1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE
RACS is committed to the promotion and development of rural surgery as a career path as a means to address surgical workforce shortages, recruitment and retention challenges in rural, regional and remote Australia. The Skills Course Grant is designed to support rural based junior doctors interested in rural practice undertake the a surgical skills course in a rural or regional area.

2. KEYWORDS
Rural, Skills Training, Course, Grant, Junior Doctor, JDOC

3. BODY OF POLICY
3.1. Purpose of the Grant
The Grant supports attendance at a surgical skills course with preference to those delivered in a rural/regional area and may be used for travel, accommodation or course fees.

3.2. Eligibility
To be eligible for the Grant an applicant must:
3.2.1. Be a junior doctor practising in rural or regional Australia or New Zealand.
3.2.2. Be registered in the RACS JDOCs
3.2.3. Be a member of the Rural Surgery Section.

3.3. Application Process
3.3.1. Submit an application on the prescribed College form and two (2) letters of reference supporting the application, one of which to be from a current supervisor, including proof of rural practice, registration in JDOCs and membership of the Rural Surgery Section.
3.3.2. The application is to include a submission of up to 300 words describing aspirations for a career path in rural surgery.

3.4. Grant Recipient Selection Process
3.4.1. Grant recipients will be selected by an assessment panel consisting of:
Chair, Rural Surgery Section (or nominee)
Chair, Fellowship Services Committee (or nominee); and
Two members of the Rural Surgery Section
3.4.2. Applicants will be advised of the outcome of the selection process in March.
3.4.3. One grant may be offered each year, depending on the availability of funding and the quality of applications.
3.4.4. Preference will be given to applicants seeking to undertake a course in a rural/regional area

3.5. Use of the Grant
The Grant may be used for travel, accommodation or course fees.
3.6. **Conditions of Award**

The Grant recipient will be required to:

3.6.1. Provide a 500 word report to RACS within 2 weeks of completion of the course about their experience. The report may be used in promotional material by RACS.

3.7. **Funding**

The Grant will be funded by the Rural Surgery Section – Rural Surgery Fund

4. **ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS**

Procedure for Surgical Skills Course Grant for Rural Junior Doctors

**Approver**

Professional Development and Standards Board

**Authoriser**

Council