfeited.

8.11 Validity

- 8.11.1 A pass in Part 1 of the LFFLM (GFM/SOM) is valid for **4** years.
- 8.11.2 Any application to the Chief Examiner for recognition of exceptional circumstances requiring an extension to this time must be made within four weeks of the Part 2 examination date of that year.
- 8.11.3 There is no limit of attempts in the Part 1 examination.

9. LFFLM Examinations

- 9.1 Part 1 is a theoretical examination in matters related to branches of medico-legal and clinical practice. **It tests the whole syllabus in GFM or SOM.**
- 9.2 Part 2 is a clinical competency assessment in the form of Short Answer Questions and Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE).

9.3 The Format

- 9.3.1 The LFFLM Part 1 Examination is designed to assess a candidate's knowledge and understanding of general forensic medicine or sexual offence medicine.
- 9.3.2 The LFFLM Part 1 Examination has a one-paper format. The Single Best Answer (SBA) paper will consist of a 3-hour examination of one hundred and fifty (150) 'single best answer' (SBA) questions, where the candidate is asked to select the **best** answer from five possible answers. Candidates are tested on a wide range of topics in general forensic medicine and sexual offence medicine as set out in the appropriate published syllabus.
- 9.3.3 The Examination may include pre-test questions (trial questions that are used for research purposes only). A small number of pre-test questions may appear in any paper. Responses to them do not count towards a candidate's final score. The use of pre-test questions is in line with the assessment criteria set out set out by the General Medical Council (GMC).
- 9.3.4 Drugs are referred to by their recommended International Non-Proprietary names (INN) rather than by their trade names:
<https://www.who.int/medicines/services/inn/en>
- 9.3.5 Biochemical and other measurements are expressed in SI units and normal or reference ranges are provided.
- 9.3.6 The LFFLM (GFM/SOM) Part 1 Examination is criterion referenced. Before the Examination, the difficulty of each question is considered by the LFFLM Chief Examiner's Committee. The standard setters assess the difficulty of the questions against the level of knowledge expected of candidates using a procedure known as the modified Angoff method.
- 9.3.7 All judgments by all standard setters on all questions are then analysed and a criterion-referenced pass mark is established. For significant fluctuations in the pass rate to be avoided, there are limits outside which it has been decided the pass rate may not fall. As a result of the standard setting and the restrictions on pass rates, the pass mark and pass rate can vary slightly from one examination to the next.
- 9.3.8 The marking system for the LFFLM Part 1 Examination is as follows:
 - a. one mark is awarded for a correct answer.
 - b. no mark is awarded or deducted for an incorrect answer.

- c. no mark is awarded or deducted if a question is left unanswered.
- d. no mark is awarded if more than one response is recorded or if the answer is not sufficiently clear.
- e. no mark is awarded for any answer that the scanner queries as:
 - insufficiently erased.
 - Smudged.
 - a double response to a question.

In these circumstances the FFLM does not consider it is appropriate to interpret a candidate's intentions.
- f. The final mark for each candidate is the mark obtained in the examination paper expressed as a percentage.

9.4 Entry requirements

- 9.4.1 Every candidate for the Examination must hold a medical, nursing, midwifery or paramedic qualification recognised by the FFLM.
- 9.4.2 Candidates will not be admitted to the LFFLM Part 1 Examination until 3 years after the date of full registration with the General Medical Council (GMC), Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) or Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).
- 9.4.3 At the stage of being awarded Licentiate of the FFLM, it will be necessary for the individual to sign a Declaration of Faith (which will be provided by the Faculty) that they are in good standing with the relevant regulatory body. If the applicant believes they may have any difficulty in this respect, then they should discuss the matter, in confidence, with the Registrar in advance so that they may make an informed decision on whether to proceed with their application at that time.

9.5 How to enter the LFFLM Part 1 Examination

- 9.5.1 Candidates can apply for the LFFLM Part 1 Examination by completing and submitting the application form available on the [FFLM website](#).
- 9.5.2 It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that their application is completed by the published closing date. Incomplete applications will not be accepted and will be returned to the candidate.

9.6 Following the LFFLM Part 1 Examination

9.6.1 Review of the Examination

- a. Results are released when the Chief Examiner and the Academic Dean of the FFLM are satisfied that the Examination has been conducted appropriately and in accordance with the procedures of the FFLM.
- b. The Chief Examiner's Committee considers each question in the LFFLM Part 1 prior to its appearance in the Examination and reviews the question's performance after every Examination, as well as reviewing the Examination as a whole. For further detail please see the General Regulations.

9.6.2 Results

- a. Results will normally be published on the website within 4 to 6 weeks of the date of the Examination.

Confirmation and details of results will then be sent within 4 to 6 weeks, by email. Results will not be provided in any other way.

- b. The FFLM candidate numbers and results of all candidates, both passes and fails, will be published in the public area of the [FFLM Examination website](#). Candidates will not be identified by name. Candidates are advised to take careful note of their FFLM candidate number upon receipt of their admission documents. Candidates may opt out of having their results published on the website when making their application and are required to do so on each occasion they apply for the Examination.
- c. Candidates should notify the FFLM of any change of email address as soon as possible.

9.6.3 Pass result

Candidates passing the Part 1 Examination can proceed to the Part 2 Examinations if eligible.

9.6.4 Fail result

A candidate not achieving the pass mark in the LFFLM Part 1 Examination will be deemed to have failed the Examination and will need to re-sit the Examination.

9.6.5 For the following information, see the **General Regulations**:

- a. Documentary evidence of primary clinical qualifications
- b. Registration with the UK Regulatory Bodies
- c. Visas and names and language requirements
- d. Special arrangements: pregnancy and disability
- e. Withdrawal from the Examination and refund of fees
- f. Discounting of attempts
- g. Queries on results
- h. Academic and professional misconduct
- i. Appeals and complaints.
- j. Compliance with diversity legislation

10 LFFLM Part 2 Examinations

10.1 The Format

- 10.1.1 All Candidates will sit the Short Answer Questions (SAQs) examination. This is a written examination consisting of 8 questions on clinical topics.
- 10.1.2 All candidates will also complete the OSCE examination. The pass mark for this and the SAQs will be set by the modified Angoff Method (a recognised standard-setting method).

10.2 Entry requirements

- 10.2.1 Candidates for the LFFLM Part 2 Examinations must have passed the LFFLM Part 1 Examination within the preceding four years.
- 10.2.2 Candidates must have had at least six months employment (full time equivalent) in an occupation requiring the practical application of General Forensic Medicine, or Sexual Offence Medicine on the date of the Part 2 Examination.

10.2.3 LFFLM candidates will be required to produce a current (obtained within the previous 12 months) UK Resuscitation Council or equivalent Immediate Life Support (ILS) certificate which is still valid on the date of the Part 2 examination. A candidate from overseas who wishes to submit a certificate of Life Support to an equivalent standard should do so one month, at the latest, before the Part 2 examination to allow its consideration by the Chief Examiner's Committee whose decision will be final.

10.2.4 LFFLM Part 2 Examination Registration Period

Any candidate who is unsuccessful in passing the LFFLM Part 2 Examination within a period of four years of passing the LFFLM Part 1 Examination will be required to take and pass the LFFLM Part 1 Examination again. Candidates who re-enter the LFFLM Part 1 Examination and pass will have a further four years in which to pass the LFFLM Part 2 Examination.

10.3 How to enter the LFFLM Part 2 Examination

10.3.1 Method of application: see also the General Regulations for full details.

10.3.2 Candidates can apply for the LFFLM Part 2 Examination by completing and submitting the application form available on the FFLM website.

10.3.3 It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that their application is completed by the required deadline. Incomplete applications will not be accepted and will be returned to the candidate.

10.3.4 The application form(s), complete in every detail and accompanied by the appropriate fee and any other documents required, must reach the Administration Office by 17:00hrs GMT on the published closing date.

10.3.5 Details of fees (which are subject to annual revision), method of payment, examination dates and opening and closing dates for applications, are published annually and can be checked on the LFFLM Examination website or by contacting the office by email: exams@fflm.ac.uk.

10.4 Applying online

Electronic applications are the only accepted method. Your email will be accepted as an electronic signature.

10.5 Application checklist for the LFFLM Part 2 Examination

Part 2 Examination candidates should send:

- a. A completed online application form.
- b. UKRC or equivalent Immediate Life Support Certificate, dated within the last 12 months and which will still be valid/current on the date of the OSCE Examination.
- c. A reference confirming the candidate has had not less than six months employment in an occupation requiring the practical application of General Forensic Medicine or Sexual Offence Medicine to a greater degree than usual in normal medical practice; this work must include being involved in forensic medical examinations of people who have been detained in police custody (GFM) or have been sexually assaulted (SOM). A section on the application form for countersignature by e.g. their employer/police authority/Trust is provided for this purpose.
- d. Fee in pounds Sterling (current amount is detailed on the LFFLM GFM area of the [FFLM website](https://www.fflm.ac.uk)).

10.6 Attendance at, and conduct during, the LFFLM Part 2 OSCE Examinations

- a. Candidates presenting themselves for the LFFLM Examination must have complied fully with all admission requirements, including the payment of fees.
- b. Candidates are warned that any breach of LFFLM Examination Rules and Regulations will result in severe penalties, including the risk that the relevant Examining Board will permanently debar the candidate from taking any further Examinations. The candidate's employer and/or regulatory body may also be notified.

11 LFFLM (GFM or SOM) Part 2 Clinical Examination Format

11.1 Format – Short Answer Questions (SAQs)

All GFM/SOM candidates have two and a half hours to finish the paper, which contains eight compulsory questions. General Forensic Medicine (GFM) and Sexual Offence Medicine (SOM) candidates will have a specialty-specific paper. Candidates wishing to gain a qualification in more than one specialty will have to sit the question papers specific to their choice. Please refer to the applicable syllabus for further information. The pass mark will be set by the modified Angoff Method.

11.2 Practical Assessment Skills (OSCE) GFM and SOM

The Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) assesses the ability to integrate and apply clinical, professional, communication and practical skills appropriate for forensic and legal medicine. It simulates patient/client consultations that are relevant to forensic and legal medicine using simulated patients/clients. A range of scenarios drawn from general forensic and sexual offence medicine practice are used and each consultation is marked by a different assessor. The role of the patient/client is taken by a trained actor.

11.3 Procedure: the examiner is required to record their mark for each candidate on the mark sheet, independently and without consultation. Examiners do not have any knowledge of the marks given by other examiners at other stations.

11.4 Method of Assessment

- 11.4.1 The mark sheet for each station is completed by the examiner for that OSCE.
- 11.4.2 The marks awarded on all mark sheets determine the candidate's overall OSCE score.
- 11.4.3 Each station of the LFFLM (OSCE) is marked according to a structured marking scheme. The pass mark for the LFFLM Part 2 Clinical Examination (OSCE) is determined using the modified Angoff method by the Chief Examiner's Committee and other co-opted persons that they consider necessary to determine a fair and accurate pass mark. This is determined for each sub-specialty and a pass mark confirmed by the LFFLM Chief Examiner's Committee.

11.5 Assessors and Actors:

- 11.5.1 LFFLM (GFM and SOM) examiners are formally recruited and trained and regularly retrained in assessment techniques and equality and diversity.
- 11.5.2 The performance of examiners is monitored and reviewed.

11.5.3 The actors used in the OSCEs are trained both generically and in preparation for each case so that they deliver a standardised test.

11.5.4 The performance of the actors is monitored and reviewed by experienced assessors and role-player facilitators.

11.6 Assessment outcome statistics are used to quality assure cases.

Special Arrangements for Disability and Pregnancy: see the General Regulations

12 After the LFFLM (GFM /SOM) Part 2 Clinical Examination (OSCEs and SAQs)

Results

12.1 The LFFLM Chief Examiner's Committee has overall responsibility for policy and procedures relating to, and the organisation of, the LFFLM OSCE.

12.2 The LFFLM Chief Examiner's Committee will consider reports from Examiners (and others as necessary) on the delivery of the LFFLM Part 2 Clinical Examination (OSCE). The LFFLM Chief Examiner's Committee is responsible for confirming the pass mark and success or failure of candidates in the Examination. Results are released only when the LFFLM Chief Examiner's Committee is satisfied that the LFFLM Part 2 Clinical Examination (OSCE) has been conducted appropriately and in accordance with the procedures of the FFLM.

12.3 The FFLM candidate numbers and results of all candidates, both passes and fails, will be published on the FFLM website. Candidates will not be identified by name. Candidates are advised to take careful note of both their FFLM candidate number upon receipt of their admission documents. Candidates who do not wish their results to appear on the website must inform the FFLM Administration Office in writing when applying to take the examination. They must also re-confirm this on each occasion they apply for the examination. Results cannot be collected from FFLM or given over the telephone or by fax or email.

12.4 OSCE results will normally be published on the website within four to six weeks of the date of the Examination. Confirmation and details of results will be sent within 4 to six weeks thereafter, by email. Results cannot be collected from the FFLM or given over the telephone.

12.5 Pass result

12.5.1 A pass in the LFFLM Part 2 OSCEs Clinical Examination will confer the qualification only. Successful candidates will be eligible to apply and be considered for Licentiate of the Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians of London.

12.5.2 Successful candidates may not use the postnominals LFFLM until their Licentiate application has been completed and ratified by both the Examination Board and by the Board of the FFLM.

12.5.3 The Licentiate Diploma will not be conferred until Licentiateship has been completed and ratified by both the FFLM Chief Examiners Committee, FFLM Academic Committee and by the Board of the FFLM.

12.6 Award of the LFFLM (GFM/SOM) Qualification

- 12.6.1 Successful candidates will receive an email, confirming that they have passed the LFFLM (GFM/SOM) Examination and are then eligible to apply for Licentiatehip of the Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine.

12.7 Award of the of the Diploma of Licentiatehip of the Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine

- 12.7.1 Every candidate must **pass all parts** of the LFFLM Examination.
- 12.7.2 Successful candidates must complete the application for Licentiatehip of FFLM at <http://fflm.ac.uk/faculty/application>.
- 12.7.3 Once Licentiatehip has been approved, an annual subscription will be incurred from the next subscription renewal (01 July each year).
- 12.7.4 Licentiates of the Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine are elected subject to the Standing Orders of the FFLM. The [Standing Orders](#) are available to download from the FFLM website.

12.8 Fail result

- 12.8.1 The LFFLM Part 2 Clinical Examination may be failed in the following ways:
 - a. a candidate does not achieve the pass mark.
 - b. a candidate automatically fails the LFFLM Part 2 Clinical Examination (OSCE) if they fail more than 35% of the stations (e.g. 6 out of 14 - 10 online and 4 Face to Face).
 - c. aggressive or inconsiderate behaviour, either physical or verbal, to a patient (actor) will invariably result in failure, and may result in misconduct procedures being invoked.
- 12.8.2 If a candidate fails, the LFFLM Part 2 Clinical Examination (OSCE) at their first or second attempt they may be deemed by the LFFLM Chief Examiner's Committee to require more clinical experience before re-attempting the OSCE or be recommended for educational counselling from a nominated Fellow or Member of the FFLM.
- 12.8.3 A candidate who has failed the LFFLM Part 2 Examination will be required to re-sit the LFFLM Part 1 Examination if four years have elapsed since taking Part 1.

12.9 Poor performance in the LFFLM Part 2 Clinical Examination

- 12.9.1 All healthcare professionals practising in the UK, including examiners and the Officers of the FFLM, are governed by the principles outlined by the UK General Medical Council in the publication Good Medical Practice and by the Nursing and Midwifery Council and Health and Care Professions Council, respectively. The FFLM acknowledges that some good healthcare professionals may perform less well than usual under examination conditions. However, where there are genuine concerns that a doctor, nurse, paramedic, or other health care professional's fitness to practise is called into question by facts coming to light during the course of the LFFLM Part 2 Clinical Examination (OSCE), the Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine is duty bound to inform those to whom the candidate is contractually or professionally responsible. In exceptional circumstances, where no such person can be identified, this information may have to be communicated directly to the UK General Medical Council, Nursing and Midwifery Council, Health and Care Professions Council, or similar professional body.

- 12.9.2 The candidate concerned will be informed by letter when their poor performance in the LFFLM Part 2 Clinical Examination (OSCE) warrants referral to a sponsor, employer, or professional body, as outlined above. Reporting will normally take place only for consistently poor performance in repeated OSCEs but, in exceptional circumstances, it may take place because of poor performance in a single OSCE.
- 12.9.3 Before the candidate may re-enter any part of the LFFLM Examination, written evidence must be received from the sponsor, employer or professional body confirming that remedial action has been taken. It will be for the Academic Dean and the Chief Examiner to confirm whether the evidence presented is satisfactory to warrant re-entry to the LFFLM Examination. They will also be available to consider any representations that the candidate wishes to submit.

Appeals, Compliance with diversity legislation, Complaints, Academic misconduct, Registration with the UK Regulatory Bodies, Language Requirements; see the General Regulations.

13 Preparation for the LFFLM (GFM and SOM) Examination

- 13.1 The FFLM recommend that candidates prepare for the Examination by gaining clinical experience in recognised training posts in forensic and legal medicine or their subspecialty of forensic medicine (GFM/SOM) and by studying the publications site on the FFLM website, up-to-date postgraduate clinical textbooks and current medical journals.
- 13.2 There is a published syllabus and curriculum for the [LFFLM GFM](#) and [LFFLM SOM](#) examination in a separate document.
- 13.3 A reading list is available from the [FFLM website](#).
- 13.4 Sample Part 1 SBAs, SAQs and OSCEs are available on the FFLM website: [GFM/SOM](#).
- 13.5 There is an e-learning course. It is reviewed and updated regularly. Further details can be found on the [FFLM website](#).
- 13.6 The FFLM may be able to provide lists of recommended FFLM courses. The details of courses can be found on the [FFLM website](#).
- 13.7 Quality Standards are published by the FFLM for General Forensic Medicine (GFM) and Sexual Offence Medicine (SOM) for doctors and for nurses/paramedics <https://fflm.ac.uk/resources/fflm-quality-standards>.