



Guidelines

(2026)

1. How to Apply

To apply for certification, candidates must complete the online application form and submit the required back up documents before the deadline of **March 10th 2026**

Please note that **only 40 places are available** and that the places will be allocated on a first come/ first served basis. Once the 40 first candidates have been confirmed, the platform will be closed.

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must:

- Have completed their residency
- Be a specialist in orthopaedic surgery.
- Be a full member of SECEC (if not yet a member, applicants can apply online before proceeding with certification application).
- **Reside in a European Council country** or Kazakhstan, Russia, Israel

Required Documents

Applicants must upload the following documents:

- Copy of a valid ID
- Copy of their medical diploma (orthopaedics or general)
- A current CV

Application Fees (includes the congress registration at a greatly discounted rate)

- Application fee (oral exam + congress registration): **990 EUR**
- Early bird package discount: **Save 200 EUR** if you apply before **January 10th**
- Oral exam application fee only (no congress): **490 EUR** (390 EUR before Jan 10th)
- Please note that a payment link will be sent after pre-approval of your application by the SECEC Office to ensure all requirements are met. This link will allow online payment by **card** or **bank transfer**.

2. How to Prepare for the Oral Examination

The oral examination will take place on **Tuesday, September 1st** in Barcelona (exact location TBC).

Applicants will receive an **official notification** with the exact time and location details in June so that they can plan their travel and accommodation accordingly.

Exam Format

- The examination will consist of **five stations**, with **two examiners per station**, where candidates will discuss cases with examiners.
- The cases will be **provided by the examiners**; candidates do not need to provide their own cases.
- The oral exam will consist in a series of 3+1 questions in topics listed below (5 tables)
- Each topic will take 15 minutes, performed by two examiners and grade 1 to 5
- The following topics will be covered:
 - Basic Science
 - Trauma
 - Sports Injury
 - Tendon and Ligament
 - Arthritis
- Candidates can mention at the time of application if they are more shoulder/elbow focussed however, please note that the exam will cover both topics.
- A minimal of 15 points is mandatory to pass the exam.
- The oral examination will be conducted under the supervision of **Manuel Ribeiro da Silva**, chair of the SECEC Certificate.

Preparation Resources

All necessary knowledge for the examination is included in the **SECEC Core Curriculum on Shoulder and Elbow Surgery**, which has been prepared under the patronage of Gilles Walch (FR) and Christian Gerber (CH) and published in JSES International.

Access the full document here: [SECEC Curriculum](#)

Results and Diploma Ceremony

- Examination results will be announced at the end of the day.
- Successful candidates will receive their diplomas during the **Opening Ceremony of the SECEC Congress on Wednesday, September 2nd**.

3. How to Maintain Your Certification

SECEC Certification is valid for **five years**.

The renewal process is presently being defined and will eventually be merged with the current **SECEC Qualification Programme**, allowing members to maintain their certificate by accumulating credits through:

- Participation in the **SECEC Annual Congress**
- Attendance to **courses with SECEC patronage**
- Participation in SECEC educational activities
- Engaging in SECEC-endorsed research or teaching activities

4. Terms and Conditions

Cancellation Policy

- Please note that no refunds will be issued.
- Under special circumstances, applicants may request to **postpone their examination to the following year**, subject to SECEC approval.

By applying for certification, candidates agree to the terms and conditions outlined in this document.