

Portfolio:	Education Development and Delivery	Ref. No.	POL-2044
Team:	SIMG Assessments		
Title:	Short-term Training in a Medical Specialty in Australia		

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Medical Board of Australia's (MBA) Short-term Training in a Medical Specialty pathway allows Specialist International Medical Graduates (SIMGs) to undertake a short period of training in Australia with the objective of gaining professional skills and experience not available in their country of training.

The process is defined by the MBA. The role of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) is to provide advice to the MBA as to the suitability of the applicant and the short-term training position. The MBA can allow limited registration for the purposes of short-term training in a medical specialty pathway.

The MBA regards short-term training to be usually a period of up to 2 years. RACS may recommend an extension up to a total of 3 years of short-term training in exceptional circumstances.

Short-term training positions are not formal RACS training positions and do not lead to Fellowship of the College or general or specialist registration. As such RACS will not issue any certificates relating to completion of training.

Applications for short-term training must include a declaration of the applicant's intention to return to their country of training upon completion of training and not to seek further registration in Australia.

For further information relating to Short-term Training in a Medical Specialty, SIMGs are advised to contact the MBA.

2. KEYWORDS

Short-term training; Position; Specialist-in-training; International; Medical; Graduate

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Assessment Process

- 3.1.1. To be eligible to apply, an applicant must find a position within Australia that provides suitable training. The applicant must satisfy any eligibility requirements as outlined by the MBA and RACS.
- 3.1.2. RACS will undertake an assessment of the proposed short-term training and the applicant's training and experience to determine whether it supports the specified training position as suitable for the applicant.
- 3.1.3. Applications to RACS for approval of short-term training must include:
 - a. An AAMC-30 assessment application form from the MBA; and
 - b. A position description for the proposed training position; and
 - c. Details on how supervision will be provided, including names and contact details of proposed supervisor/s; and
 - d. The applicant's curriculum vitae; and

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- e. A signed statement of the applicant's intention to return to their country of training upon completion of the training position; and
- f. Two written references on letterhead and dated within the last two years; and
- g. Certified copies of undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications in English.

3.2. Assessment Standards

- 3.2.1. The assessment of the proposed training position focuses on determining the following:
- a. That the position is a genuine supervised workplace training position/program.
 - b. That the training is relevant to the applicant's specialty and has the potential to enhance their skills level.
 - c. That the training institution has appropriate infrastructure and specialty services to support the training.
 - d. That the proposed training program is supported by the Director of Medical Services and the designated supervisor/s.
 - e. That the program is not an accredited College surgical training position.
- 3.2.2. It is essential that the training institution has assessed and verified that the applicant:
- a. Is an overseas-trained specialist or is an overseas specialist-in- training, who is no more than two years from completing specialist training in their country of training; and
 - b. Will be undertaking this position for the purpose of specific training or up-skilling in their specialty or obtaining experience in their specialty not available in their country of training; and
 - c. Has the stated intention of returning to their country of training at the end of the short-term program.

3.3. Assessment Recommendation

- 3.3.1. On completion of the assessment RACS will recommend one of the following:
- a. The short-term training position is appropriate and the applicant is suitable for the proposed training; or
 - b. The short-term training position is not appropriate and/or the applicant is not suitable for the proposed training position.

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3.4. Notification and Feedback

- 3.4.1. The College recommendation will be sent to the MBA. This may include the rationale for the recommendation.

3.5. Validity of Assessment and Extensions

- 3.5.1. The recommendation is valid within the scope and for the duration of the application considered.
- 3.5.2. Extensions may be considered on request from the sponsoring hospital and the applicant. These will require evidence of satisfactory assessment reports.

3.6. Fees

- 3.6.1. An Assessment Fee must be paid prior to the commencement of the assessment of an application.
- 3.6.2. An additional fee must be paid for additional sites to be approved
- 3.6.2. Fees are approved by Council in October each year and published on RACS website.

3.7. Appeal

- 3.7.1. RACS makes recommendations relating to Short-term Training in a Medical Specialty on behalf of the MBA. Applicants who do not receive a positive recommendation should contact the MBA to discuss other possibilities regarding medical registration.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Medical Board of Australia (MBA) Guidelines: "*Short-term Training in a Medical Specialty for International Medical Graduates who are not qualified for General or Specialist Registration*" (website: www.medicalboard.gov.au).

Approver Education Committee
Authoriser Council

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Page 3 of 3		Review Date:	November 2026