

OPHTHALMOLOGY TRAINING PATHWAY

ENTRY

To be eligible to apply to enter the **Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (RANZCO) Vocational Training Program (VTP)** you must:

- Be a fully registered medical practitioner
- Have completed a minimum of two years (including the intern year) post graduate pre-vocational experience

Selection to the RANZCO VTP is a three-step process:

- **STEP 1** – Register for selection (online)
- **STEP 2** – Apply for appointment to an accredited ophthalmology training position in Australia or New Zealand hospitals and attend interviews if shortlisted
- **STEP 3** – Complete network preference form

The College then conducts a **National Ophthalmology Matching Program (NOMP)** to match applicants' preferences with the ranking of applicants by the Training Network Selection Committees

STEP 1
Register for Selection



STEP 2
Apply for Appointment



STEP 3
Indicate Preferences



College matches applicants' preferences with the ranking by hospital selection committees



RANZCO Trainee

Minimum 5 years

Basic Training 24 months

Advanced Training 24 months

Final Year Training 12 months

There are six ophthalmology training networks throughout Australia and New Zealand: WA, SA, VIC, NSW, QLD & NZ.

Applicants may apply for employment to any of these networks, each of which conducts a separate recruitment process.

Hospital selection committees are responsible for the employment of ophthalmology registrars and conduct the recruitment process according to the policy of the relevant training network/jurisdiction.

Current fees (\$AUD)

Selection Registration Fee*	\$533
Education and Training	\$4,250
Exam Fees:	
▪ COPEM Module 1	\$500
▪ COPEM Module 2	\$500
▪ Anatomy	\$1,965
▪ OBCK	\$1,965
▪ Optics	\$500
▪ Physiology	\$500
▪ Ophthalmic Pathology	\$920
▪ RACE - Clinical	\$2,760
▪ RACE - Written	\$820

*+10% GST

TRAINING PROGRAM

The **RANZCO Vocational Training Program** is a 5-year program comprising:

- **Basic Training** - 2 years during which Trainees must demonstrate integrated clinical skills and knowledge in the Ophthalmic Sciences (OS) and the Ophthalmic Basic Competencies and Knowledge (OBCK)
- **Advanced Training** - 2 years during which Trainees are expected to demonstrate integrated knowledge, clinical and surgical skills as documented in the clinical standards
- **Final Year Training** - a final year during which the Trainee develops their specialist experience in preparation for specialist qualification and to function in the community as an independent general ophthalmologist

* Trainees must pass the *Clinical Ophthalmic Pharmacology and Emergency Medicine (COPEM) Module 1 Exam* prior commencing formal training

Prior to applying for Fellowship of the College, Trainees must also meet the **research requirement** in Evidence-based Ophthalmic Practice.

Trainees must sit and pass the online **Clinical Ophthalmic Pharmacology and Emergency Medicine (COPEM) Module 1 Exam** prior to starting formal training



Basic Training
2 years



Trainees must attempt the **Anatomy examination** at the first opportunity and must sit the OBCK exam within the first 12 months of training



Advanced Training
2 years



Sit and pass RACE Exams
(only after a min 3 years training and demonstrated self-understanding)



Final Year Training



Consultant/Staff Specialist
FANZCO



Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

(annual program with required points)

Assessment

Basic Training

Ophthalmic Sciences (OS) examinations x 4:

- Anatomy (practical and written examination)
- Physiology (computer based)
- Optics (computer based)
- COPEM Module 1 & COPEM Module 2 (online exams)

Ophthalmic Basic Competencies and Knowledge (OBCK) are assessed in a **clinical exam** (OSCE) which must be sat within the initial 12 months of training.

Advanced Training

- on-job assessments
- Ophthalmic Pathology Examination (computer based)
- RANZCO Advanced Clinical Examination (RACE) Written (computer based) and OSCE

Final Year Training

On completion of the year the College requires detailed reports from the Trainee and Supervisors

Training in Tasmania

Tasmanian does not have its own ophthalmology training network. There are currently three hospitals in Tasmania accredited for RANZCO Training as part of interstate training networks:

SYDNEY EYE HOSPITAL NETWORK

- Hobart Eye Surgeons

- Royal Hobart Hospital

VICTORIA NETWORK

- Launceston General Hospital

Flexible training options

- RANZCO makes provision for part-time and interrupted training and supports job sharing arrangements on a case-by-case basis and subject to advance approval.

CPD

On completion of the Vocational Training Program graduates are eligible to apply for **Fellowship of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmology (FANZCO)**