

# 2024 Guide to Surgical Selection

2025 Intake



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# Introduction

Welcome to the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS). We are pleased that you are interested in becoming a surgeon. Surgery is a demanding but rewarding career. Surgeons make a significant positive impact in peoples' lives and in the wider health and wellbeing of communities.

Surgery continues to be a popular career choice amongst prevocational doctors. In 2022, RACS received 799 applications with 284 offers made for training commencing in 2023.

This Guide provides those interested in surgical training a general overview of the RACS selection processes for the nine specialties.

I hope that this guide will help inform you about what will be expected of you in regard to the SET Selection process.

I wish you well in your studies and application to become a surgeon of the future in Australia and Aoteroa New Zealand.

Debbie Paltridge  
Acting Executive General Manager, Education.

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# RACS Overview

RACS' purpose is to promote excellence in surgical training and practice in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

RACS represents around 6,700 Surgeons and 1,300 surgical Trainees and Specialist International Medical Graduates.

Training is offered in nine surgical specialties through the Surgical Education and Training (SET) program:

- **Cardiothoracic Surgery**
- **General Surgery**
- **Neurosurgery**
- **Orthopaedic Surgery**
- **Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery**
- **Paediatric Surgery**
- **Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery**
- **Urology**
- **Vascular Surgery**

RACS conducts selection, training and assessment to ensure that Trainees become competent surgeons who provide safe, comprehensive surgical care of the highest standard.

## Values

The values at RACS are the strong beliefs of our organisation. They describe the way in which our Fellows, Trainees and staff behave, interact and work together and determine the culture of the College. Our values are held in high regard by everyone within the organisation.



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# How do I become a Surgeon in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand?

To become a surgeon, you must first complete a medical degree and gain general medical registration to be able practise as a doctor in Australia or Aotearoa New Zealand.

Please refer to the following websites for current information on how to obtain general, unconditional medical registration.

- in Australia:  
[Australian Medical Council \(AMC\)](#)  
[Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency \(AHPRA\)](#)
- in Aotearoa New Zealand:  
[Medical Council of New Zealand \(MCNZ\)](#)

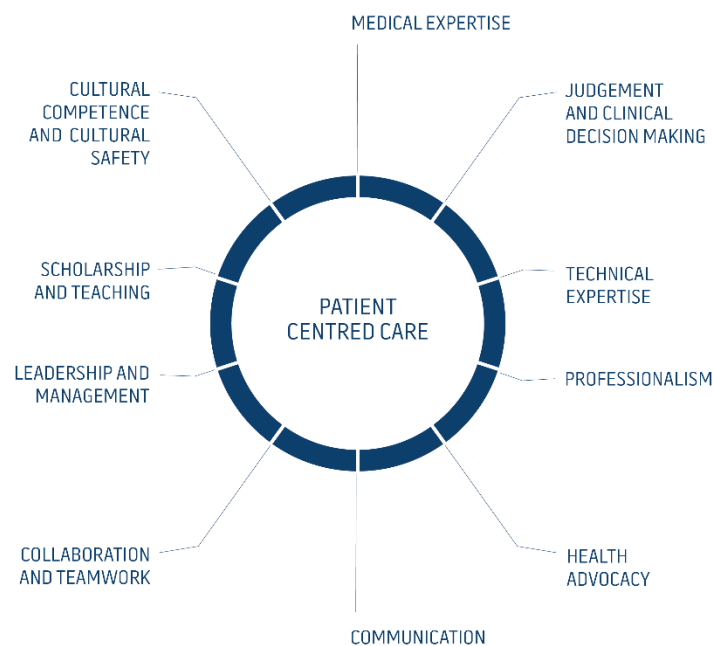
Although your ability to apply is not linked to a postgraduate year (PGY) level, doctors in PGY3 and beyond have typically achieved the prerequisites required. As requirements for each individual speciality differs, ensure you check the specific requirements outlined by the speciality you are applying for.

If your application to enter the SET program is successful, you will train in one of the nine surgical specialties. This training occurs primarily in public hospitals and usually takes between four and seven years, depending on the speciality.

Upon successful completion of all the SET program requirements, you can then apply to become a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (FRACS) and will be accredited to practise independently as a consultant surgeon.

## RACS Competencies

The SET program is underpinned by ten RACS competencies.



On the SET program, you will be expected to progress during training against each of the competencies. Further details on the [RACS competencies](#) are available on the RACS website and in the [Becoming a Competent and Proficient Surgeon](#) booklet.

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# Pathways to surgical training

## JDocs by RACS

RACS has developed the Junior Doctors (JDocs) Framework and ePortfolio to progressively guide pre-vocational doctors through the required skills, knowledge, and behaviours to achieve and demonstrate during postgraduate year levels. Engagement with JDocs will assist in your development towards a career in surgery. The JDocs ePortfolio gives you access to:

- eLearning modules relevant to pre-vocational doctors
- Generic Surgical Science Examination (GSSE) resources
- Online surgical skills logbook (MALT) and Key Clinical Tasks
- Selected RACS library resourcesA platform to progressively assemble evidence of your achievements, work-based assessments and experiences, which can help support application to proceduralist specialty training.

Visit [JDocs](#) or contact [jdocs@surgeons.org](mailto:jdocs@surgeons.org) for further information.

## Essential Surgical Skills (ESS)

RACS has produced a [Guide to Essential Surgical Skills](#), recommending the surgical skills to achieve before applying for the SET program.

This guide is useful for:

- medical students and pre-vocational doctors – to build a portfolio in preparation for application to the SET program
- hospital supervisors – to assist in providing relevant clinical experiences for residents intending to apply for the SET program
- educators – to assist in developing learning resources relevant to SET.

The JDocs website contains a selection of free [surgical skills videos](#) that are used in the RACS Australian and New Zealand Surgical Skills Education and Training (ASSET) course. The videos demonstrate instrument handling, standard precautions, suturing, knot tying and incisions / excisions. You have the option to purchase an essential [surgical skills kit](#) to enable practice of the skills demonstrated in the videos.

## Indigenous Scholarships Program

RACS also offers an [Indigenous Scholarship Program](#) to support medical graduates who identify as Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or Māori, on their chosen career path to becoming a Surgeon.

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Selection Initiative

Indigenous people are under-represented in the health workforce of Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. To meet the needs of all Australian and Aotearoa New Zealand communities, the surgical workforce needs greater representation from Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori peoples.

RACS' [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Surgical Trainee Selection Initiative](#) is designed to address the low participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander doctors in the surgical specialties.

Individual Specialty Training Boards may implement a selection initiative to expand opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to enter training. Specialties may set aside posts for applicants who in the registration stage:

- identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander,
- meet the eligibility requirements for membership of Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA) and
- meet the minimum standards for appointment as defined by the Specialty Training Board.

The Indigenous Health Committee is working with the [Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association](#) (AIDA) and the [Māori Medical Practitioners Association of Aotearoa](#) (Te ORA) to promote surgery as a career to Indigenous doctors. For more information about RACS Closing the Gap initiatives, refer to the activities of the [Indigenous Health Committee](#) on the RACS website. See [Contacts](#) for more information.

## Australian – Indigenous Surgical Pathways (AISP)

The AISP Program aims to reduce the professional health workforce inequity faced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia.

It is a long-term, multi-pronged initiative that recognises the need to support those wishing to contribute to health equity for First Australians. The solution is, in part, changing culture to honour the rights and value the amazing contributions First Australians have to offer.

The AISP pilot project is being led by the Royal Darwin Hospital. Health service, departmental and mentorship standards will be defined and, ultimately, a package will be developed to be introduced and applied Australia-wide.

More information on the AISP can be found [here](#).

## Rural Health Equity Strategic Action Plan

RACS acknowledges its social responsibility to address health inequity through its levers of selecting, training, retaining, and collaborating for rural surgical services and rural communities. It's well known that rural people have poorer health outcomes than urban people. They have all kinds of surgical problems which need the care of all kinds of surgeons.

The RACS Rural Health Equity Strategy aims to improve health equity for remote, rural, and regional/provincial people in Australia and New Zealand. The strategy embeds actions for rural health equity in all RACS activities and across all specialties.

Read the [Rural Health Equity Strategic Action Plan](#).





**SET  
Selection**

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## SET Selection Process

Information about SET selection published in November each year. The selection of SET trainees is an annual competitive process that commences in January and finishes in September for most specialities. The selection process for each specialty has at least five stages. The order of these may vary between specialties.

<b>Registration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• January (all specialties)</li></ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• February - March</li><li>• refer to Specialty Selection regulations for exact dates</li></ul>
<b>Referee Reporting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• April - May</li><li>• refer to Specialty Selection regulations for exact dates</li></ul>
<b>Semi-structured interviews</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• June - July</li><li>• refer to Specialty Selection regulations for exact dates</li></ul>
<b>Announcement of offers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• July - November</li></ul>

Refer to the [Applying for the 2025 Intake webpage](#) for selection registration dates.

### Registration and Application Fees

You must register every year if you wish to submit an application for selection that year. There is a non-refundable fee payable at the time of registration (which covers all specialties you have registered for).

Each application for Selection (to each individual surgical specialty) will then incur a separate non-refundable fee. [Fees](#) for applications accepted through the RACS online application form are available on the RACS website. All other specialties will publish their own selection processing fees on their webpages.

You can find the fees and further information by visiting the [Surgical Specialty Selection Regulations and Guidelines](#) page for relevant webpage links.

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# Registration

## Online Registration Form

To apply for the SET program, you must register your interest via the [online RACS portal](#) each year. No registrations are accepted after the published closing date.

**Note:** the *Online Registration Form* is only available during the selection registration period.

The Online Registration Form captures:

- your contact details
- evidence that you have meet the generic eligibility requirements for SET Selection
- the surgical specialties that you would like to apply to

## Registration for Specialties with Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand

There is no limit to the number of specialties you can select at the registration stage. You are not required to submit an application for all the specialties you register for however if you have not registered for a particular specialty, you cannot submit an application for it in the current selection year. Some surgical specialties limit the number of **applications** that you can submit (if this is the case, it will be documented in the relevant specialty selection regulations and has been included in the specialty selection pages later in this Guide).

If a specialty has separate selection processes for Australian and Aotearoa New Zealand (e.g. General Surgery), you can only apply for selection in one country and must nominate which one in your registration form.

See the [Surgical Specialty Selection Regulations and Guidelines](#) page for relevant webpage links.

## Criminal Checks

Criminal conduct will not be considered during the selection process if AHPRA / MCNZ has been notified and unconditional medical registration is maintained.

## Eligibility Requirements

To meet registration requirements, you **must** fulfil the **generic** (and **specialty specific** if applicable) eligibility criteria at the time you submit your registration.



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# Application for Selection to the SET Program

## Selection Instruments

In 1998 RACS endorsed the *Best Practice Framework for Trainee Selection* that subsequently became known as the [Brennan Principles](#). Each of the nine surgical specialities administers its own selection processes using a range of selection tools. The weighting of these tools must be reasonable and fair to all applicants. These weightings are determined prior to the commencement of the selection process and are published in the specialty selection regulations.

To improve the quality and effectiveness of the SET selection process, RACS conducts research and evaluates the performance of selection instruments and processes. Research and evaluation may include 'pilot' implementation of selection instruments or processes to study their utility in the RACS context. Applicants to SET may be invited to participate in selection research or evaluation.

If you have registered for selection and have been confirmed as satisfying the generic eligibility requirements, you may submit an application for selection with the relevant specialty/specialties. All applications must be made using the online application form between the published opening and closing dates.

The following specialties accept applications for selection through RACS:

- [Cardiothoracic Surgery](#)
- [Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery New Zealand](#)
- [Paediatric Surgery](#)
- [Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery New Zealand](#)

The following specialties accept applications for selection through their specialty societies:

- [General Surgery Australia](#)
- [General Surgery New Zealand](#)
- [Neurosurgery](#)
- [Orthopaedic Surgery Australia](#)
- [Orthopaedic Surgery New Zealand](#)
- [Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery Australia](#)
- [Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Australia](#)
- [Urology](#)
- [Vascular Surgery](#)

## Online Application Form

Irrespective of which specialty you are applying for, you must provide:

- contact details for referees
- evidence to show that you meet the minimum eligibility criteria

a structured Curriculum Vitae (CV) which captures information and evidence of:

- surgical experience
- other qualifications
- publications and presentations
- skills courses
- medical achievements
- leadership exposure

You should also read the current selection regulations for the relevant speciality/specialties you are applying for to ensure that you meet the minimum eligibility requirements.

Refer to the [Selection to Surgical Education and Training](#) policy on the RACS website for more details.

## Generic Surgical Sciences Examination (GSSE)

All specialties require you to have passed the RACS Generic Surgical Sciences Exam (GSSE) either at the time of registration or by the close of SET applications. This exam is designed to ensure that you demonstrate a minimum standard of knowledge in the surgical sciences of anatomy, pathology and physiology - the foundation of surgical training. Passing the GSSE requires demonstration of this 'minimum standard' of knowledge in each discipline as well as sound knowledge 'across the board'.

Refer to the [Surgical Specialty Selection Regulations and Guidelines](#) page for relevant webpage links, for confirmation of the deadline to meet this requirement.

Refer to the [Generic Surgical Sciences Examination \(GSSE\)](#) page on the RACS website for more details.

## Clinical Examination (CE)

The Clinical Examination (CE) is a practical examination designed to the clinical application of the basic sciences. The emphasis of the Clinical Examination is on the application of basic science knowledge and understanding and clinical practise relevant to all forms of surgery.

You will spend five minutes at each of the 16 assessed stations. Examples of tasks assessed include patient history taking and examination, demonstration of practical technical skill, the application of basic science knowledge, data acquisition and analysis, counselling and communication skills.

The Clinical Examination has transitioned to a selection prerequisite for some surgical specialties. Please refer to their selection webpages and selection regulations for further details.

Refer to the [Surgical Specialty Selection Regulations and Guidelines](#) page for relevant webpage links, for confirmation of the deadline to meet this requirement.

Refer to the [Conduct of SET Clinical Examination Policy](#) on the RACS website.

## Structured Referee Reports

You will be asked to name a number of referees in your application form. Referees are then selected, and reference reports collected in accordance with the relevant specialty-specific regulations.

Information collected in the referee reports include applicant clinical aptitude, workplace behaviour, and personal attributes.

## Semi-Structured interviews

Once the Referee Reporting stage has closed, CV and Referee Report scores are combined. Should you achieve the minimum standard (this varies depending on the specialty) then you will be invited to interview by the Specialty Board. You will be given at least 10 days' notice of the interview date.

## Announcement of Offers

All applications will be classified as one of the below:

<b>Successful</b>	an eligible applicant who satisfied the minimum standards for selection and in the ranking of combined weighted scores of all applicants for the specialty, scored high enough to be made an offer
<b>Unsuccessful</b>	an eligible applicant who satisfied the minimum standards for selection but who did not rank high enough in comparison to other applicants to be made an offer
<b>Unsuitable</b>	an applicant who failed to satisfy a minimum standard for selection

If you are offered a position on any of the speciality training programs you must accept within the nominated timeframe or the offer will be automatically rescinded.

If your application is not successful, the Speciality Board will notify you in writing of your outcome and will provide feedback.

The number of Trainees offered a place on the SET program is determined by each Speciality Training Committee / Board. The number of places available each year varies and may be dependent on:

- the number of accredited hospital training posts available the following year
- the number of current trainees that have applied for interruption and research for the following year
- the number of current trainees applying for fellowship

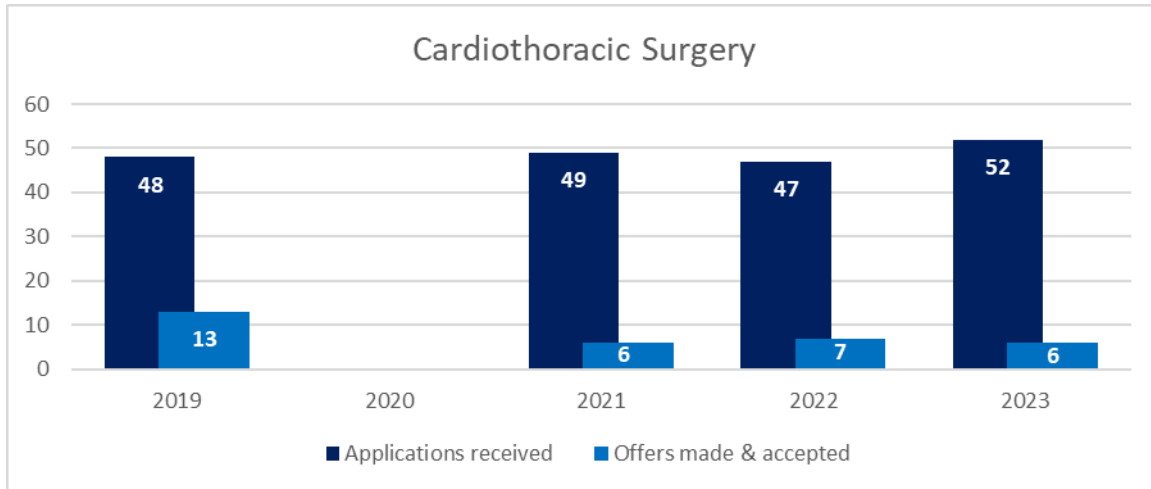


# **Surgical Specialties: Selection Snapshot**



# Cardiothoracic Surgery

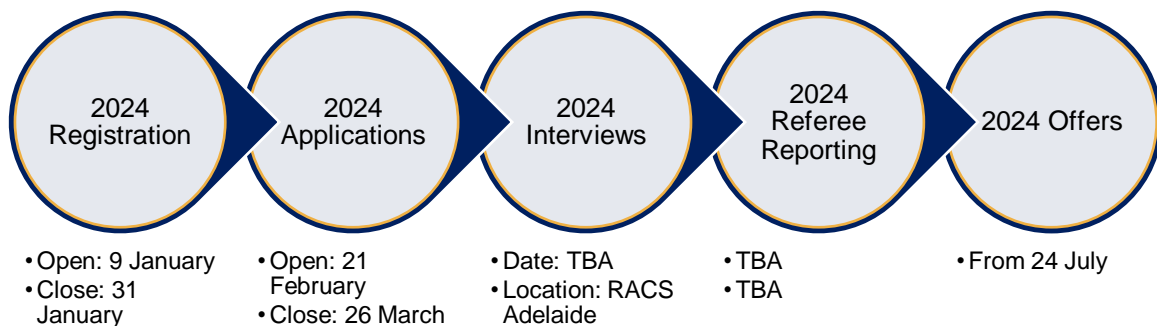
## Applications and Offers to Cardiothoracic Surgery between 2019 and 2023



### Notes:

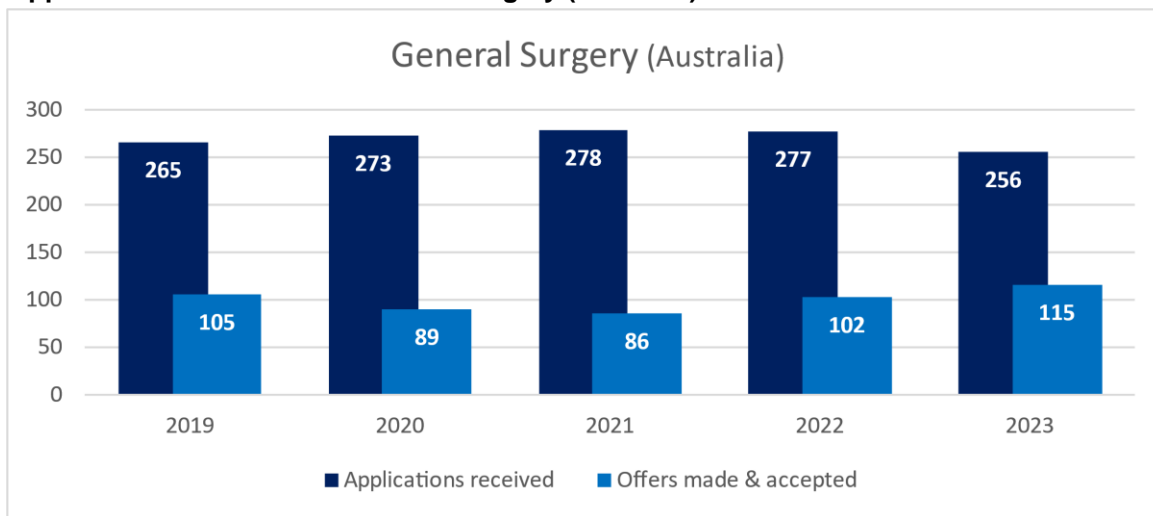
1. Cardiothoracic Surgery did not select in 2020

<b>Webpage:</b>	<a href="#">Cardiothoracic surgery - Selection</a>
<b>Selection Regulations:</b>	<a href="#">Cardiothoracic surgery - Selection</a>
<b>Contact:</b>	<a href="mailto:Cardiothoracic.Surgery@surgeons.org">Cardiothoracic.Surgery@surgeons.org</a>
<b>Maximum application attempts?</b>	No
<b>Pass GSSE by:</b>	Close of applications
<b>Pass CE by:</b>	Close of applications
<b>Application form webpage:</b>	<a href="#">Applying for the 2025 SET intake   RACS (surgeons.org)</a> (only available while applications open)

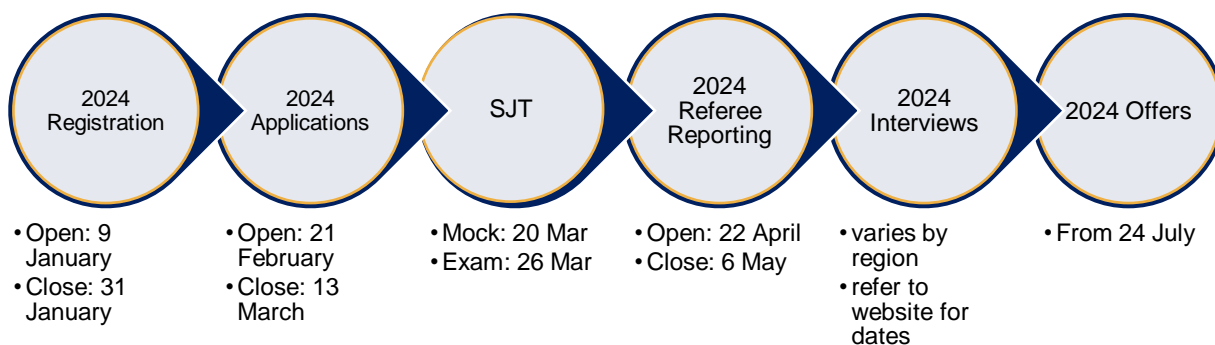


# General Surgery (Australia)

Applications and Offers to General Surgery (Australia) between 2019 and 2023

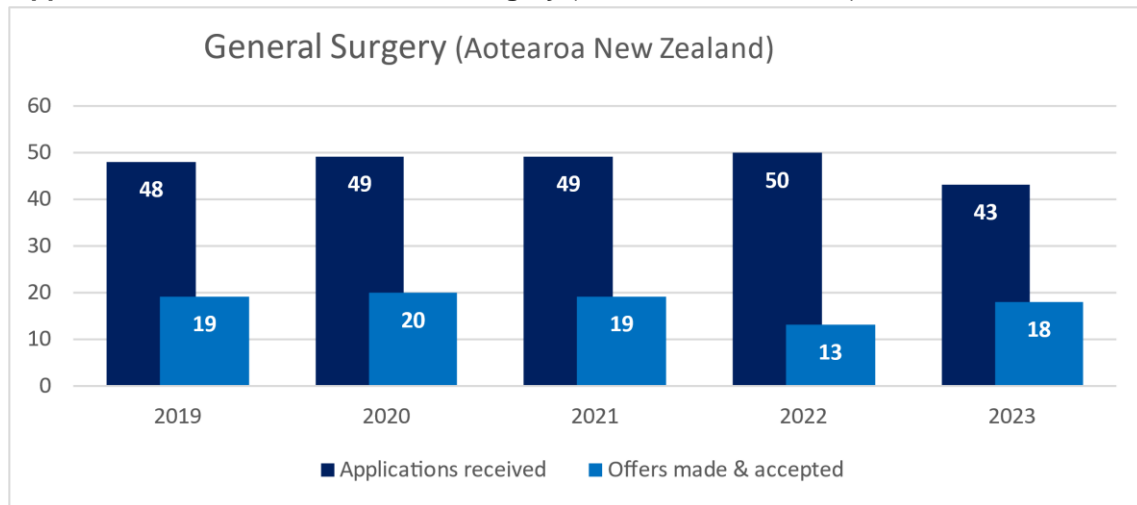


<b>Webpage:</b>	<a href="#">General Surgeons Australia - Selection</a>
<b>Selection Regulations:</b>	<a href="#">General Surgeons Australia - Selection</a>
<b>Contact:</b>	<a href="mailto:selection@generalsurgeons.com.au">selection@generalsurgeons.com.au</a>
<b>Maximum application attempts?</b>	No.
<b>Pass GSSE by:</b>	Close of applications
<b>Application form webpage:</b>	Will be emailed to those eligible to apply (only available while applications open)

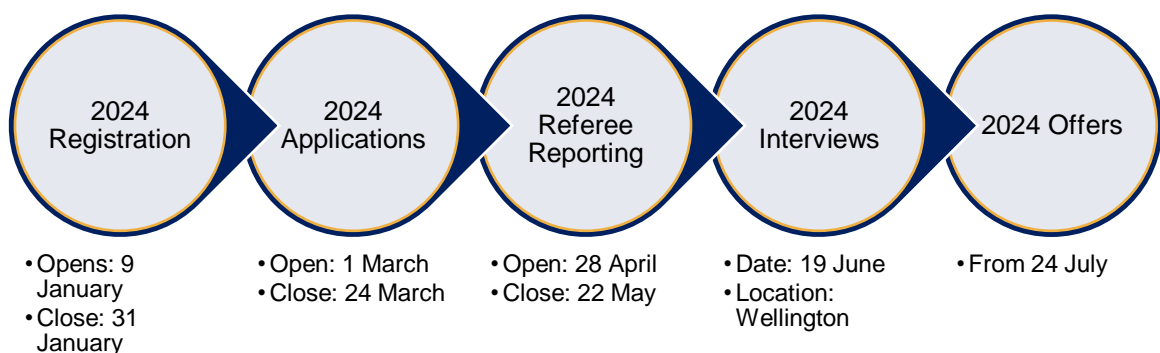


# General Surgery (Aotearoa New Zealand)

## Applications and Offers to General Surgery (Aotearoa New Zealand) between 2019 and 2023

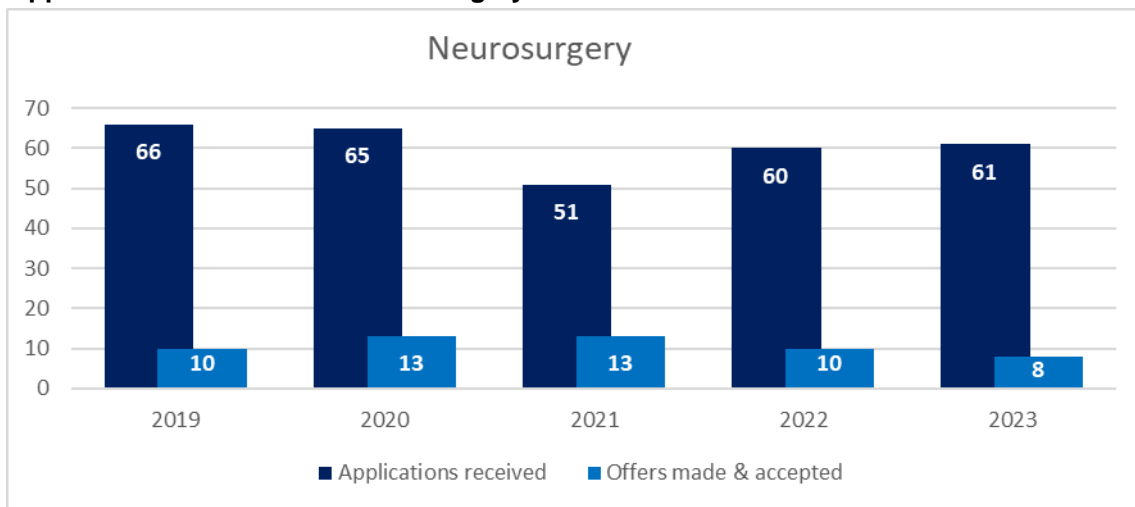


<b>Webpage:</b>	<a href="#">Applications - New Zealand Association of General Surgeons</a>
<b>Selection Regulations:</b>	<a href="#">Applications - New Zealand Association of General Surgeons (nzags.co.nz)</a>
<b>Contact:</b>	<a href="mailto:ray@nzags.co.nz">ray@nzags.co.nz</a>
<b>Maximum application attempts?</b>	No.
<b>Pass GSSE by:</b>	Close of applications
<b>Application form webpage:</b>	(only available while applications open)



# Neurosurgery (Australia)

Applications and Offers to Neurosurgery between 2019 and 2023



<b>Webpage:</b>	<a href="https://www.nsa.org.au">Application and Selection (nsa.org.au)</a>
<b>Selection Regulations:</b>	<a href="https://www.nsa.org.au">Application and Selection (nsa.org.au)</a>
<b>Contact:</b>	Set.neurosurgery@nsa.org.au
<b>Maximum application attempts?</b>	Yes. Maximum 4 attempts from 2022 intake onwards
<b>Pass GSSE by:</b>	Close of applications
<b>Application form webpage:</b>	Direct link provided to eligible applicants

Applicants must register and present for the Neurosurgery Anatomy Examination which is sat prior to the opening of selection applications and has a separate registration process (available at [www.nsa.org.au](https://www.nsa.org.au)).

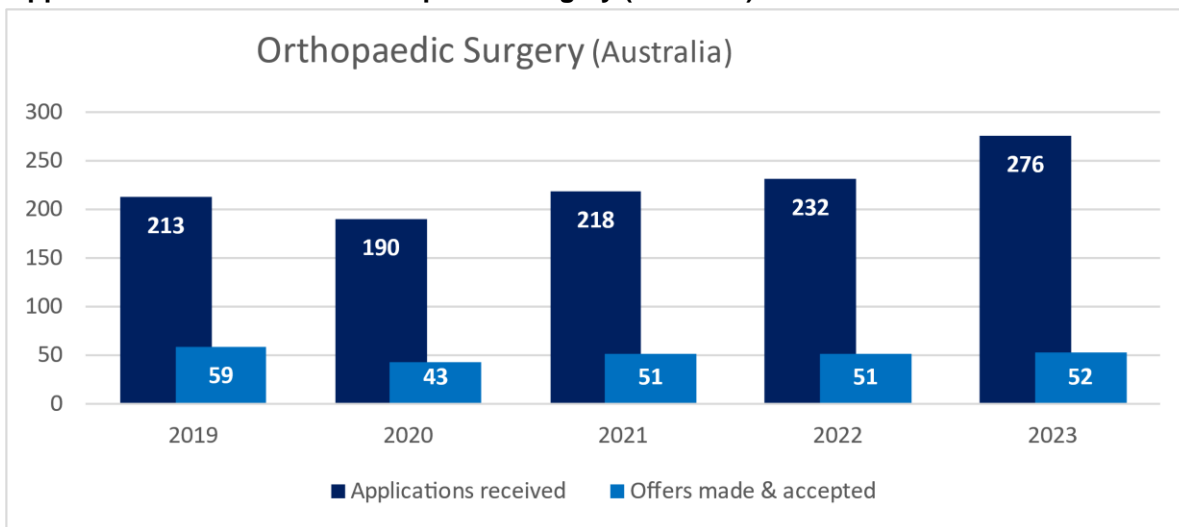
The selection process uses 4 selection tools, each contributing the following weightings to the overall selection score out of 100:

- Structured Curriculum Vitae 10%
- Neurosurgery Anatomy Examination 30%
- Reference Report 30%
- Semi-Structured Interview 30%

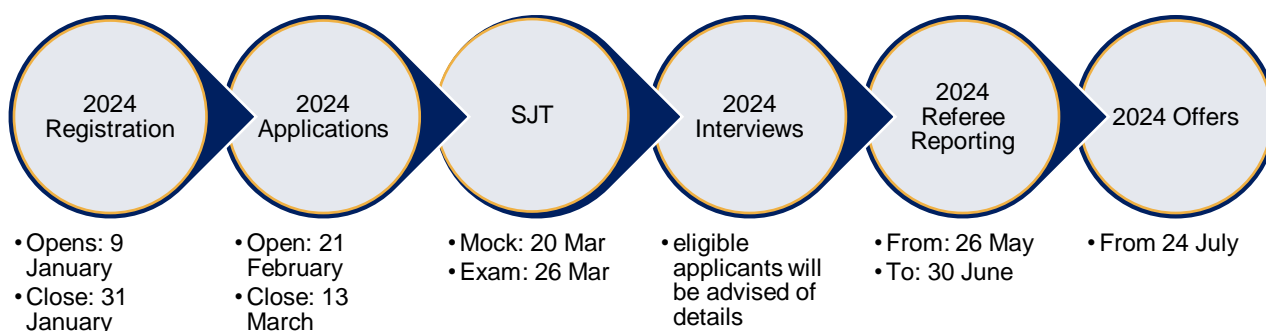


# Orthopaedic Surgery (Australia)

Applications and Offers to Orthopaedic Surgery (Australia) between 2019 and 2023

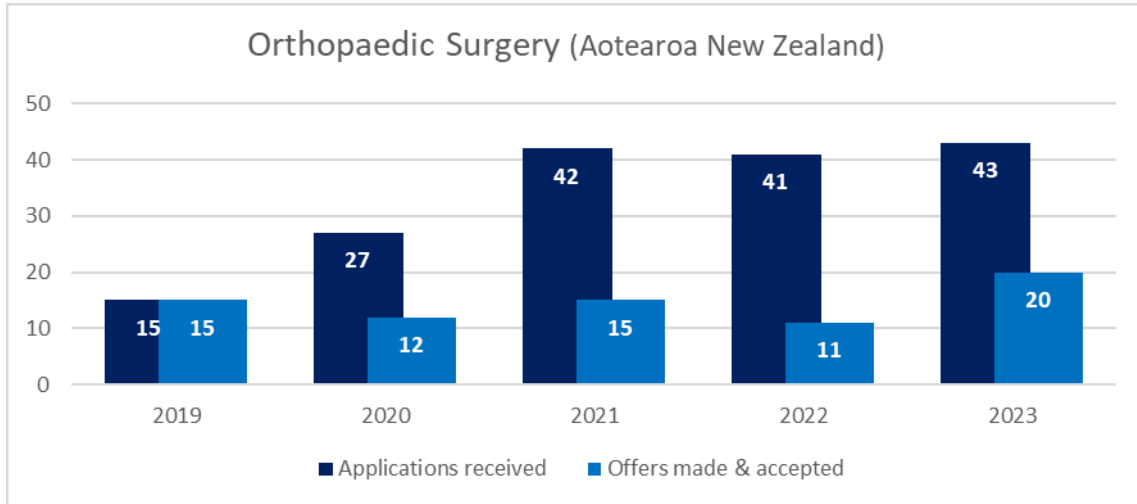


<b>Webpage:</b>	<a href="#">Selection into Training - AOA</a>
<b>Selection Regulations:</b>	<a href="#">Selection into Training - AOA</a>
<b>Contact:</b>	<a href="mailto:selection@aoa.org.au">selection@aoa.org.au</a>
<b>Maximum application attempts?</b>	Yes. Maximum 4 attempts (submitted application form)
<b>Pass GSSE by:</b>	Prior to Registration for Selection
<b>Application form webpage:</b>	(only available while applications open)



# Orthopaedic Surgery (Aotearoa New Zealand)

## Applications and Offers to Orthopaedic Surgery (Aotearoa New Zealand) between 2019 and 2023

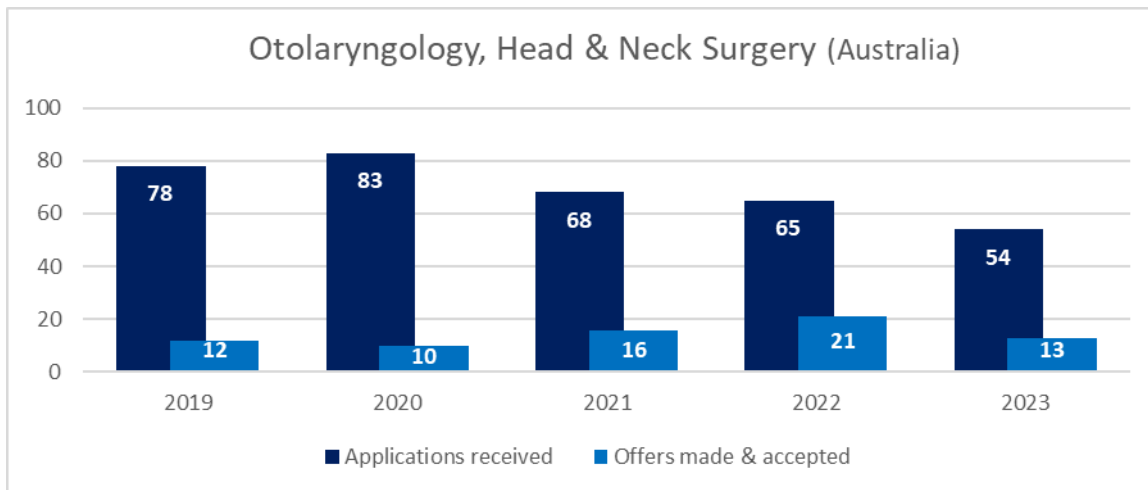


<b>Webpage:</b>	<a href="#">Apply to the NZOA Training Programme</a>
<b>Selection Regulations:</b>	<a href="#">SET Application Regulations   New Zealand Orthopaedic Association</a>
<b>Contact:</b>	<a href="mailto:prue@nzoa.org.nz">prue@nzoa.org.nz</a>
<b>Maximum application attempts?</b>	Yes. Maximum 3 attempts from 2023 intake onwards
<b>Pass GSSE by:</b>	Time of application
<b>Application form webpage:</b>	(only available while applications open)



# Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery (Australia)

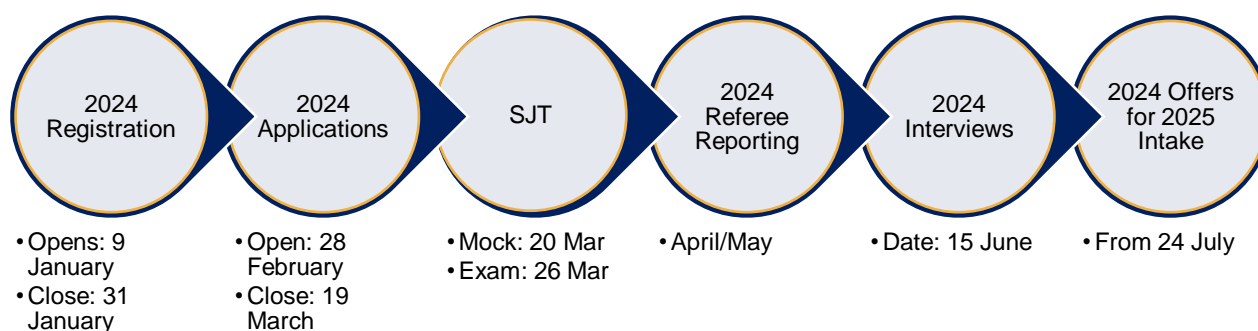
## Applications and Offers to Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery (Australia) between 2019 and 2023



### Notes:

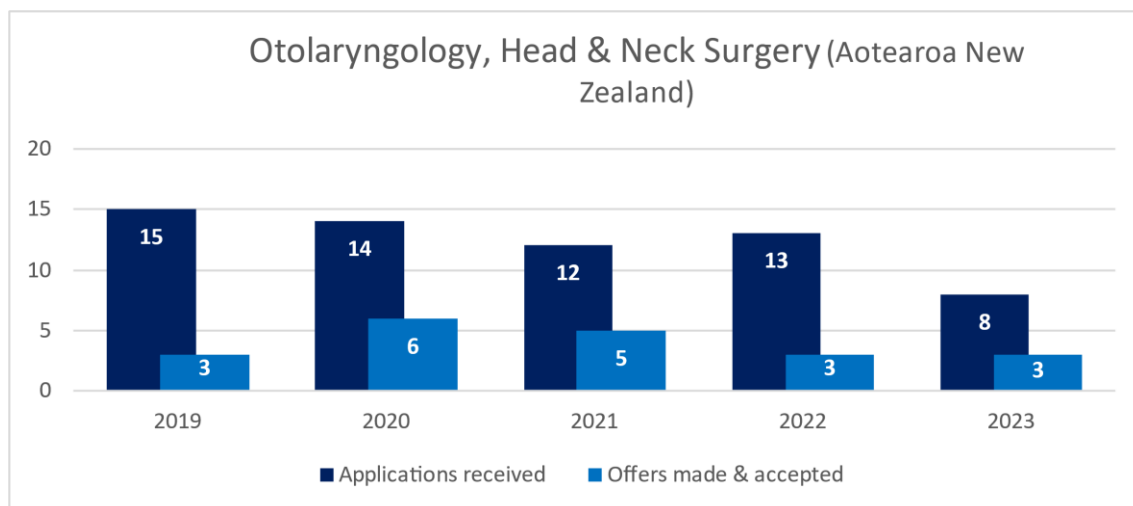
- Figures accurate as at 1 September 2023

<b>Webpage:</b>	<a href="#">2025 Intake OHNS SET Application &amp; Selection</a>
<b>Selection Regulations:</b>	<a href="#">2025 Intake OHNS SET Application &amp; Selection</a>
<b>Contact:</b>	<a href="mailto:OHNStraining@asohns.org.au">OHNStraining@asohns.org.au</a>
<b>Maximum application attempts?</b>	Yes. Four. Effective from 2021 Selection process (for 2022 intake)
<b>Pass GSSE by:</b>	Close of applications
<b>Application form webpage:</b>	(only available while applications open)



# Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery (Aotearoa New Zealand)

## Applications and Offers to Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery (Aotearoa New Zealand) between 2019 and 2023



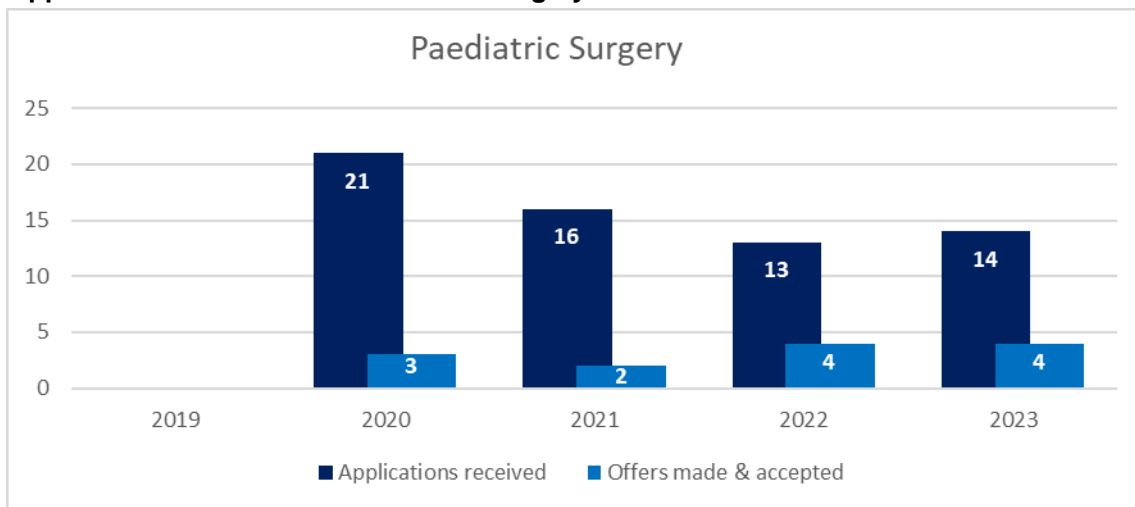
<b>Webpage:</b>	<a href="#">Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery - New Zealand</a>
<b>Selection Regulations:</b>	<a href="#">Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery - New Zealand</a>
<b>Contact:</b>	<a href="mailto:gloria.aumaivao-tasi@surgeons.org">gloria.aumaivao-tasi@surgeons.org</a>
<b>Maximum application attempts?</b>	Yes. Four. Maximum 4 attempts from 2021 Selection (2022 intake).
<b>Pass GSSE by:</b>	Close of applications
<b>Application form webpage:</b>	<a href="#">Applying for the 2025 SET intake   RACS (surgeons.org)</a> (only available while applications open)





# Paediatric Surgery

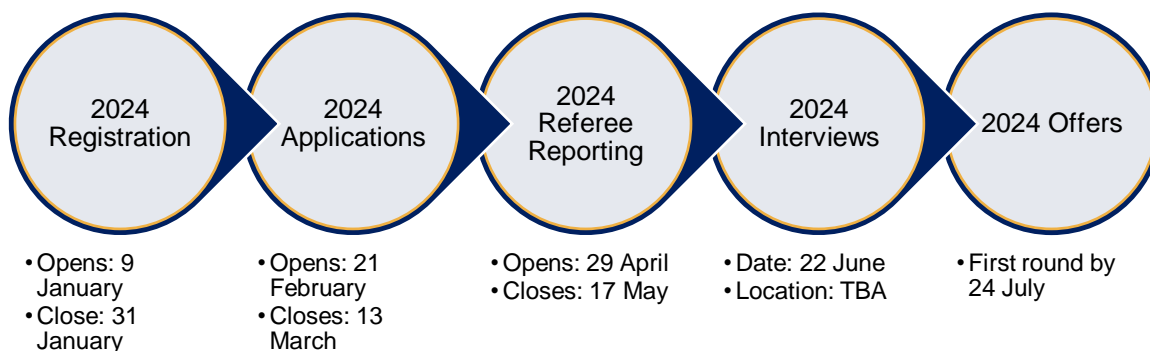
## Applications and Offers to Paediatric Surgery between 2019 and 2023



**Notes:**

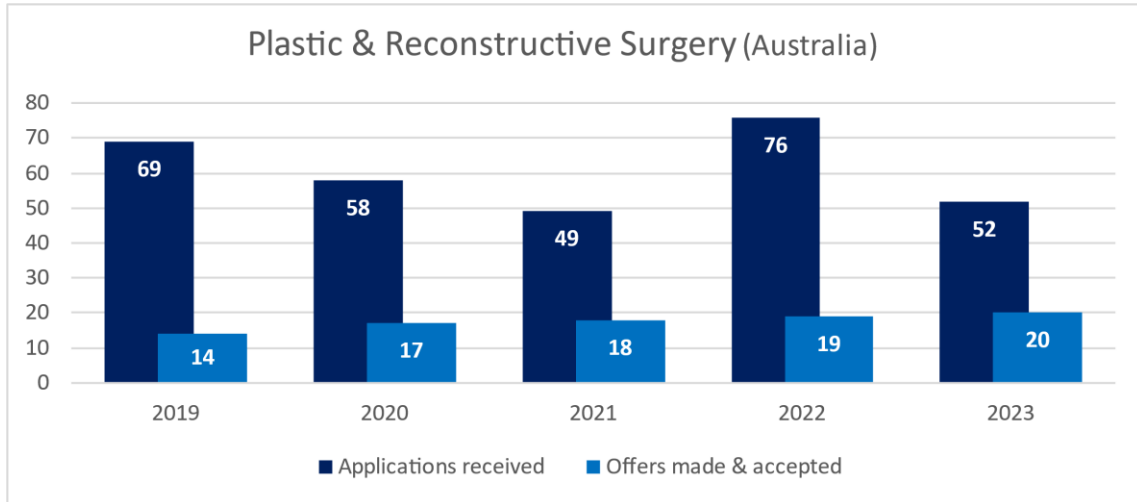
1. Paediatric Surgery did not select in 2019

<b>Webpage:</b>	<a href="#">Paediatric Surgery Selection overview</a>
<b>Selection Regulations:</b>	<a href="#">Paediatric Surgery Selection overview</a>
<b>Contact:</b>	<a href="mailto:Committee.PaediatricSurgery@surgeons.org">Committee.PaediatricSurgery@surgeons.org</a>
<b>Maximum application attempts?</b>	Yes. Three. 2020 selection or afterwards
<b>Pass GSSE by:</b>	Close of applications
<b>Application form webpage:</b>	<a href="#">Applying for the 2025 SET intake   RACS (surgeons.org)</a> (only available while applications open)

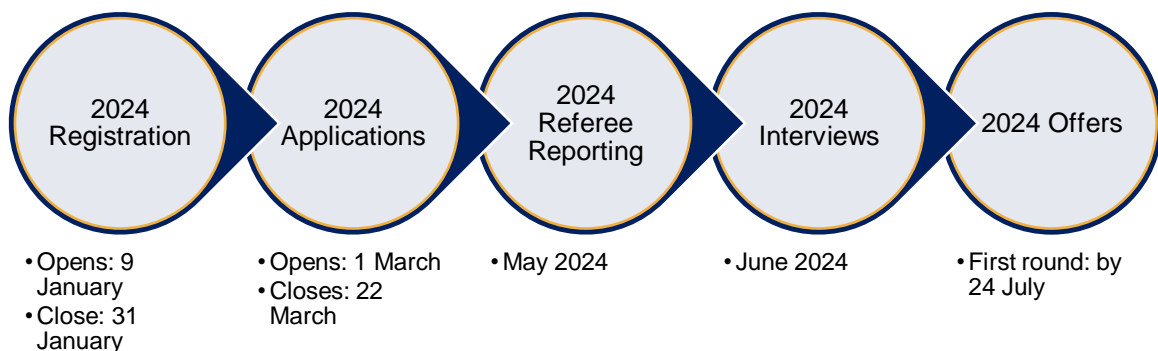


# Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery (Australia)

## Applications and Offers to Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery (Australia) between 2019 and 2023

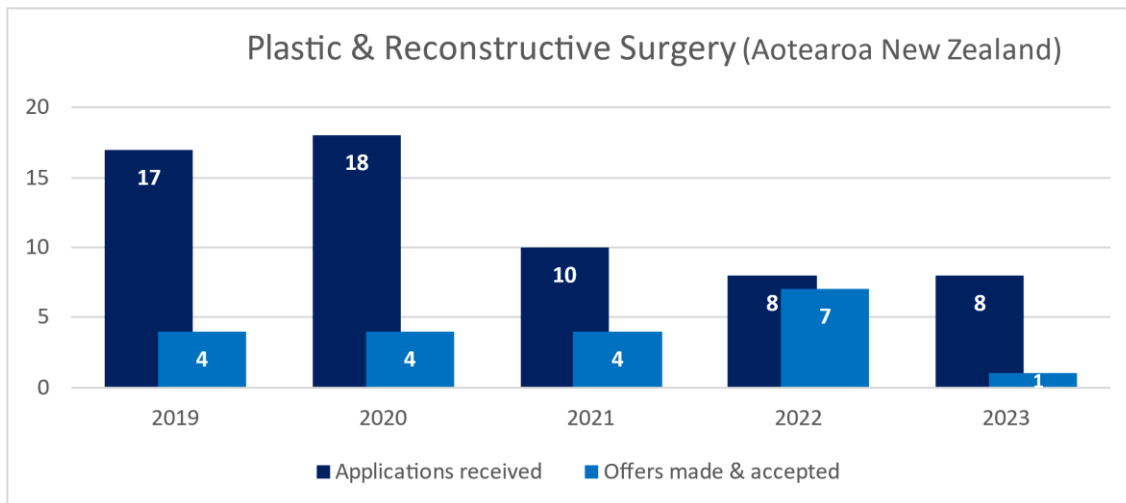


<b>Webpage:</b>	<a href="#">Selection for SET - Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons</a>
<b>Selection Regulations:</b>	<a href="#">Selection for SET - Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons</a>
<b>Contact:</b>	<a href="mailto:education@plasticsurgery.org.au">education@plasticsurgery.org.au</a>
<b>Maximum application attempts?</b>	Yes. Three (Four with Board approval)
<b>Pass GSSE by:</b>	Close of applications
<b>Pass CE by:</b>	Close of applications
<b>Application form webpage:</b>	(only available while applications open)



# Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery (Aotearoa New Zealand)

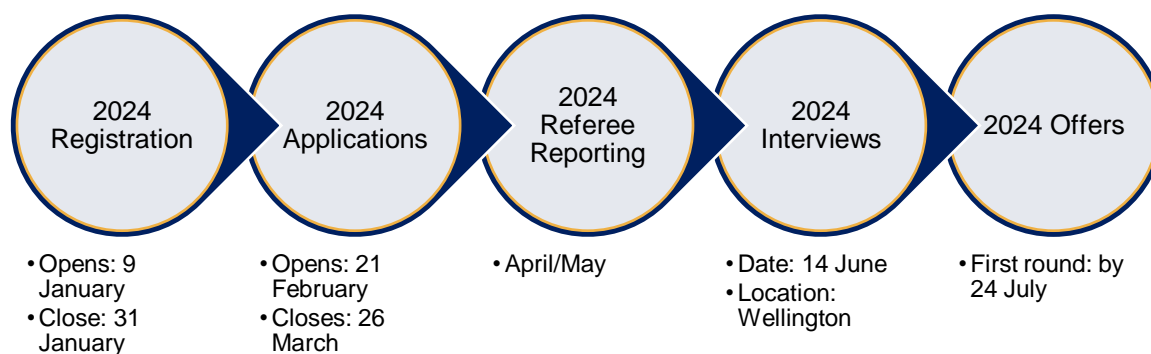
## Applications and Offers to Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery (Aotearoa New Zealand) between 2019 and 2023



### Notes:

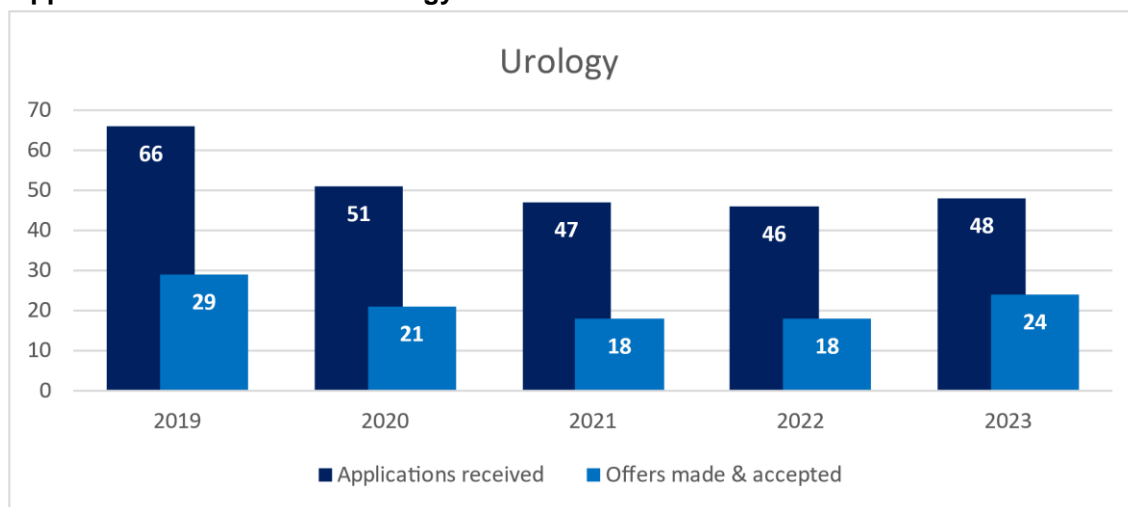
1. Figures accurate as at 1 September 2023.

<b>Webpage:</b>	<a href="#">Selection - New Zealand Association of Plastic Surgeons</a>
<b>Selection Regulations:</b>	<a href="#">Selection - New Zealand Association of Plastic Surgeons</a>
<b>Contact:</b>	<a href="mailto:training@plasticsurgery.org.nz">training@plasticsurgery.org.nz</a>
<b>Maximum application attempts?</b>	Yes. Maximum 3 attempts from 2022 intake onwards
<b>Pass GSSE by:</b>	Close of applications
<b>Application form webpage:</b>	(only available while applications open)

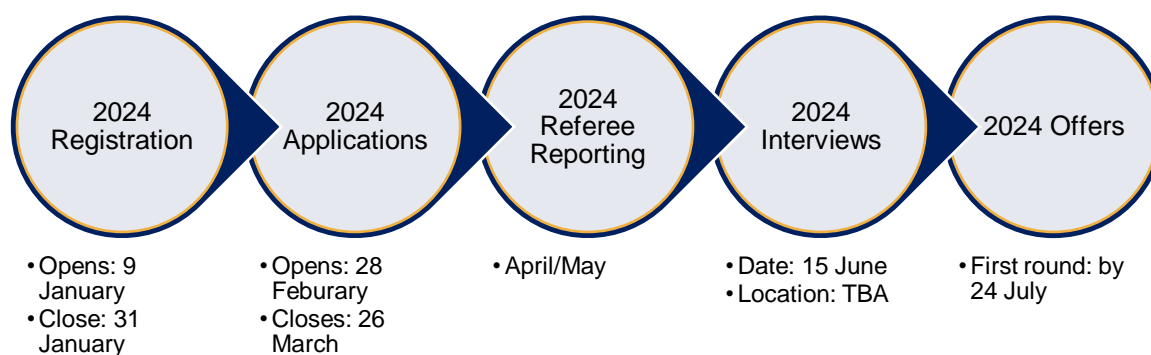


# Urology

## Applications and Offers to Urology between 2019 and 2023

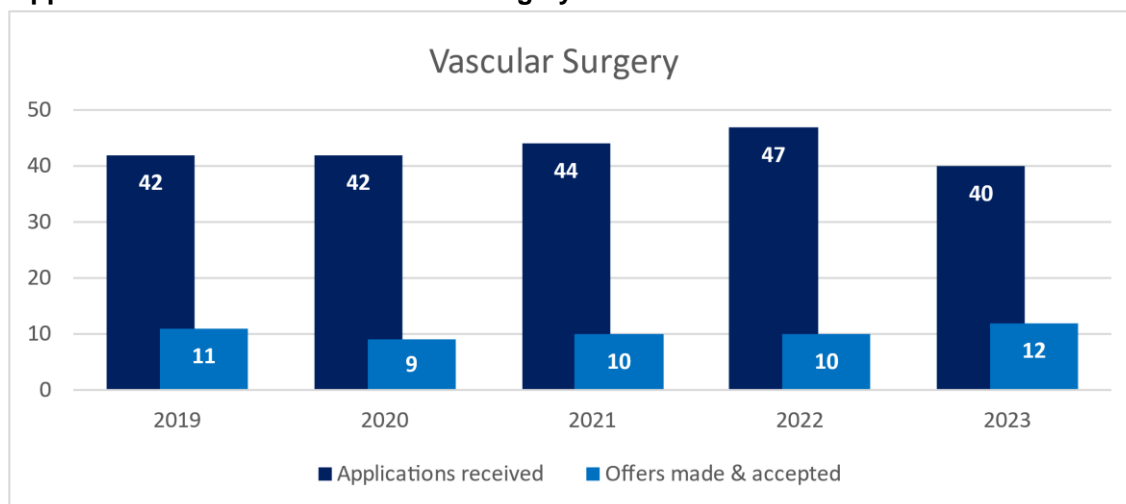


<b>Webpage:</b>	<a href="#">USANZ - Application &amp; Selection</a>
<b>Selection Regulations:</b>	<a href="#">USANZ - Application &amp; Selection</a>
<b>Contact:</b>	<a href="#">SET Urology Helpdesk</a>
<b>Maximum application attempts?</b>	Yes. Maximum 3 attempts from 2022 intake onwards
<b>Pass GSSE by:</b>	Close of applications
<b>Pass CE by:</b>	Close of applications
<b>Application form webpage:</b>	(only available while applications open)

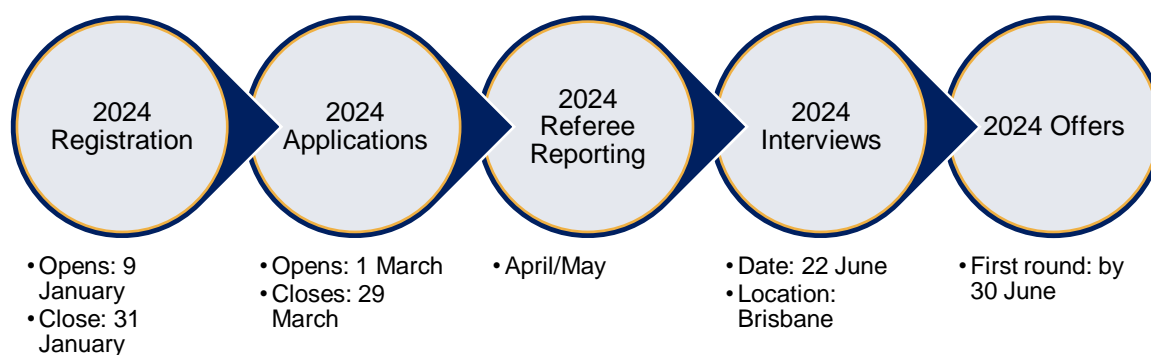


# Vascular Surgery

**Applications and Offers to Vascular Surgery between 2019 and 2023**



<b>Webpage:</b>	<a href="#">Selection   ANZSVS</a>
<b>Selection Regulations:</b>	<a href="#">Selection   ANZSVS</a>
<b>Contact:</b>	<a href="mailto:vascular.selection@anzsvs.org.au">vascular.selection@anzsvs.org.au</a>
<b>Maximum application attempts?</b>	Yes. Maximum three attempts from 2022 intake onwards
<b>Pass GSSE by:</b>	Date of application
<b>Pass CE by:</b>	Date of application
<b>Application form webpage:</b>	(only available while applications open)





# Appendices

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# Appendix One: eLearning Modules

## Introduction to Operating with Respect eLearning module

If you are a current JDocs subscriber, you should have access to this module.

Otherwise, click the link below or copy the following site into your browser:

<https://www.surgeons.org/Education/Professional-Development/introduction-to-operating-with-respect>

The screenshot shows the website for the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. The header includes the logo and navigation links: 'Become a surgeon', 'Trainees', 'Fellows', 'SIMGs', and 'Research & audit'. A breadcrumb trail reads: 'HOME > EDUCATION > PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT > OPERATING WITH RESPECT eLEARNING'. The main heading is 'Introduction to Operating with Respect'. The text describes the course's purpose: to support the RACS commitment to appropriate surgical behaviours, resulting in higher-quality care. It is a pre-requisite for Surgical Education and Training (SET). The course aims to improve knowledge of unacceptable behaviours, help surgeons recognize them, and provide intervention strategies. A note states that this course replaces a previous version and includes revised content, offering 1 CPD point. A section titled 'Course learning outcomes' lists eight points, including professional standards, legislation, unacceptable behaviours, impacts, stressors, speaking up, intervention strategies, and resources.

Scroll down the page to locate the *Registration* button.

You will need to log into your RACS account to enrol in the course.

If required, you can access IT support at [help.desk@surgeons.org](mailto:help.desk@surgeons.org)

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# Appendix Two: Examinations

## Generic Surgical Sciences Examination (GSSE)

Click the link or copy the following site into your browser:

<https://www.surgeons.org/Examinations/generic-surgical-sciences-examination-gsse>

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

Become a surgeon ▾ Trainees ▾ Fellows ▾ SIMGs ▾ Research & audit ▾

HOME > EXAMINATIONS > GENERIC SURGICAL SCIENCES EXAMINATION

## Generic Surgical Science Examination (GSSE)

### Overview

The Generic Surgical Sciences Examination (GSSE) is designed to ensure that candidates have demonstrated a minimum standard of knowledge in the surgical sciences of anatomy, pathology and physiology - the foundation of surgical training. Passing the GSSE requires demonstration of this 'minimum standard' of knowledge in each discipline as well as sound knowledge 'across the board'.

All specialty training boards have introduced the successful completion of the GSSE as a mandatory eligibility requirement for selection.

Please note that registration for this exam closes at 11.59am (AEDT) on the closing date stipulated, late registrations will not be accepted under any circumstances.

### General information

#### Details

DATE  
Feb 14, 2024 ▾

SCHEDULE  
14-15 February 2024

LOCATION  
Adelaide, Auckland, Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney, Wellington

REGISTRATION DATES  
From 14 November 2023 to 05 December 2023

CONTACT PERSON  
Examinations Department

Read through the general information including sitting dates (select a date from the drop-down box in the blue column on the right).

For further enquiries, please contact the Examinations Department (see [contacts](#) page).

## Clinical Examination (CE)

Click the link or copy the following site into your browser:

<https://www.surgeons.org/Examinations/clinical-examination>

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

Become a surgeon ▾ Trainees ▾ Fellows ▾ SIMGs ▾ Research & audit ▾

HOME > EXAMINATIONS > CLINICAL EXAMINATION

## Clinical Examination

### Overview

The Clinical Examination (CE) is a practical exam that assesses clinical application of basic sciences, as well as technical and non-technical competencies. It's an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) consisting of 16 five-minute stations designed to test your applied knowledge of the clinical conditions and scenarios you may encounter as a junior doctor working in a hospital.

Four station types assess physical examination, communication skills, history taking and procedural skills.

### Registration

Please note that registration for this exam opens and closes at 11:59am (AEST/AEDT) on the dates stipulated. Late registrations will not be accepted under any circumstance.

As per the clinical examination policy, candidates will be allocated a session according to nominated preferences at the time of registration. Preference requests may be considered if minimum numbers are not achieved.

#### Details

DATE  
Feb 24, 2024 ▾

SCHEDULE  
24 & 25 February 2024

LOCATION  
Melbourne AU

REGISTRATION DATES  
From 21 November 2023 to 07 December 2023

CONTACT PERSON  
Examinations Department

Read through the general information including sitting dates (select a date from the drop-down box in the blue column on the right).

For further enquiries, please contact the Examinations Department (see [contacts](#) page).



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## Appendix Three: Selection Checklist

Before submitting an application for the Surgical Education and Training Program, make sure you check the list below and complete all 10 items.

- Hold General Medical Registration without conditions from the Medical Board of Australia (MBA) or the Medical Council of New Zealand (MCNZ)**
- Be a citizen or permanent resident of Australia or Aotearoa New Zealand**
- Select surgical specialty (or specialties) for which to apply to SET**
- Check the [RACS website](#) for current SET Program information and specialty-specific eligibility requirements**
- Successfully pass the Generic Surgical Sciences Examination (in accordance with the deadline for this requirement in relevant specialty-specific selection regulations)**
- Complete the [RACS Introduction to Operating with Respect eLearning Module](#)**
- Register for SET Selection in January (fee payable)**
- Prepare documentation for SET application (list of rotations, contact details of supervisors/referees, evidence of qualifications, publications and achievements)**
- Ensure that all specialty-specific eligibility requirements will be met within the published timeframe**
- Apply to chosen SET Program/s in February/March (fee payable)**

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# Appendix Four: RACS Contacts

## Surgical Training Department

SET Program Coordinator

SET Selection Enquiries

**P:** +61 3 9249 1114

**E:** [SETEnquiries@surgeons.org](mailto:SETEnquiries@surgeons.org)

**W:** [www.surgeons.org](http://www.surgeons.org)

## Examinations Department

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

**GSSE and Specialty Specific Examinations**

**P:** +61 3 9249 1244

**Clinical Exam**

**P:** +61 3 9249 1245

**E:** [examinations@surgeons.org](mailto:examinations@surgeons.org)

**W:** [www.surgeons.org](http://www.surgeons.org)

## Indigenous Health Committee

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

**W:** [www.surgeons.org/about-racs/indigenous-health](http://www.surgeons.org/about-racs/indigenous-health)

**E:** [IndigenousHealth@surgeons.org](mailto:IndigenousHealth@surgeons.org)

Australian Indigenous Doctor's Association (AIDA)

**P:** +61 2 6273 5013

**P:** 1800 190 498 (Freecall)

**E:** [aida@aida.org.au](mailto:aida@aida.org.au)

**W:** [www.aida.org.au/studying-medicine/](http://www.aida.org.au/studying-medicine/)

Te Ohu Rata O Aotearoa/Māori Medical Practitioners Association (Te ORA)

**P:** +64 27 960 8744

**E:** [teora@teora.maori.nz](mailto:teora@teora.maori.nz)

**W:** <https://teora.maori.nz/>

## Pre-Vocational Coordinator (JDocs)

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

**E:** [jdocs@surgeons.org](mailto:jdocs@surgeons.org)

**W:** [www.jdocs.surgeons.org](http://www.jdocs.surgeons.org)

## RACS Trainees' Association

Executive Officer

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

**P:** +61 3 9249 1212

**E:** [racsta@surgeons.org](mailto:racsta@surgeons.org)

**W:** <https://www.surgeons.org/en/Trainees/trainee-association-racsta>

## Skills Courses Department

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

**P:** +61 3 9276 7450

**E:** [skills.courses@surgeons.org](mailto:skills.courses@surgeons.org)

**W:** [www.surgeons.org](http://www.surgeons.org)

