1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs the awarding of the Queensland Younger Fellows Grant. It covers the application and selection criteria as well as the value, frequency and conditions of the Grant.

2. KEYWORDS

Queensland, Younger Fellows, travelling, post fellowship, grant

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Background

The Qld RACS Preparation for Practice Workshop is convened by Queensland Younger Fellows with the support of the Queensland State Committee (QSC). Sponsorship for the QLD Preparation for Practice Workshop is secured by both the Convenors, the regional office and the QSC.

Subject to the conduct of the Preparation for Practice Workshop and securing adequate sponsorship to cover expenses, a sum from the anticipated surplus may be used towards the Queensland Younger Fellows Grant. The Grant aims to provide a means for the QSC to both support the return of local Younger Fellows into practice and/or to encourage their acquisition of surgical experiences to benefit Queensland; and to provide a means for the QSC to encourage Younger Fellows to support the QLD Annual State Meeting (ASM) and College activities more broadly.

3.2. Eligibility Criteria

The applicant must be a Younger Fellow of the College (that is within 10 years of gaining Fellowship) at the time of submitting their application; and

The Younger Fellow is presently working or studying in Queensland and must be planning to travel either interstate or overseas within the next 12 months to further post Fellowship work/studies, prior to returning to Queensland to practice; or

The Younger Fellow is presently pursuing post Fellowship work/studies outside of Queensland and is planning on coming to Queensland to practice within the next 12 months.

3.3. Application requirements

Applicants apply by completing an online application form or via a hardcopy (PDF). All Applicants are required to provide a submission uploaded to the online application, providing specific details.

For those undertaking post Fellowship work/studies interstate or overseas, this includes:

- proposed itinerary
- details of work/study to be undertaken
- envisaged benefit of this activity

For those returning to practice in Queensland, this would include:

- details of practice in Queensland, geographical and public/private surgical services or skills you will provide

All applicants should also include:

- proposed use of grant funds
• details of any financial support or funding already secured (e.g. research grants, sponsorship and/or other grants).

3.4. Guidelines for selection

3.4.1 The applicant’s ability to demonstrate the benefits of his/her further studies/experiences to the surgical community in Queensland will be an important aspect relevant to selection.

3.4.2 Selection will be dependent upon the applicant’s ability to provide a clear plan of their proposed studies, emphasising the benefits to be gained.

3.4.3 Selection will be dependent on the inclusion of a confirmation letter from the institution, supervising consultant/unit or overseeing society; and/or a confirmation of public appointment letter or letter of intent to practice from private hospital executive.

3.4.4 Consideration will be given to those:

• in their earlier post Fellowship years, to those having secured structured appointments to established units over less structured proposals
• who have not secured alternative financial support
• who are providing a new or expanded service or practicing in an area of need
• who have previous attendance at QLD Preparation for Practice Workshop or the QLD ASM
• who have involvement with RACS or the Younger Fellows Committee (YFC)

3.4.5 The Selection Committee will be comprised of:

• Executive members of the QLD Regional Committee and
• the QLD Younger Fellows Representative and
• a member of the Younger Fellows Committee Executive, as nominated by the Chair of the YFC.

3.4.6 All current or potential conflicts of interest must be declared and substitutes appointed if needed.

The QLD Younger Fellow’s Representative is ineligible for selection.

3.5. Value of the scholarship

The QLD Younger Fellows Grant has a cash value of up to AUD$2,500 (including GST) subject to available funding. A further AUD$500 (including GST) is provided to the QSC for the attendance of the recipient at the QLD ASM to cover Registration and the official meeting dinner (subject to funding). Remaining surplus funds are treated as ordinary category 1 revenue to offset expenditure.

3.6. Frequency of the Grant

The Grant is to be awarded annually, subject to the QLD Preparation for Practice Workshop running a surplus and provided there is a worthy applicant.
3.7. Financial Arrangements

3.7.1 The recipient should refer to his/her financial or taxation advisor to ascertain the taxability of the stipend.

3.7.2 Payment of the award will be made in one instalment.

3.7.3 The Grant will only be paid on receipt of a valid tax invoice.

3.8. Reporting and other requirements

The recipient is required to:

3.8.1 Provide a written report (at least one A4 page) on their experience for the QSC and the YFC within three months of returning to Queensland

3.8.2 Present a descriptive paper at the QLD ASM within the year of returning to Queensland to practice

3.8.3 Prepare a paper (including photographs) suitable for publication in Surgical News within three months of returning to Queensland

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Queensland Younger Fellows Grant Procedure
Queensland Younger Fellows Grant Application Form
Queensland Younger Fellows Grant Acceptance Form
Queensland Preparation for Practice Policy
Queensland Preparation for Practice Procedure
Sponsorship Policy
Surgeons and Trainees Interaction with the Medical Industry Guidelines

Approver: Manager, RACS Queensland
Authoriser: RACS Queensland State Committee