

GENERAL SURGERY TRAINING PATHWAY

ENTRY & SELECTION

Generic Requirements

To be eligible to apply applicants must:

- Be a permanent resident or citizen of Australia or New Zealand
- Hold current general (unconditional) medical registration
- Have satisfactorily completed at least PGY2
- Complete the RACS **Hand Hygiene Learning Module** from Hand Hygiene Australia and
- Complete the RACS **Let's Operate with Respect** Module

Selection into **Surgical Education and Training (SET)** is a competitive process that occurs annually in stages:

Stage 1 Registration	Jan/Feb
Stage 2 Application	Feb/Mar
Stage 3 Referee Reports Collected	Apr/May
Stage 4 Semi-Structured Interviews	Jun/Jul
Stage 5 Announcement of Offers	Jul-Nov

Registration

- must be completed by the College deadline
- ALL applicants must meet the minimum generic eligibility requirements (above) and pay the registration fee at the time of registration.

Application & Selection

- General Surgeons Australia manages the SET program for General Surgery as it relates to training in Australia*
 - Applications for selection into SET are made through GSA.
 - ALL applicants must meet GSA eligibility requirements at the time of application.
- Both the SET and GSA applications are online and no extensions are granted

* RACS trains surgeons in **nine** surgical specialties. Each specialty has a separate Board or society that oversees the training program. General Surgery is one of the nine specialties.

Complete PGY2+
and satisfy all generic eligibility criteria

Registration

for selection into the SET training program for General Surgery - online

Confirmed

as satisfying generic eligibility requirements

GSA prerequisites

are met and documentation is adequate/complete

Application

for selection with General Surgery Australia (GSA) - online

Interview

(successful)

Offer

and allocation to accredited training post

Surgical Registrar

(RACS Trainee)

GSA Requirements

Minimum eligibility criteria:

- Clinical Rotations: General Surgery (min 26 weeks) and Critical Care (min 8 weeks)
- Proficiency in a range of Procedural Skills and Professional Capabilities
- Pass the RACS Surgical Science Generic Examination

For more information visit

<https://www.generalsurgeons.com.au>

The **GSA Selection Process** is based on a ranking system comprising 3 components:

- Structured Curriculum Vitae (25%)
- Structured Referee Reports (35%)
- Semi-Structured General Surgery Panel Interview (40%)

Candidates are required to indicate their regional preferences (up to 4) for traineeship placement: NSW/ACT, QLD, SA, VIC/TAS, WA

Successful candidates are offered positions based on their national ranking and regional placement preferences.

Fees (\$AUD)

Selection Registration Fee (Stage 1)	\$560
Selection Processing Fee (Stage 2)	\$865
SET Training Fee	\$3,475
Generic Surgical Sciences Exam	\$4,010

For a full list of fees go to

<https://www.surgeons.org> and search fees

*the **JDocs** framework jdocs.surgeons.org and the [Guide to Essential Surgical Skills](#) recommends the surgical skills to achieve by the end of PGY2 that will assist in applying for admission to the College.

TRAINING PROGRAM

SET for General Surgery is in two parts:

SET 1 requires a minimum 2 x 6-month terms completed prior to entry

SET 2-5 requires 4 years in an accredited post and includes:

- 8 x 6 month accredited **surgical rotations**
- Assessment** (see right)
- 8 x online **Surgical Education and Assessment Modules (SEAM)**
- Examinations**
- Short skills courses** (see below)
- Educational Sessions** (at least one *Trainee Day* per year)

All surgical trainees must complete the following short skills courses:

- ASSET:** Australian and New Zealand Surgical Skills Education and Training
- CCrISP®:** Care of the Critically Ill Surgical Patient
- EMST:** Early Management of Severe Trauma
- CLEAR:** Critical Literature Evaluation and Research (mandatory for General Surgery but not all surgical specialties)
- TIPS:** Training in Professional Skills (not mandatory for General Surgery)

Minimum 4 years

Pass Clinical Exam

(within first 2 years of Training)

SET 2-5

48 months

Fellowship Exam

Consultant/Staff Specialist

FRACS

CPD

RACS CPD is an annual program

1 January to 31 December

Assessment

- Direct Observation
- Multi-source feedback
- Summative work-based assessments
- Simulation
- Reflective Learning Tools and Learning Portfolios
- Research Requirement - must be completed prior to sitting the Fellowship Examination
- Clinical Examination consisting of 16 OSCE stations (must be passed within the first 2 years of training)
- Fellowship Examination (written and viva)

SET Training in Tasmania

North West Regional Hospital

- Accredited for all SET levels

Launceston General Hospital

- Accredited for all SET levels

Royal Hobart Hospital

- Accredited for all SET levels

Some **flexible training options** available subject to negotiation and training regulations. Trainees may also apply for variations to their registration status to undertake periods of deferment, interruption or part time training.

CPD

Trainees are eligible to apply for **Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (FRACS)** in **General Surgery** following successful completion of the RACS SET Program in General Surgery.