



# **Belgian hand surgery certificate 2026-2028**

*8 two day modules on Fridays & Saturdays*



## **Reference Book :**

*Green's operative hand surgery*

*Green, Hotchkiss, Pederson*

*Churchill Livingstone Elsevier Science, Phil, Pennsylvania 19106*

The **Belgian Hand Surgery Certificate (BHSC)** is a renowned **two-year inter-university training programme** created by the Belgian Faculties of Medicine (ULB, VUB, UGent, KU Leuven, ULiège, UCLouvain, and UA). It brings together leading experts in the field to provide high-quality, research-driven education in hand and peripheral nerve surgery. [bhsc.be](http://bhsc.be)

Designed as an academically rigorous and clinically focused programme, the BHSC includes **eight in-depth modules** combining theoretical lectures with practical sessions such as dissections. These modules rotate among partner universities, ensuring rich exposure to diverse surgical perspectives and teaching excellence. Participants complete an oral examination and students will make a dissertation (peer reviewed publication or dissertation on hand surgery).

The BHSC is a high-level qualification for surgeons aiming to deliver expert care in hand and peripheral nerve surgery.

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## **Programme Purpose and Target Audience**

The BHSC was originally established as a **preparatory programme for the FESSH Examination**, providing participants with foundational theoretical and practical knowledge.

The programme is accessible to:

- **European and non-European orthopaedic, plastic, or general surgeons, and**
- **Residents in their final three years of training.**

As a **basic-level training programme**, it is specifically aimed at residents or early-career surgeons in orthopaedics, general surgery, or plastic surgery who want to build a strong foundation in hand surgery.

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## **New Features Introduced in This Edition**

### **1. Optional Clinical Observerships**

In this edition, the BHSC introduces **new clinical observership opportunities** with the steering committee members. These observerships:

- are **voluntary** and require **separate registration**,
- but are **included in the overall tuition fee (1.250EUR/year)**,
- and allow participants to gain additional real-world exposure in specialised hand-surgery environments

## 2. Extra Half-Day Ultrasound Course

Another new component is an **additional half-day therapeutic sonography course**, focusing on essential diagnostic skills relevant to hand surgery.

This session:

- also requires **separate registration**,
  - but is **fully included in the programme's fee**,
  - and provides valuable hands-on experience in hand and elbow ultrasound.
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### A Programme That Leads to Professional Excellence

Through its inter-university structure, expert faculty, and commitment to high-quality surgical education, the BHSC equips participants with strong clinical and academic foundations. It continues to be a respected programme for surgeons seeking to deepen their expertise in hand and peripheral nerve surgery.

The next cycle begins **October 2026**, welcoming motivated professionals to join this unique and comprehensive training programme. **Pre-registration opens on April 1st** and can be completed directly through the official website: [\[bhsc.be\]](https://bhsc.be)