

2016 Trainee and Supervisor Guide

Progression through Training and Flexible Training policies

What's happening?

The Progression Through Training and Flexible Training Policies set out the progression requirements and flexible training options for all RACP trainees (Division, Faculty and Chapter). These changes aim to support timely progression through training while maintaining flexible training options for all trainees.

These policies were reviewed in 2015 as part of the limited policy revision process including a member-led policy review working group and broad consultation.

In February the College Education Committee approved revisions to these policies which will on, 1 January 2017, introduce some significant changes that will impact trainees. Key changes and transitional arrangements are detailed below.

What are the key changes?

Key changes	Current policy	From 2017
Reduction in the number of Divisional Examination attempts.	Five attempts at the Written Examination and five attempts at the Clinical Examination.	Three attempts at the Written Examination and three attempts at the Clinical Examination. (item 2.4 PTT)
Eight-year inclusive time limit for Basic Training (BT) and all examinations.	Eight years to complete 36 months of basic training excluding examinations.	Eight years to complete 36 months of basic training including examination attempts. (item 3.2 PTT)
Introduction of a time limit between BT and Advanced Training (AT).	No time limit between completing BT and commencing AT.	A five year time limit between completing BT and commencing AT. No more than two consecutive years may be spent away from clinical work. (item 6 FT)
Summative exam provisions moved to handbooks.	All summative exam provisions are located in the policy.	All summative examinations located solely within the relevant training program handbooks. (item 2.4 PTT)
Applications for approval of training – late fees	Inconsistent application of late fee across training programs.	Consistently apply a fee for late applications. Applications that are received more than one month after the published deadline will not be accepted. (item 4.2 and 4.3 PTT)
Certification decisions	Predates introduction of new <i>Trainee in Difficulty Support Policy and Process</i> .	Align certification decisions with the new <i>Trainee in Difficulty Support Policy and Process</i> . (item 7.10 PTT)
Involuntary Discontinuation	Trainees who have been involuntarily discontinued from training may not join another RACP training program.	Trainees who have been involuntarily discontinued from training not automatically precluded from joining another RACP training program. Case-by-case consideration. (item 9.2 PTT)

How will the changes to Divisional Examination attempts be introduced?

The following transitional arrangements aim to support the introduction of the changes to attempts at the Divisional Examinations without disadvantaging current basic trainees.

Basic Trainees examination status as of 1 January 2017	Attempts at the Divisional Written Examination	Attempts at the Divisional Clinical Examination	Maximum allowable time extension to complete Divisional Examination attempts
New Basic Trainees (commencing from 2017)	Three attempts at the Written Examination	Three attempts at the Clinical Examination	Extension not applicable. Examinations are to be completed within eight years of commencing training.
Current Basic Trainees with no Examination attempts	Three attempts at the Written Examination	Three attempts at the Clinical Examination	Eight years from 1 January 2017 implementation, (complete by 2025)
Current Basic Trainees with no examination attempts who have registered in 2016 for the 2017 Written Examination	Five attempts at the Written Examination	Three attempts at the Clinical Examination	Eight years from 1 January 2017 implementation, (complete by 2025)
Basic Trainees with one attempt or more at the Written Examination	Up to five attempts at the Written Examination	Five attempts at the Clinical Examination	Eight years from 1 January 2017 implementation, (complete by 2025)
Basic Trainees with one or more attempt at the Clinical Examination	N/A	Up to five attempts at the Clinical Examination	Five years from 1 January 2017 implementation, (complete by 2022)

Please Note:

- Time requirements exclude parental leave as set out in the *Flexible Training Policy*.
- These transitional arrangements provide additional time to complete examination attempts and do not extend the time limit to complete other basic training requirements as set out in the *Progression through Training Policy* (item 3.)

Further information

The full policy document, At a Glance and FAQs can be found on the RACP website (<http://www.racp.edu.au/trainees/education-policies-and-governance/education-policy>).

If you have any further queries regarding these policies or the transitional arrangements, please contact your College Officer.