

November 2009

During October UKAS started to process new ISAS customer applications. All applications are being processed on a *first come, first served* basis until we hit our current assessment capacity. Capacity limits are determined by the number of authorised assessors and assessment managers available. Once capacity has been reached, we will form a waiting list. All waiting customers will be kept informed of where they are in the queue and their anticipated date for commencement. Further information on how to apply can be found under the [Getting Accredited](#) section.

A second cohort of ISAS Assessors has been authorised to work following successful completion of the detailed assessor training programme. The dates for the next cohort of ISAS Assessor training are now available in the [ISAS recruitment and Jobs](#) sections. Submit an application now to be considered for this cohort. All authorised assessors will gain CPD for participating in ISAS; the details are currently being agreed with The Royal College of Radiologists and The College of Radiographers.

A number of sites taking part in the early implementer programme are scheduled to submit their first web-based assessment for review during November. The expectation is that these organisations will be the first to receive accreditation during spring 2010, subject to satisfactory completion of all accreditation requirements.

To date we have delivered two Preparatory Workshops for potential customers. Feedback received has been extremely positive. It includes comments such as:

...excellent day for information gathering

...very informative workshop

...good to meet up with other colleagues who may be going through the accreditation process at the same time

A number of delegates have expressed a firm intention to submit an application for accreditation and to become ISAS Assessors.

Forthcoming workshops are scheduled for Leeds on 26th November 2009 and then Cardiff on 13th January 2010. Due to popular demand, a further London workshop has been scheduled for 25th January 2010. A few places are still available at each venue. Application information can be found on the under the [Pre-application Information & Preparatory Workshops](#) section.

Finally, Lord Carter of Coles who has chaired a number of Government Reviews including the independent review of NHS pathology services in 2008 was the invited speaker at the UKAS 2009 Annual General Meeting. Lord Carter was unequivocal in his praise of healthcare accreditation schemes such as CPA and ISAS. He said:

"Accreditation is absolutely essential to ensure quality of supply"

- Lord Carter of Coles (UKAS AGM 06 October 2009)