

Checklist for Specialist and/or Area of Need Assessment

Eligibility Criteria

Before proceeding with submitting an application to RACS for a specialist assessment, please ensure the following eligibility criteria has been satisfied:

- I. You have been awarded a primary medical degree from a training institution listed on the [World Directory of Medical Schools \(WDOMS\)](#) website;
- II. You have been awarded a specialist surgical qualification in one of RACS [nine recognised surgical specialties](#);
- III. You have established an AMC portfolio and applied to EPIC for [primary source verification](#) of your primary medical degree and specialist surgical qualification;
- IV. You can provide evidence which demonstrates English language proficiency in accordance with [Medical Board of Australia \(Medical\)](#) requirements; and
- V. You can provide evidence which meets RACS recency of practice requirements as stipulated in the [Assessing a Specialist International Medical Graduate's Comparability to an Australian and Aotearoa New Zealand Trained Surgical Specialist](#) regulation.

If RACS determines that an application is incomplete, the applicant will be asked to provide the missing documents within 60 days from date of request.

Should the missing documents not be provided within 60 days, the application will be withdrawn and the applicant will need to reapply.

Where an application has been reviewed by RACS and is withdrawn due to missing documentation, a 90% refund of the application fee will be issued, with 10% to be withheld for administrative costs.

Important Information

- RACS relies on documentation provided by applicants to make a determination regarding comparability to an Australian and Aotearoa New Zealand trained surgeon.
- RACS is not obliged to assume comparability where evidence is not provided or to actively seek additional information to supplement that which has been provided.
- Documentation submitted in support of an application must meet RACS requirements as stipulated in the [Assessing a Specialist International Medical Graduate's Comparability to an Australian and Aotearoa New Zealand Trained Surgical Specialist](#) regulation.
- Documentation in a language other than English must be accompanied by an English translation in accordance with [AHPRA](#) requirements.
- Documentation which requires certification must be certified in accordance with [AHPRA](#) requirements.
- The final stage of submitting an application is payment of the [Specialist Assessment Fee](#) which can be made via credit card or PayPal. A full schedule of fees is available on the [RACS website](#).

Contact Us

All queries can be directed to SIMG.Enquiries@surgeons.org



Checklist

Evidence of change of name *(only if applicable)*

[Certified](#) copy of current passport

Colour passport size photograph

Evidence of English Language Proficiency

Please upload evidence demonstrating that you meet AHPRA's [English Language Skills Registration Standard \(Medical\)](#).

If you do not provide the required evidence your application will be withdrawn.

Curriculum Vitae

Please upload a curriculum vitae on [RACS Curriculum Vitae](#) template which includes the following information:

- An outline of each rotation undertaken prior to and during specialist surgical training. This should include:
 - rotation dates
 - rotation subspecialties
 - details of supervising surgeons
 - specific responsibilities;
 - rotation locations
 - details of in-training supervision
 - nature of service provided
- An outline of each surgical attachment following specialist surgical training. This should include the location, nature, scope, and duration of your practice; and
- A list of research projects or peer reviewed papers completed during and following specialist surgical training.

Please do not upload copies of research and/or publications.

If you do not provide your curriculum vitae on [RACS Curriculum Vitae](#) template your application will be withdrawn.

EICS/EPIC Primary Source Verification

Before applying for a specialist assessment with RACS, you must apply for primary source verification of both your primary medical degree and specialist surgical qualification.

Please upload the following evidence:

- Application to the [ECFMG](#) for primary source verification of your primary medical degree and your specialist surgical qualification; and
- Application to the [AMC](#) to establish a portfolio; **OR**
- Copies of verification certificates if qualifications have already been verified.

If you have previously submitted your primary medical degree and/or specialist surgical qualification for primary source verification you are not required to resubmit these.

If you do not provide the required evidence your application will be withdrawn.

Primary Medical Degree

Please upload a copy of your primary medical degree (including certified English translation if applicable).

If you do not provide the required evidence your application will be withdrawn.

Specialist Surgical Qualification

Please upload a copy of your specialist surgical qualification (including certified English translation if applicable).

If you do not provide the required evidence your application will be withdrawn.

Additional Qualification/s (only if applicable)

Please upload copies of any additional qualifications (including certified English translation if applicable).

Good Standing and/or Registration Status

Please upload Certificates of Good Standing and/or Registration Status. Certificates provided must cover the last two years of practice and be dated within six months of submitting your application to RACS.

Specialist Surgical Training Details

Please upload the following documentation in relation to your specialist surgical qualification:

- Evidence of accreditation of the specialist surgical training program you completed;
- Copies of syllabus and/or curriculum of the specialty surgical training program you completed;
- Copies of formative and summative assessment reports which assessed technical and non-technical competencies during surgical training; and
- Outline of exit examination undertaken (including details of examining body, examiners, and examination format).

Important: Documentation provided must have been issued by the relevant training provider or accrediting body, relevant to the training program and exit examination you undertook and applicable to the date period you completed your training program and examinations.

Postgraduate Training and Experience: Consultant Level Posts

Please upload a letter from the privileges/credentialing committee of each hospital in which you have practiced as a consultant following attainment of your specialist surgical qualification.

Letters provided must confirm your practicing privileges as well as the location, nature, scope, and duration of your practice.

Postgraduate Training and Experience: Other Postgraduate Posts

Please upload the following evidence relating to all non-consultant level posts held following attainment of your specialist surgical qualification, including postgraduate training posts, fellowships, registrar posts and senior registrar posts:

- Position description form/s which include details regarding the location, nature, scope, and duration of your practice; and
- Assessment reports which indicate performance across a range of technical and non-technical competencies, including:
 - collaboration & teamwork
 - communication
 - cultural competence & safety
 - health advocacy
 - judgement & clinical decision making
 - leadership & management
 - medical expertise
 - professionalism
 - scholarship & teaching
 - technical expertise

□ Postgraduate Training and Experience: Continuing Professional Development

Please upload evidence of involvement in the following areas of Continuing Professional Development:

- Peer reviewed audit for, at minimum, the last two years of practice. Information regarding what is required is available in the [RACS Surgical Audit Guide 2021](#).
- Maintenance of knowledge and skills (including evidence of compliance with an approved CME/CPD program and certificates of courses completed).

□ Logbooks

Please upload the following logbooks:

- A summary logbook using [RACS Summary Logbook](#) format containing data from the last two years of surgical practice. Logbooks provided must have been verified by the Head of the Department where the procedures took place.
- ***For Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery applicants only***
A summary using [RACS Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Major Case Summary](#) template of all major cases performed within the last two years of surgical practice, including major case primary operator rate. Summaries provided must have been verified by the Head of the Department where the procedures took place.
- Verified copies of training logbooks (in summary format where possible). Logbooks provided must include cases performed during specialist surgical training.
- Verified copies of postgraduate training logbooks (in summary format where possible and only if applicable). Logbooks provided must include cases performed during postgraduate training.
- Verified logbook/s (preferably using [RACS Summary Logbook](#) format) which include operative experience not covered in the above specified logbooks (to ensure that your application clearly evidences cases performed throughout your work history).

Important: Logbooks provided must be de-identified to exclude any patient information (i.e. patient names, patient admission numbers, patient hospital numbers). Any logbooks which have not been de-identified cannot be included in your application.

□ Referee Reports

RACS requires contact details of eight referees for the purposes of obtaining information about your performance based on technical and non-technical competencies.

Referees should be from within the same surgical specialty and must include:

- Two senior surgical colleagues who have worked with you within the last two years;
- A surgical colleague who is located geographically in the same area as you; and
- Another surgical colleague who practices in your surgical specialty.

Information is collected by Dipolar Pty Limited (“Dipolar”) on behalf of RACS in a confidential manner and subject to statutory and legal obligations. Details regarding how Dipolar process personal data can be found in their [Privacy Policies](#).

□ Area of Need (if applicable)

- Current Area of Need declaration; and
- Position description on [RACS SIMG Post Description Form](#) template.