

A Guide to Joint Training

August 2026



About this document

This guide supports trainees completing joint training programs of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) and the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (RCPA).

This guide is for trainees who are training in accordance with new RACP curricula. Trainees following the RACP Physician Readiness for Expert Practice (PREP) program should continue to refer to the PREP curriculum and handbook for their program.

This guide should be read in conjunction with the relevant RACP curriculum standards, learning, teaching and assessment (LTA) programs and RCPA Handbooks.

For more information or to provide feedback on this document, contact the RACP at AdvancedTraining@racp.edu.au.

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Introduction

The RACP and RCPA have joint training programs available in:

- Endocrinology and Chemical Pathology
- Haematology
- Immunology and Allergy
- Infectious Diseases and Microbiology

These joint training programs are a combined training pathway that leads to the granting of Fellowship of both Colleges (FRACP and FRCPA) and are jointly governed by Training Program Committees comprising members of the RACP and RCPA.

Completion of these programs leads to the concurrent awarding of Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (FRACP) and Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (FRCPA).

Entry into training

Applying to enter

New Advanced Trainees must submit an entry application to RACP via the Training Management Platform (TMP), demonstrating how they meet the program entry criteria. Joint trainees will need to select their RACP training program and upload evidence of their appointment to either a clinical or joint training position. RACP entry applications are due:

28 February | first half or whole of the current year

31 August | second half of the current year

Within two months of commencing training, trainees must also submit an RCPA Initial Registration form via the College Online Training Portal.

Each college has its own technology platform that supports training entry, learning, assessment and progression.

RACP	RCPA
Training Management Platform (TMP)	Online Training Portal - Riscr/advance

Accredited training settings

Core training is undertaken in settings accredited by the relevant college to ensure that trainees receive an appropriate level of supervision, sufficient and appropriate professional experience, opportunities for continuing education and research, and access to suitable training infrastructure.

In joint training programs, RACP accredits settings that provide clinical training, and RCPA accredits settings that provide laboratory training.

Trainees should refer to the relevant accredited site lists to ensure that they meet the program entry criteria (e.g. an Advanced Training position in an accredited training setting or network) and that their setting is accredited to provide core training.

RACP	RCPA
Accredited training settings	Accredited training settings (RCPA login required)

Training fees

Upon entry and throughout training, trainees in joint training programs are required to remain registered and pay fees to both colleges. Refer to each college's website for information about initial and annual training, and examinations fees.

RACP	RCPA
Fees	Schedule of fees

During training

Rotation plans / annual registration

For each clinical training rotation, trainees must submit an RACP rotation plan via the TMP. The RACP rotation plan documents trainees' individual learning plans for each rotation in consultation with their Rotation Supervisor(s); and subsequent learning opportunities against the program learning goals. The RACP rotation plan also notifies professional experience and informs invoicing for training fees. If undertaking laboratory training, joint trainees need to select 'non-accredited' rotation plan type in the RACP rotation plan, as laboratories are not accredited by the RACP.

Joint trainees must also submit an annual registration form to the RCPA, along with their previous years completed Supervisor Report and prospective Training Plan.

RACP	RCPA
Training Management Platform (TMP)	2026: Annual registrations 2027: registration link to be provided late 2026.

Curricula and training requirements

Refer to the [program-specific information](#) section of this document for details on the training requirements for each joint training program. Trainees should refer to the relevant RACP curriculum and RCPA Handbooks for complete information on training requirements.

Joint training programs are designed to ensure that trainees meet the same educational standard that trainees in single discipline (non-joint) programs achieve by the end of training.

Due to synergies and overlapping topic areas between RACP and RCPA training programs, joint training programs offer efficiencies in terms of training time and learning and assessment requirements compared to completing each training program individually. This can include:

- a reduced minimum training time overall
- a reduction in RACP work-based learning and assessment requirements while trainees are undertaking laboratory training - Joint trainees will **not** need to complete RACP work-based assessments, including learning captures, observation captures and progress reports, **during laboratory rotations**.

- recognition of comparable training requirements, to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort for trainees, e.g. the RACP Advanced Training Research Project requirement being satisfied by the RCPA haematology project dissertation.

Trainees will submit their RACP work-based learning and assessment requirements via the Training Management Platform. The relevant Training Program Committee including representatives from the RACP and RCPA acting as the Progress Review Panel will have access to trainee records via the TMP.

Education and training policies

Joint trainees will need to ensure they comply with the education policies of both Colleges.

RACP	RCPA
Education policies Flexible training options	College Polices: https://www.rcpa.edu.au/Library/College-Policies (RCPA login required for some documents) RCPA - Joint Trainees with RCPA RCPA - College Policies Part-time,-Interrupted-and-Withdrawal-from-Trainin.aspx Joint Training Programs with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians Policy Joint Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia/Royal Australasian College of Physicians Trainees Access to Laboratory Training Positions Policy

Trainee support across both Colleges

Both Colleges provide support pathways and guidance to assist trainees throughout their joint training journey. Information about available trainee support policies and processes can be accessed through the relevant College websites:

- **RACP:** [Trainees | Trainee Support](#)
- **RCPA:** [Microsoft Word - Policy - Trainees in Difficulty Support.docx](#)

Completing training and applying for fellowship

On completion of training requirements, trainees are eligible to apply for admission to fellowship.

Fellowships of the RACP and RCPA are awarded jointly on completion of all requirements of the joint program.

Trainees who choose to receive FRACP before completion of a joint RACP/RCPA program will not be eligible to continue training in any joint RACP/RCPA program and may contact either college for advice on recognition of prior learning arrangements for the single Fellowship programs.

RACP	RCPA
Becoming a Fellow New Fellow Resources Continuing Professional Development	Application for fellowship (RCPA login required) RCPA - Continuing Professional Development Program

Contact us

For more information about joint training, please get in touch.

RACP	RCPA
Australia: Advancedtraining@racp.edu.au Aotearoa New Zealand: advanced.training@racp.org.nz	Please email bea@rcpa.edu.au for all Joint training and assessment matters.

Program-specific information

Joint Endocrinology and Chemical Pathology training

RACP		RCPA
Endocrinology curriculum	Paediatric Endocrinology curriculum	Trainee handbooks

	RACP requirements	RCPA requirements
Entry application	1 x RACP Training application via TMP <i>Before 28 February or 31 August</i>	1 x RCPA Initial Registration Form <i>Within 2 months of commencing training</i>
Rotation plans / Annual registration	1 x RACP rotation plan per rotation via TMP <i>Before 28 February or 31 August</i>	1 x RCPA Annual registration form <i>Before 28 February each year</i>
Learning courses	4 x RACP Online Learning courses By the end of training	4 x RCPA E-Modules <i>within 3 months of starting training</i>
Professional experience	Minimum 12 months full-time equivalent clinical endocrinology training in an accredited required clinical year (RCY) position	Minimum 36 months full-time equivalent core laboratory chemical pathology training at accredited laboratories
Proficiency-based assessments	1 x RACP Advanced Training Research Project (ATRP)	1 x Chemical Pathology Part I examination. 1 x Chemical Pathology Part II examination Four items to be submitted before part II examinations (final year of training), at least 1 item required from category A and one item required from category B, (see handbook for details)
	During clinical rotations	During laboratory rotations
Work-based assessments	12 x Learning Captures per phase via TMP 12 x Observation Captures per phase via TMP <i>Recommended 1 per month</i>	Portfolio activities See relevant RCPA discipline handbook
Progress reports / Supervisor's Reports	4 x progress reports per phase via TMP <i>Minimum 1 every 3 months</i>	RCPA Part I & II Pre- exam supervisor report due before 09 July when sitting examinations 1 x RCPA supervisor report due at the end of each rotation Annual supervisor reports due by 31 January

i Joint trainees should select their RACP Training Program and upload evidence of their appointment to either a clinical or joint training position

i Joint trainees will submit a rotation plan in the TMP for clinical and laboratory rotations to notify of professional experience and to inform invoicing for training fees. If undertaking lab training, trainees select 'non-accredited' rotation plan type, as laboratories are not accredited by the RACP.

i Joint trainees are assessed against the Transition to Fellowship phase criteria of the Endocrinology or Paediatric Endocrinology curriculum

i Joint trainees will **not** need to complete RACP work-based assessments, including learning captures, observation captures and progress reports, during laboratory rotations.

Joint Haematology training

RACP		RCPA
Haematology curriculum	Paediatric Haematology curriculum	Trainee handbooks

	RACP requirements	RCPA requirements
Entry application	1 x RACP Training application via TMP <i>Before 28 February or 31 August</i>	1 x RCPA Initial Registration Form <i>Within 2 months of commencing training</i>
Rotation plans / Annual registration	1 x RACP rotation plan per rotation via TMP <i>Before 28 February or 31 August</i>	1 x RCPA Annual registration form <i>Before 28 February each year</i>
Learning courses	4 x RACP Online Learning courses By the end of training	4 x RCPA E-Modules <i>within 3 months of starting training</i>
Professional experience	Minimum 24 months full-time equivalent core clinical training at accredited training setting(s)	Minimum 24 months full-time equivalent core laboratory training at accredited laboratories
Proficiency-based assessments	1 x RACP Advanced Training Research Project (ATRP) <i>[satisfied by RCPA project dissertation]</i>	1 x Haematology Part I Phase I written and slides exam 1 x Haematology Part I Phase II dry and oral exam 1 x Haematology Part II Oral exam 1 x project dissertation <i>Before 9 July final year of training</i>
	During clinical rotations	During laboratory rotations
Work-based assessments	12 x Learning Captures per phase via TMP 12 x Observation Captures per phase via TMP <i>Recommended 1 per month</i>	Portfolio activities See relevant RCPA discipline handbook
Progress reports / Supervisor's Reports	4 x progress reports per phase via TMP <i>Minimum 1 every 3 months</i>	RCPA Part I & II Pre-exam supervisor report <i>due before 9 July for candidates sitting examinations</i> 1 x RCPA supervisor report in <i>Risr</i> /advance for any laboratory rotation due at the end of each rotation Annual supervisor reports due by 31 January

i Joint trainees should select their RACP Training Program and upload evidence of their appointment to either a clinical or joint training position

i Joint trainees will submit a rotation plan in the TMP for clinical and laboratory rotations to notify of professional experience and to inform invoicing for training fees. If undertaking lab training, trainees select 'non-accredited' rotation plan type, as laboratories are not accredited by the RACP.

i Joint trainees are assessed against the *Specialty foundation and transition to Fellowship* phase criteria of the Haematology or Paediatric Haematology curriculum

i Joint trainees will **not** need to complete RACP work-based assessments, including learning captures, observation captures and progress reports, during laboratory rotations.

Joint Immunology and Allergy training

RACP	RCPA	
Immunology and Allergy curriculum	Trainee handbooks	
	RACP requirements	RCPA requirements
Entry application	1 x RACP Training application via TMP <i>Before 28 February or 31 August</i>	1 x RCPA Initial Registration Form <i>Within 2 months of commencing training</i>
Rotation plans / Annual registration	1 x RACP rotation plan per rotation via TMP <i>Before 28 February or 31 August</i>	1 x RCPA Annual registration form <i>Before 28 February each year</i>
Learning courses	4 x RACP Online Learning courses By the end of training	4 x RCPA E-Modules <i>within 3 months of starting training</i>
Professional experience	Total minimum 24 months full-time equivalent Minimum 18 months full-time equivalent core clinical immunology and allergy training at accredited training setting(s) Maximum 6 months full-time equivalent non-core clinical training	Minimum 24 months full-time equivalent core laboratory immunopathology training at accredited diagnostic laboratories
Proficiency-based assessments	1 x RACP Advanced Training Research Project (ATRP) <i>[satisfied by RCPA project dissertation]</i>	1 x Immunopathology Part I Examination 1 x Immunopathology Part II Examination Dissertation in the field of Immunopathology submitted in the penultimate year of training
	During clinical rotations	During laboratory rotations
Work-based assessments	12 x Learning Captures per phase *reduced to 4 in 2027 only 12 x Observation Captures per phase *reduced to 4 in 2027 only <i>Recommended 1 per month via TMP</i> *assessments pro-rated for mixed lab and clinical rotations	Portfolio activities See relevant RCPA discipline handbook
Progress reports / Supervisor's Reports	4 x progress reports per phase via TMP <i>Minimum 1 every 3 months</i>	RCPA Part I & II Pre- exam supervisor report <i>due before 09 July when sitting examinations</i> 1 x RCPA supervisor report <i>due at the end of each rotation</i> Annual supervisor report <i>due by 31 January</i>

Joint Infectious Diseases and Microbiology training

RACP	RCPA	
Infectious Diseases curriculum	Trainee handbooks	
	RACP requirements	RCPA requirements
Entry application	1 x RACP Training application via TMP <i>Before 28 February or 31 August</i>	1 x RCPA Initial Registration Form <i>Within 2 months of commencing training</i>
Rotation plans / Annual registration	1 x RACP rotation plan per rotation via TMP <i>Before 28 February or 31 August</i>	1 x RCPA Annual registration form <i>Before 28 February each year</i>
Learning courses	4 x RACP Online Learning courses via TMP By the end of training	4 x RCPA E-Modules <i>within 3 months of starting training</i>
Professional experience	Minimum 24 months full-time equivalent core clinical infectious diseases training at accredited training setting(s)	Minimum 36 months full-time equivalent core laboratory microbiology training at accredited laboratories
Proficiency-based assessments	1 x RACP Advanced Training Research Project (ATRP)	4 x Microbiology Part I Examinations (2 x Written, Wet Practical, Oral Exam) 1 x Microbiology Part II Examination (Oral Exam) RCPA x1 Minor and x1 Major Project required. Minor Project to be submitted before Part II Examinations RCPA Project proposal submitted after 1 year of accredited training in a Microbiology Laboratory year. Major Project report may be submitted after part I examinations and before part II examinations.
	During clinical rotations	During laboratory rotations
Work-based assessments	12 x Learning Captures per phase via TMP 12 x Observation Captures per phase via TMP <i>Recommended 1 per month</i>	Portfolio activities See relevant RCPA discipline handbook
Progress reports / Supervisor's Reports	4 x progress reports per phase via TMP <i>Minimum 1 every 3 months</i>	RCPA Part I & II Pre- exam supervisor report <i>due before 09 July when sitting examinations</i> 1 x RCPA supervisor report <i>due at the end of each rotation</i> Annual supervisor reports <i>due by 31 January</i>

i Joint trainees should select their relevant joint training program and upload evidence of their appointment to a joint training position

i Joint Trainees will submit a rotation plan in the TMP for clinical and laboratory rotations to notify of professional experience and to inform invoicing for training fees. If undertaking lab training, trainees select 'non-accredited' rotation plan type, as laboratories are not accredited by the RACP.

i Joint trainees are assessed against the Specialty foundation and Transition to Fellowship phase criteria of the Infectious Diseases curriculum

i Joint trainees will **not** need to complete RACP work-based assessments, including learning captures, observation captures and progress reports, **during laboratory rotations.**