

NEW CURRICULA

Learning, teaching, and assessment programs

Advanced Training in Rheumatology (Paediatrics and Child Health)



RACP
Specialists. Together

About this document

The new Advanced Training in Rheumatology (Paediatrics and Child Health) curriculum consists of curriculum standards and learning, teaching, and assessment (LTA) programs.

This document outlines the Advanced Training in Rheumatology (Paediatrics and Child Health) LTA programs for trainees and supervisors. It should be used in conjunction with the Advanced Training in Rheumatology (Paediatrics and Child Health) [curriculum standards](#).

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Program overview

CURRICULUM STANDARDS

The [curriculum standards](#) are summarised as 22 learning goals. The learning goals articulate what trainees need to be, do and know, and are assessed throughout training.

BE	1. Professional behaviours
DO	2. Team leadership 3. Supervision and teaching 4. Quality improvement 5. Clinical assessment and management 6. Management of transitions in care 7. Acute care 8. Longitudinal care 9. Communication with patients 10. Prescribing 11. Procedures 12. Investigations 13. Clinic management
KNOW	14. Foundations of paediatric rheumatology 15. Intra-articular steroid injection 16. Arthritis 17. Systemic lupus erythematosus and related conditions 18. Juvenile dermatomyositis 19. Scleroderma 20. Vasculitis 21. Autoinflammatory conditions 22. Non-inflammatory musculoskeletal and rheumatic disorders

LTA STRUCTURE

The learning, teaching, and assessment (LTA) structure defines the framework for delivery and trainee achievement of the curriculum standards in the program. The program is structured in three phases. These phases establish clear checkpoints for trainee progression and completion.



Entry criteria

Prospective trainees must have:

- completed RACP Basic Training, including the Written and Clinical Examinations
- general medical registration with the Medical Board of Australia if applying in Australia, or a medical registration with a general scope of practice with the Medical Council of New Zealand and a practising certificate if applying in Aotearoa New Zealand.
- an Advanced Training position in an RACP-accredited training setting or network or an approved non-core training position.

LTA PROGRAMS

The LTA programs outline the strategies and methods to learn, teach, and assess the [curriculum standards](#).

Entry

- 1 [training application](#)

Learning

Minimum 36 months FTE [professional experience](#)

[Developmental and psychosocial training](#)

- 1 [rotation plan](#) per rotation

[RACP Advanced Training Orientation resource](#)

[RACP Supervisor Professional Development Program](#)

[RACP Australian Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Cultural Competence and Cultural Safety resource](#)

[RACP Health Policy, Systems and Advocacy resource](#)

[Presentations at meetings, trainee teaching clubs or journal clubs \(recommended\)](#)

[Meeting attendance \(recommended\)](#)

[1 procedural logbook \(recommended\)](#)

[1 structured learning course \(recommended\)](#)

[Recommended resources](#)

Teaching

- 2 [supervisors](#) per rotation

- 1 [research project supervisor](#)

Assessment

- 12 [learning captures](#) per phase

- 12 [observation captures](#) per phase

- 4 [progress reports](#) per phase

- 1 [research project](#)

About the program

Purpose of Advanced Training

The RACP offers Advanced Training in 33 diverse medical specialties as part of Division, Chapter, or Faculty training programs.

The purpose of Advanced Training is to develop a workforce of physicians who:

- have received breadth and depth of focused specialist training, and experience with a wide variety of health problems and contexts
- are prepared for and committed to independent expert practice, lifelong learning, and continuous improvement
- provide safe, quality health care that meets the needs of the communities of Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

Overview of specialty

A paediatric rheumatologist is a paediatrician specialising in the diagnosis and management of patients with acute and chronic conditions, ranging from mechanical joint pains to complex multisystem inflammatory disorders.

Paediatric rheumatologists lead and coordinate multidisciplinary teams in the investigation, diagnosis, and comprehensive management of rheumatic diseases. Given the multisystem nature of these conditions, they combine their extensive clinical expertise with targeted investigations to achieve accurate diagnoses. They work across various settings, including inpatient, ambulatory, and community, and are skilled in practical procedures such as joint injections. As the field continually evolves, paediatric rheumatologists stay current with the latest treatments and advancements in rheumatic disease management. Paediatric rheumatologists have expertise in:

- **investigation and diagnosis.** Paediatric rheumatologists apply clinical skills and laboratory and medical imaging modalities to assess patients and diagnose rheumatic conditions
- **providing professional advice.** Paediatric rheumatologists advise referring clinicians and address disease-specific questions.
- **the management of rheumatic disease.** Paediatric rheumatologists manage a range of conditions, such as juvenile idiopathic arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, juvenile dermatomyositis, scleroderma, and vasculitis.
- **providing ongoing care for patients.** Paediatric rheumatologists provide ongoing follow-up of patients with rheumatic diseases, providing targeted treatment, determining when to escalate therapy, and assessing treatment efficacy and safety.

Paediatric rheumatologists collaborate within a multidisciplinary team to deliver comprehensive care for patients with rheumatic diseases. Due to the often chronic nature of these conditions, they must excel in communication to ensure effective, long-term management and support. They are especially skilled in:

- **effective communication.** Rheumatic diseases are frequently chronic. Due to the longitudinal nature of care, skilful communication engendering lasting rapport with patients and their families remains an enduring, critical facet of rheumatology practice. Paediatric rheumatologists must be able to explain complex medical concepts in a clear and understandable manner and provide emotional support to patients and their families coping with chronic diseases.
- **managing transitional care.** Paediatric rheumatologists must expertly manage the evolving health care needs of children and young adults as they transition through adolescence and prepare for the eventual transfer of care to an adult rheumatologist. This involves addressing both the medical and psychosocial aspects of care to ensure a smooth and effective transition for patients and their families.
- **interdisciplinary collaboration.** Paediatric rheumatologists often work as part of multidisciplinary teams with other healthcare professionals, including occupational therapists, physiotherapists, and psychologists, to provide comprehensive care to patients with rheumatic conditions. They also liaise closely with other medical specialists, such as ophthalmologists, orthopaedic surgeons, and primary care physicians.
- **high-quality research skills.** Many paediatric rheumatologists are involved in research to advance the understanding and treatment of rheumatic diseases. Strong research skills are beneficial for conducting clinical trials, publishing scientific papers, and staying up to date with the latest developments in the field.
- **quality improvement and innovation.** Paediatric rheumatologists are involved in audit and quality improvement practices to ensure the highest possible quality of care is delivered.

teaching. Paediatric rheumatologists play a crucial role in advancing the field by educating medical trainees, specialists, and other healthcare professionals. Their efforts are focused on increasing awareness and understanding of rheumatic diseases, thereby enhancing overall knowledge and improving patient care.

Supervising committee

The program is supervised by the Advanced Training Committee (ATC) in Rheumatology and Aotearoa New Zealand Advanced Training Subcommittee (ATS) in Rheumatology.

Qualification

Trainees who successfully meet the completion standards and criteria of this program will be awarded Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (FRACP).

Learning goals and progression criteria

Learning, teaching, and assessment structure

The learning, teaching and assessment structure defines the framework for delivery and trainee achievement of the curriculum standards in the Advanced Training program.

Advanced Training is structured in three phases. These phases will establish clear checkpoints for trainee progression and completion.

- 1 Specialty foundation**
 - Orient trainees and confirm their readiness to progress in the Advanced Training program.
- 2 Specialty consolidation**
 - Continue trainees' professional development in the specialty and support progress towards the learning goals.
- 3 Transition to Fellowship**
 - Confirm trainees' achievement of the curriculum standards, completion of Advanced Training, and admission to Fellowship.
 - Support trainees' transition to unsupervised practice.



Figure: Advanced Training learning, teaching, and assessment structure

- An **entry decision** is made before entry into the program.
- **Progress decisions**, based on competence, are made at the end of the specialty foundation and specialty consolidation phases of training.
- A **completion decision**, based on competence, is made at the end of the training program, resulting in eligibility for admission to Fellowship.



Advanced Training is a **hybrid time- and competency-based training program**. There is a minimum time requirement of full-time equivalent experience, and progression and completion decisions are based on evidence of trainees' competence.

Entry criteria

Entry attributes	<p>Prospective trainees can demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a commitment and capability to pursue a career as a physician in rheumatology.• the ability and willingness to achieve the common learning goals for Advanced Training:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ team leadership○ supervision and teaching○ the professional behaviours, as outlined in the Competencies
Entry criteria	<p>Prospective trainees must have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• completed RACP Basic Training, including the Written and Clinical Examinations• general medical registration with the Medical Board of Australia if applying in Australia, or a medical registration with a general scope of practice with the Medical Council of New Zealand and a practising certificate if applying in Aotearoa New Zealand.• an Advanced Training position in an RACP-accredited training setting or network or an approved non-core training position.

Progression criteria

To progress to the next phase or to complete the program, trainees must demonstrate:

- the ability to plan and manage their learning and to complete their learning and assessment requirements in a timely manner
- achievement of the learning goals to the levels outlined in the [learning goal progression criteria](#).

Training committees or delegated progress review panels will consider evidence supporting trainees' achievement of the progression criteria and make progress decisions.

If criteria have not been met, committees or panels may decide to place conditions on trainees' progression to the next phase of training or not to progress trainees until all criteria have been achieved.

Learning goals

The [curriculum standards](#) are summarised as **21** learning goals.

The learning goals articulate what trainees need to be, do, and know, and are assessed throughout training on a five-point scale. This scale determines the expected standard for each learning goal at the end of each training phase. Trainees must meet these standards to progress to the next phase or complete the program.

Learning and assessment tools are linked to the learning goals which allows trainees to demonstrate competence across each learning goal.

Levels	1	2	3	4	5
Be: Competencies (professional behaviours)	Needs to work on behaviour in more than five domains of professional practice	Needs to work on behaviour in four or five domains of professional practice	Needs to work on behaviour in two or three domains of professional practice	Needs to work on behaviour in one domain of professional practice	Consistently behaves in line with all ten domains of professional practice
Do: Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs)	Is able to be present and observe	Is able to act with direct supervision	Is able to act with indirect supervision (i.e., ready access to a supervisor)	Is able to act with supervision at a distance (i.e., limited access to a supervisor)	Is able to supervise others
Know: Knowledge guides	Has heard of some of the topics in this knowledge guide	Knows the topics and concepts in this knowledge guide	Knows how to apply this knowledge to practice	Frequently shows they apply this knowledge to practice	Consistently demonstrates application of this knowledge to practice

		Entry criteria	Progression criteria		Completion criteria
	Learning goals	Entry into training <i>At entry into training, trainees will:</i>	Specialty foundation <i>By the end of this phase, trainees will:</i>	Specialty consolidation <i>By the end of this phase, trainees will:</i>	Transition to fellowship <i>By the end of training, trainees will:</i>
Be	1. Professional behaviours	Level 5 consistently behave in line with all ten domains of professional practice	Level 5 consistently behave in line with all ten domains of professional practice	Level 5 consistently behave in line with all ten domains of professional practice	Level 5 consistently behave in line with all ten domains of professional practice
	2. Team leadership: Lead a team of health professionals	Level 2 be able to act with direct supervision	Level 3 be able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 be able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
Do	3. Supervision and teaching: Supervise and teach professional colleagues	Level 1 be able to be present and observe	Level 3 be able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 be able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	4. Quality improvement: Identify and address failures in health care delivery	Level 2 be able to act with direct supervision	Level 3 be able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 be able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	5. Clinical assessment and management: Clinically assess and manage the ongoing care of patients	Level 2 be able to act with direct supervision	Level 2 be able to act with direct supervision	Level 3 be able to act with indirect supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	6. Management of transitions in care: Manage the transition of patient care between health care professionals, providers, and contexts	Level 2 be able to act with direct supervision	Level 3 be able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 be able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	7. Acute care: Manage the early care of acutely unwell patients	Level 2 be able to act with direct supervision	Level 3 be able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 be able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	8. Longitudinal care: Manage and coordinate the longitudinal care of patients with chronic illness, disability and/or long-term health issues	Level 2 be able to act with direct supervision	Level 3 be able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 be able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	9. Communication with patients: Discuss diagnoses and management plans with patients	Level 2 be able to act with direct supervision	Level 3 be able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 be able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	10. Prescribing: Prescribe therapies tailored to patients' needs and conditions	Level 2 be able to act with direct supervision	Level 3 be able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 be able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	11. Procedures: Plan, prepare for, perform, and provide aftercare for important practical procedures	Level 1 be able to be present and observe	Level 2 be able to act with direct supervision	Level 4 be able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others

		Entry criteria	Progression criteria		Completion criteria
	Learning goals	Entry into training <i>At entry into training, trainees will:</i>	Specialty foundation <i>By the end of this phase, trainees will:</i>	Specialty consolidation <i>By the end of this phase, trainees will:</i>	Transition to fellowship <i>By the end of training, trainees will:</i>
	12. Investigations: Select, organise, and interpret investigations	Level 2 be able to act with direct supervision	Level 3 be able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 be able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	13. Clinic management: Manage an outpatient clinic	Level 2 be able to act with direct supervision	Level 2 be able to act with direct supervision	Level 3 be able to act with indirect supervision distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
Know	14. Foundations of paediatric rheumatology	Level 1 has heard of some of the topics in this knowledge guide	Level 2 know the topics and concepts in this knowledge guide	Level 3 know how to apply this knowledge to practice	Level 5 consistently demonstrate application of this knowledge to practice
	15. Intra-articular steroid injection	Level 1 has heard of some of the topics in this knowledge guide	Level 2 know the topics and concepts in this knowledge guide	Level 3 know how to apply this knowledge to practice	Level 5 consistently demonstrate application of this knowledge to practice
	16. Arthritis	Level 1 has heard of some of the topics in this knowledge guide	Level 2 know the topics and concepts in this knowledge guide	Level 3 know how to apply this knowledge to practice	Level 5 consistently demonstrate application of this knowledge to practice
	17. Systemic lupus erythematosus and related conditions	Level 1 has heard of some of the topics in this knowledge guide	Level 2 know the topics and concepts in this knowledge guide	Level 3 know how to apply this knowledge to practice	Level 5 consistently demonstrate application of this knowledge to practice
	18. Juvenile dermatomyositis	Level 1 has heard of some of the topics in this knowledge guide	Level 2 know the topics and concepts in this knowledge guide	Level 3 know how to apply this knowledge to practice	Level 5 consistently demonstrate application of this knowledge to practice
	19. Scleroderma	Level 1 has heard of some of the topics in this knowledge guide	Level 2 know the topics and concepts in this knowledge guide	Level 3 know how to apply this knowledge to practice	Level 5 consistently demonstrate application of this knowledge to practice
	20. Vasculitis	Level 1 has heard of some of the topics in this knowledge guide	Level 2 know the topics and concepts in this knowledge guide	Level 3 know how to apply this knowledge to practice	Level 5 consistently demonstrate application of this knowledge to practice
	21. Autoinflammatory conditions	Level 1 has heard of some of the topics in this knowledge guide	Level 2 know the topics and concepts in this knowledge guide	Level 3 know how to apply this knowledge to practice	Level 5 consistently demonstrate application of this knowledge to practice

		Entry criteria	Progression criteria		Completion criteria
	Learning goals	Entry into training <i>At entry into training, trainees will:</i>	Specialty foundation <i>By the end of this phase, trainees will:</i>	Specialty consolidation <i>By the end of this phase, trainees will:</i>	Transition to fellowship <i>By the end of training, trainees will:</i>
	22. Non-inflammatory musculoskeletal and rheumatic disorders	Level 1 has heard of some of the topics in this knowledge guide	Level 2 know the topics and concepts in this knowledge guide	Level 3 know how to apply this knowledge to practice	Level 5 consistently demonstrate application of this knowledge to practice

Developmental & psychosocial training

Purpose

Developmental and Psychosocial (D&P) Training assists trainees to develop a sophisticated understanding of child development, encompassing physical, cognitive, emotional, behavioural and social areas, which should be gained from the perspective of the child within the family and in the context of the community.

A mandatory period of D&P Training for all paediatricians was introduced to ensure that the changing nature of paediatric practice is reflected in the training programs. D&P is a requirement for all paediatric trainees to receive FRACP and may be completed during either Basic or Advanced Training.

Aotearoa New Zealand

The D&P training requirement can be met by completing a 3-month full-time equivalent rotation in relevant specialties. These areas reflect a holistic approach to the health problems of children and young people. An understanding of the roles and inter-relationships of many allied health and community-based services, in a way that distinguishes them from experience in organ-based specialties, is required.

Review of D&P

The College is working to redefine how D&P training will be embedded in the new training programs. This will include defining learning goals, and new options for trainees to achieve these learning goals, which will be embedded into the Basic and Advanced Training programs.

Alternative options for completing D&P training and a timeline for implementation will be communicated when available. New D&P requirements will be developed, and any updates will be included in the relevant curricula standards and learning, teaching and assessment programs. Trainees and supervisors will be informed of updates with sufficient notice of any changes to ensure no disadvantage.

Until alternatives are available, **it is important that trainees plan to complete the requirement for D&P training through one of the time-based options currently available, to ensure eligibility for admission to Fellowship on completion of the requirements of Advanced Training.** Trainees must satisfactorily complete this requirement to be eligible for admission to Fellowship under the Paediatrics & Child Health Division.

Aotearoa New Zealand

Requirement

The Developmental and Psychosocial (D&P) requirement can be met by completing a 3 month full-time equivalent rotation in relevant specialties or by documenting the management of suitable cases in a logbook.

Options available

Option A: 3 month FTE rotation

The specialties listed below outline the suitable rotations to meet this requirement.

- Adolescent medicine

- Child protection and adolescent psychiatry
- Community paediatrics
- Developmental/behavioural paediatrics
- Disability/rehabilitation paediatrics

Rotations not suitable for D&P Training:

- Paediatric gastroenterology*
- Paediatric neurology**

* Exceptions may be possible if rotation is specifically designed to have a D&P Training focus. However, this would be unlikely in Basic Training and would require specific prospective approval.

** Rotation usually not possible unless there is significant developmental focus. Not possible at SHO level.

These areas reflect a holistic approach to the health problems of children and young people. An understanding of the roles and inter-relationships of many allied health and community-based services, in a way that distinguishes them from experience in organ-based specialties, is required.

Option B: documentation of suitable cases in a logbook

Alternatively, trainees can gain the required training by managing suitable cases over a longer period with appropriate supervision. All training must be documented in a logbook.

Trainees must keep a record of at least 12 cases they have personally managed under supervision.

Logbook entries must cover a range of conditions:

- developmental problems, with a focus on the response of parents, families and caregivers to the diagnosis and ongoing care of the child with special needs.
- pervasive developmental disorders.
- general learning disability — the behaviour problems that arise secondary to this condition.
- chronic illness — behavioural and psychological problems resulting from chronic illness, and parent and family difficulties resulting from chronic conditions, such as diabetes, epilepsy, chronic arthritis, chronic respiratory disease, physical disability and childhood cancer.
- common behavioural paediatric problems such as enuresis, encopresis, sleep disturbance, eating difficulties, attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder, conduct disorder, anxiety, depression, and pre-school behavioural adjustment disorders.

Trainees are to provide a summary of the issues involved in each case and how they were managed. Copies of clinical letters are not appropriate.

Cases will generally accumulate over a 2-year period and each case record must be signed by the supervisor.

Resources

[Psychosocial Logbook example](#) (PDF)

[Psychosocial Logbook template](#) (DOC)

Australia

Requirement

Developmental & psychosocial (D&P) training is currently a time-based requirement consisting of a minimum of six months full-time equivalent (FTE) in one or more of the following areas:

- Developmental/behavioural paediatrics
- Community paediatrics
- Disability/rehabilitation paediatrics
- Child and adolescent psychiatry
- Child protection
- Palliative medicine

These areas reflect a holistic approach to the health problems of children and young people. An understanding of the roles and inter-relationships of many allied health and community-based services, in a way that distinguishes them from experience in organ-based specialties, is required.

Options available

Approved training options

- **Option A: A prospectively-approved psychosocial training position (6 months full-time equivalent).** This can be completed as:
 - 2 x 3-month terms, or
 - 1 x 6-month block, or
 - a continuous part-time position, such as 2.5 days a week for 12 months (A conglomerate of experience for shorter time periods adding up to 6 months will not be accepted.)
- **Option B: A prospectively approved rural position (6 months full-time equivalent).** Complete the 6 months of training comprised of a documented weekly program in the psychosocial training areas with an appropriate level of supervision.
- **Option C: Attendance at a prospectively-approved clinic AND completion of an approved learning module.** The D&P training requirement can be completed in one of these formats:
 - 2 x sessions a week for 18 months, or
 - 1 x session a week for 3 years

An approved clinic is determined to be a clinic where other health and/or educational professionals are involved, and supervision is directed by a paediatrician who is experienced in one or multiple areas of D&P Training, such as behaviour, development, rehabilitation and child protection.

The approved learning module may be **one** of the following:

- Evidence of attendance at a lecture series at a recognised institution, related to the D&P Training areas; or
- 3 x referenced case reports/essays demonstrating comprehensive understanding of 3 different issues in the areas of psychosocial training – for example rehabilitation or community paediatrics (1500 to 2000 words each); or
- Completion of the Griffith Mental Developmental Scales course.

Other prospectively approved modules may be considered.

Aotearoa New Zealand and Australia

How to complete it

Trainees must provide details of how they completed the Developmental & Psychosocial (D&P) training requirement by submitting information via [TMP](#) as a Learning theme.

To do this, trainees must:

1. Nominate the corresponding requirement option that was completed
2. Provide relevant supporting details. This may include:
 - referencing the rotation plan if the training was completed as part of an applicable subspecialty term.
 - describing the approved rural or clinic-based setting.
 - listing the approved learning module undertaken and associated evidence (e.g. attendance records, case reports).
 - upload completed documentation as required.

How to apply

Contact Rheumatology@racp.edu.au or Rheumatology@racp.edu.au to apply for approval of D&P Training.

Resources

[Developmental and Psychosocial Training Supervisor's Report form](#) (DOC)

Learning, teaching, and assessment requirements

Overview

Requirements over the course of training

What do trainees need to do?	When do trainees need to do it?
Entry	
1 training application	At the start of the specialty foundation phase.
Learning	
Minimum 36 months full time equivalent (FTE) professional experience	Minimum 12 months FTE during each phase.
Developmental and psychosocial training	Before the end of Advanced Training, if not completed during Basic Training.
RACP Advanced Training Orientation resource	During the first 6 months of the specialty foundation phase.
RACP Supervisor Professional Development Program	Before the end of Advanced Training.
RACP Australian Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Cultural Competence and Cultural Safety resource	Before the end of Advanced Training, if not completed during Basic Training. Recommended completion before the specialty consolidation phase.
RACP Health Policy, Systems and Advocacy resource	Before the end of Advanced Training. Recommended completion before the transition to fellowship phase.
Present at national/international meeting and at trainee teaching / journal clubs / grand rounds or state meetings	Recommended throughout the course of training
Attend 1 international or national meeting	Recommended once per phase
Procedural logbook	Recommended throughout the course of training
Recommended resources	Recommended completion over the course of Advanced Training.
Teaching	
Nominate 1 research project supervisor	Recommended to be nominated before the specialty consolidation phase.
Assessment	
1 research project	Before the end of Advanced Training. Recommended submission before the transition to fellowship phase.

Requirements per phase

What do trainees need to do?	When do trainees need to do it?
Learning	
1 rotation plan per rotation	At the start of (or prior to starting) the rotation.
Teaching	
Nominate 2 supervisors per rotation	At the start of each accredited or approved training rotation.
Assessment	
12 learning captures	Minimum 1 per month.
12 observation captures	Minimum 1 per month.
4 progress reports	Minimum 1 every 3 months.

Entry

Training application

Requirement

1 x training application, at the start of the specialty foundation phase.

Purpose

The training application supports trainees to:

- confirm that they meet the program [entry criteria](#)
- provide essential details for program enrolment, ensuring compliance with RACP standards
- establishes a formal foundation for their training pathway, enabling access to program resources and support

The application form will be reviewed by the RACP staff. Trainees will be able to track the status of your application through the College's new Training Management Platform (TMP).

Trainees can submit rotation plans and complete assessments while waiting for their application to be approved.

How to apply

Trainees are to submit a training application for the program using [TMP](#).

Due dates

28 February if starting at the beginning of the year.

31 August if starting mid-year.

Learning

Learning blueprint

This high-level learning program blueprint outlines which of the learning goals the learning requirements *could align* and *will align* with.

Learning goals	Learning requirements					
	Professional experience	Rotation plan	RACP Advanced Training Orientation resource	RACP Supervisor Professional Development Program	RACP Australian Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Cultural Competence and Cultural Safety resource	RACP Health Policy, Systems and Advocacy resource
1. Professional behaviours	Could align	Will align	Will align	Will align	Will align	Will align
2. Team leadership	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
3. Supervision and teaching	Could align	x	x	Will align	x	x
4. Quality improvement	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
5. Clinical assessment and management	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
6. Management of transitions in care	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
7. Acute care	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
8. Longitudinal care	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
9. Communication with patients	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
10. Prescribing	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
11. Procedures	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
12. Investigations	Could align	x	x	x	x	Will align

Learning goals	Learning requirements					
	Professional experience	Rotation plan	RACP Advanced Training Orientation resource	RACP Supervisor Professional Development Program	RACP Australian Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Cultural Competence and Cultural Safety resource	RACP Health Policy, Systems and Advocacy resource
13. Clinic management	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
14. Foundations of paediatric rheumatology	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
15. Intra-articular steroid injection	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
16. Arthritis	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
17. Systemic lupus erythematosus and related conditions	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
18. Juvenile dermatomyositis	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
19. Scleroderma	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
20. Vasculitis	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
21. Autoinflammatory conditions	Could align	x	x	x	x	x
22. Non-inflammatory musculoskeletal and rheumatic disorders	Could align	x	x	x	x	x

Learning goals	Learning Recommendations				
	Presentation of an abstract or poster at a national / international meeting (recommended)	Presentation at trainee teaching / journal clubs / grand rounds or state meetings (recommended)	Attendance of 1 international or national meeting (recommended)	Procedural logbook (recommended)	Structured learning course (recommended)
1. Professional behaviours	x	Could align	Could align	x	Could align
2. Team leadership	x	x	x	x	Could align
3. Supervision and teaching	Will align	Could align	Could align	x	Could align
4. Quality improvement	Could align	Could align	Could align	x	Could align
5. Clinical assessment and management	Could align	x	x	Will align	Could align
6. Management of transitions in care	Could align	x	x	x	Could align
7. Acute care	Could align	Could align	Could align	x	Could align
8. Longitudinal care	Could align	x	x	x	Could align
9. Communication with patients	Could align	x	x	x	Could align
10. Prescribing	Could align	x	x	Could align	Could align
11. Procedures	Could align	x	x	Will align	Could align
12. Investigations	Could align	x	x	Could align	Could align
13. Clinic management	x	Could align	Could align	x	Could align
14. Foundations of paediatric rheumatology	Could align	Could align	Could align	x	Could align
15. Intra-articular steroid injection	x	Could align	Could align	Will align	Could align

Learning goals	Learning Recommendations				
	Presentation of an abstract or poster at a national / international meeting (recommended)	Presentation at trainee teaching / journal clubs / grand rounds or state meetings (recommended)	Attendance of 1 international or national meeting (recommended)	Procedural logbook (recommended)	Structured learning course (recommended)
16. Arthritis	Could align	Could align	Could align	Will align	Could align
17. Systemic lupus erythematosus and related conditions	Could align	Could align	Could align	x	Could align
18. Juvenile dermatomyositis	Could align	Could align	Could align	x	Could align
19. Scleroderma	Could align	Could align	Could align	x	Could align
20. Vasculitis	Could align	Could align	Could align	x	Could align
21. Autoinflammatory conditions	Could align	Could align	Could align	x	Could align
22. Non-inflammatory musculoskeletal and rheumatic disorders	Could align	Could align	Could align	x	Could align

Professional experience

These requirements can be completed in any sequence over the course of training.

Professional experience

Complete at least **36 months of relevant professional experience** in approved rotations in at least 2 different training settings

Location of training

- Complete training in at least 2 different accredited training settings.
- Complete at least 12 months of training in accredited training settings in Australia and/or Aotearoa New Zealand.

Experiential training

- Minimum 24 months in at least 2 different settings accredited towards core paediatric rheumatology
 - 6 months experience in a weekly adult general rheumatology clinic setting during one of the training years (recommended)
- Maximum 12 months of an approved non-core training position

Non-core training requirements

During non-core training, the trainee is expected to undertake a maximum of 12 months of training that substantively contributes to their development as a paediatric rheumatologist.

- Trainees must demonstrate progression in paediatric rheumatology learning goals in both core and non-core training and have met the expected standard as set out in the progression levels to transition to the next phase of training. Trainees who have not met this standard may require additional training time.
- The trainee will need to submit their plan for their non-core year to the Advanced Training Committee (ATC) in Paediatric Rheumatology by the end of September in order to have the plan approved for the following year. It is up to the trainee to explain in their application how their planned year will meaningfully contribute to their development as a paediatric rheumatologist.
- Examples of non-core years which would often be considered acceptable include;
 - Further clinical training in paediatric rheumatology (locally or internationally)
 - Research training as part of a higher degree (including some ongoing clinical training). Trainees are recommended to attend a minimum of 1 paediatric rheumatology clinic per week during their non-core year doing research
 - Training time in a speciality closely associated with paediatric rheumatology:
 - paediatric nephrology
 - paediatric immunology
 - paediatric pain medicine
 - adolescent and young adult medicine
 - general paediatrics
 - adult rheumatology

Other non-core training positions may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Rotation plan

Requirement
1 x rotation plan per rotation.
Description
The rotation plan is a work-based tool to document details of a training rotation and how a trainee intends to cover their program learning goals over the rotation period.
Purpose
The rotation plan helps trainees evaluate their learning gaps, curriculum needs, and local opportunities to meet expected standards. It is validated by College staff to ensure it aligns with the professional experience requirements for the program.
How to complete it
<p>Trainees can submit a rotation plan in TMP under the training plan tab.</p> <p>Trainees undertaking their first rotation of their training program must select the following checkbox, 'The rotation start date is also the start date of my Training Program' to record the start date for their training program.</p> <p>If a trainee is expecting a learning goal to be covered during a rotation, select 'yes' for 'coverage offered' and outline the learning opportunities available.</p> <p>This information will be used by supervisors and overseeing RACP training committee to determine the relevance of the rotation to the program's professional experience requirements.</p> <p>Trainees should upload a copy of the position description and any other supporting information that outlines the training position being undertaken. This should include regular/weekly activities that the trainee will be undertaking during the rotation (e.g. timetable).</p> <p>Trainees can also set custom goals to define personal objectives that they want to achieve during the rotation. These goals should be measurable and align with the trainee's professional objectives, skill gaps, or personal interests.</p> <p>Trainees need to nominate their rotation supervisors in the plan, and they will need to approve the plan in TMP via 'my assigned actions'.</p> <p>For more information on how to complete a rotation plan review the training resources.</p>
Due dates
28 February for rotations in the first half or whole of the year.
31 August for rotations in the second half of the year.

Presentation – oral or poster (recommended)

Requirement
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation (oral or poster) at a national / international meeting at least once during training (recommended)

- Presentation at 2 trainee teaching / journal clubs / grand rounds or state meetings per year (recommended)

Description

- Trainees are recommended to present research at a national or international meeting at least once during their 3 years of training.
- Trainees are recommended to present a case / research / journal article twice per year at a local meeting (e.g. teaching other registrars or hospital grand rounds)

Purpose

To improve the trainee's presentation and teaching skills, as well as give them exposure to the community of paediatric rheumatology (nationally or internationally).

How to complete it

- Suitable meetings for the presentation (oral or poster) at a national / international meeting are:
 - [Australian Rheumatology Association Annual Scientific Meeting](#)
 - [New Zealand Rheumatology Association Annual Scientific Meeting](#)
 - [Paediatric Rheumatology European Society Congress](#)
 - Australian Paediatric Rheumatology Group Spring Meeting

Trainees are to submit evidence of their presentation to Rheumatology@racp.edu.au or Rheumatology@racp.org.nz

Meeting attendance (recommended)

Requirement

Attendance at 1 international or national meeting with demonstrable link to the paediatric rheumatology knowledge guides per year (recommended)

Description

National meetings are yearly Annual Scientific Meetings organised by Australia / New Zealand Rheumatology Association.

Purpose

To enable trainees to learn and keep up to date with the latest in paediatric rheumatology.

How to complete it

- Suitable meetings include:
 - [Australian Rheumatology Association Annual Scientific Meeting](#)
 - [New Zealand Rheumatology Association Annual Scientific Meeting](#)
 - [Paediatric Rheumatology European Society \(PRES\) Congress](#)
 - Australian Paediatric Rheumatology Group Spring Meeting

Trainees are to submit evidence of their attendance to Rheumatology@racp.edu.au or Rheumatology@racp.org.nz

Logbook (recommended)

Requirement
1 x procedural logbook completed throughout the course of training (recommended)
Description
<p>The logbook is a learning tool that helps trainees capture data about and reflect on specific workplace experiences.</p> <p>A copy of the procedural logbook to date should be submitted in TMP at the end of each phase of training for review, with the completed procedure logbook submitted before the end of training.</p> <p>For more information on how to submit a logbook review the training resources.</p>

Courses

RACP Advanced Training Orientation resource

Requirement
1 x RACP Advanced Training Orientation resource, completed during the first 6 months of the specialty foundation phase.
Description
<p>This resource is designed to orient trainees to Advanced Training. It covers areas such as transition to Advanced Training, training and assessment, and trainee support. It's a 'one-stop shop' that trainees can return to if they ever want to find a useful resource, or need a refresher on the supporting resources, policies, and systems available to them.</p> <p>Estimated completion time: 1-1.5 hours.</p>
Purpose
The resource is intended to support trainees to successfully navigate their transition to Advanced Training and prepare for unsupervised practice as a specialist physician.
How to complete it
<p>Trainees can complete the Advanced Training Orientation resource on RACP Online Learning.</p> <p>Trainees will receive a certificate of completion on RACP Online Learning when they complete the resource. Completion of this requirement will automatically update in TMP.</p>

RACP Supervisor Professional Development Program

Requirement
1 x RACP Supervisor Professional Development Program (SPDP), consisting of 3 workshops, completed by the end of Advanced Training.
Description

The SPDP consists of 3 workshops:

- Educational Leadership and Management
- Learning Environment and Culture
- Teaching and Facilitating Learning for Safe Practice

See [Supervisor Professional Development Program](#) for more information on the program.

Purpose

This requirement aims to prepare trainees for a supervisory/educator role in the workplace and supports trainees' learning aligned with the "team leadership" and "supervision and teaching" learning goals.

How to complete it

[Register for a supervisor workshop.](#)

Trainees can complete the SPDP in three ways:

- Virtual workshops
- Face-to-face workshops
- Online courses.

Workshops are free and presented by volunteer Fellows trained in SPDP facilitation.

RACP Australian Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Cultural Competence and Cultural Safety resource

Requirement

1 x Australian Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Cultural Competence and Cultural Safety resource, if not completed during Basic Training.

Trainees must complete the resource by the end of their Advanced Training however it's recommended they complete it before the specialty consolidation phase.

Description

The Australian Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Cultural Competence and Cultural Safety resource teaches best practice medicine for Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori patients through reflection on the trainee's own cultural values and recognition of their influence on professional practice.

Estimated completion time: 2 hours.

Purpose

This resource supports trainees' learning aligned with the "professional behaviours" learning goal. Specialist training requires trainees to:

- examine their own implicit biases
- be mindful of power differentials
- develop reflective practice

- undertake transformative unlearning
- contribute to a decolonisation of health services for Indigenous peoples

How to complete it

Trainees can complete the [Australian Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Cultural Competence and Cultural Safety resource](#) on RACP Online Learning.

Trainees will receive a certificate of completion on RACP Online Learning when they complete the resource. Completion of this requirement will automatically update in [TMP](#).

RACP Health Policy, Systems and Advocacy resource

Requirement

1 x RACP Health Policy, Systems and Advocacy resource, completed by the end of Advanced Training.

Description

This resource has been designed for Advanced Trainees, as an introduction to health policy, systems, and advocacy.

Estimated completion time: 5 hours.

Purpose

The resource aims to support Advanced Trainees in meeting the health policy, systems, and advocacy professional standard and underpinning competencies outlined in their specialty curriculum, and to enable connections between Advanced Trainees' own practice and the nature and attributes of local, national, and global health systems.

How to complete it

Trainees can complete the [RACP Health Policy, Systems and Advocacy resource](#) on RACP Online Learning.

Trainees will receive a certificate of completion on RACP Online Learning when they complete the resource. Completion of this requirement will automatically update in [TMP](#).

Recommended resources

- Structured learning course:
 - [European Alliance of Associations for Rheumatology \(EULAR\)/PRES Online Course in Paediatric Rheumatology](#)
 - [American College of Rheumatology \(ACR\) Virtual Rheumatology Program - VFIT: Paediatric](#)
- [RACP Communication Skills resource](#)
- [RACP Ethics resource](#)
- [RACP Introduction to Leadership, Management and Teamwork resource](#)
- [RACP Research Projects resource](#)
- [RACP eLearning resources](#)
- [RACP curated collections](#)

Teaching

Supervision

Rotation supervisors

Trainees are to have 2 x supervisors per rotation:

- Minimum of 1 supervisor per rotation who is a Fellow of the RACP in Paediatric Rheumatology*

*During non-core training, may be a third/remote supervisor.

Nominating eligible supervisors

Trainees will be asked to nominate rotation supervisors as part of their rotation plan. Trainees are required to nominate [eligible supervisors](#) who meet the above requirements.

A list of eligible supervisors can be found on [MyRACP](#). The list is not available for post-Fellowship trainees. Post-Fellowship trainees can [contact us](#) to confirm supervisor eligibility.

Research project supervisor

Trainees are to nominate 1 x research project supervisor over the course of Advanced Training. Recommended to be nominated before the specialty consolidation phase.

The research project supervisor guides trainees with their project choice, method, data analysis and interpretation, and quality of written and oral presentation.

More information about this role can be found in the [Advanced Training research project guidelines](#).

Assessment

Assessment blueprint

This high-level assessment program blueprint outlines which of the learning goals *could be* and *will be* assessed by the assessment tools.

Learning goals	Assessment tools			
	Learning capture	Observation capture	Progress report	Research project
1. Professional behaviours	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Will assess
2. Team leadership	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	x
3. Supervision and teaching	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	x
4. Quality improvement	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Could assess
5. Clinical assessment and management	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	x
6. Management of transitions in care	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	x
7. Acute care	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	x
8. Longitudinal care	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	x
9. Communication with patients	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	x
10. Prescribing	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	X
11. Procedures	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	X
12. Investigations	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Could assess
13. Clinic management	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Could assess

Learning goals	Assessment tools			
	Learning capture	Observation capture	Progress report	Research project
14. Foundations of paediatric rheumatology	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Could assess
15. Intra-articular steroid injection	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Could assess
16. Arthritis	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Could assess
17. Systemic lupus erythematosus and related conditions	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Could assess
18. Juvenile dermatomyositis	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Could assess
19. Scleroderma	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Could assess
20. Vasculitis	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Could assess
21. Autoinflammatory conditions	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Could assess
22. Non-inflammatory musculoskeletal and rheumatic disorders	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Could assess

Learning capture

Requirement
12 x learning captures per phase of training, minimum 1 per month. <i>Refer to RACP Flexible Training Policy for further information on part-time training (item 4.2).</i>
Description
The learning capture is a work-based assessment that involves a trainee capturing, and reflecting on, professional development activities, including evidence of work-based learning linked to specific learning goals.
Purpose
The learning capture assists trainees to reflect on experiences, promotes critical thinking, and connects these to a trainee's learning goals and professional development. It is also a valuable mechanism for trainees to enhance their understanding of complex topics and less common experiences that may be difficult to encounter in traditional training.
How to complete it
The learning capture is completed via TMP under the assessment requirements tab. For more information on how to complete a learning capture review the training resources .

Observation capture

Requirement
12 x observation captures per phase of training, minimum 1 per month. <i>Refer to RACP Flexible Training Policy for further information on part-time training (item 4.2).</i>
Description
An observation capture is a work-based assessment which provides a structured process for trainees to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in real-time workplace situations, while assessors observe and evaluate performance.
Purpose
The purpose of the observation capture is to assess skill development, track progress, and provide targeted feedback for improvement for trainees against specific learning goals.
How to complete it
Observation captures are completed via TMP under the assessment requirements tab. For more information on how to complete an observation capture review the training resources .

Progress report

Requirement
4 x progress reports per phase of training, minimum 1 every 3 months. <i>Refer to RACP Flexible Training Policy for further information on part-time training (item 4.2).</i>
Description
A progress report is an assessment that documents trainees' and supervisors' assessment of trainee progress against the training program learning goals over a period of training.
Purpose
Progress reports assess knowledge and skill development, track progress against the phase criteria, and provide targeted feedback for improvement.
How to complete it
Progress reports are completed via TMP under the assessment requirements tab. Trainees must: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• self-assess against the program's learning goals• record any leave taken during the covered training period• provide summary comments about the rotation For more information on how to complete a progress report review the training resources .

Research project

Requirement
1 x research project over the course of Advanced Training.
Description
<p>The research project should be one with which the trainee has had significant involvement in designing, conducting the research and analysing data. Trainees may work as part of a larger research project but must have significant input into a particular aspect of the study.</p> <p>Research projects are not required to be specialty-specific but are required to be broadly relevant to trainees' area of specialty. Broadly relevant can be defined as topics that can enhance, complement and inform trainees' practice in the chosen specialty.</p> <p>Three research project types are accepted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• research in:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ human subjects, populations and communities and laboratory research○ epidemiology○ education○ leadership○ medical humanities○ areas of study which can be applied to care of patients or populations• audit• systematic review <p>The trainee must have a research project supervisor who may or may not be one of their rotation supervisors.</p>

The research project is marked by the training committee as pass, fail or resubmit, and trainees receive qualitative feedback about their project. The research project should be submitted for marking by the end of the specialty consolidation phase to allow time for resubmission in the transition to Fellowship phase if the project is unsatisfactory.

Purpose

The research project enabled trainees to gain experience in research methods; in interpretation of research literature; in participation in research at some stage of their career; and to develop quality improvement skills. Submission of a research project provides evidence of the skills of considering and defining research problems; the systematic acquisition, analysis, synthesis and interpretation of data; and effective written communication.

How to complete it

Detailed information on how to complete the research project can be found in the [Advanced Training research project guidelines](#) and can be submitted via [TMP](#) under the assessment requirements tab.

For more information on how to submit an Advanced Training Research Project review the [training resources](#).

There are 3 deadlines that must be followed when submitting an Advanced Training Research Project. Trainees can choose to submit their Research Project on any of these 3 dates during the year.

Australia: 31 March, 15 June, or 15 September.

Aotearoa New Zealand: 31 March, 15 June, or 15 December.

Roles and responsibilities

Advanced Trainee

Role
A member who is registered with the RACP to undertake one or more Advanced Training programs.
Responsibilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain employment in accredited training settings.• Act as a self-directed learner:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ be aware of the educational requirements outlined in the relevant curricula and education policies○ actively seek and reflect on feedback from assessors, supervisors, and other colleagues○ plan, reflect on, and manage their learning and progression against the curricula standards○ adhere to the deadlines for requirements of the training program.• Actively participate in training setting / network accreditation undertaken by the RACP.• Complete the annual Physician Training Survey to assist the RACP and training settings with ongoing quality improvement of the program.

Rotation supervisor

Role
A consultant who provides direct oversight of an Advanced Trainee during a training rotation.
Responsibilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be aware of the educational requirements outlined in the relevant curricula and education policies.• Oversee and support the progression of Advanced Trainees within the setting:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Assist trainees to plan their learning during the rotation.○ Support colleagues to complete observation captures with trainees.○ Provide feedback to trainees through progress reports.• Actively participate in rotation accreditation undertaken by the RACP.• Complete the annual Physician Training Survey to assist the RACP and training settings with ongoing quality improvement of the program.

Assessor

Role

A person who provides feedback to trainees via the Observation Capture or Learning Capture tool. This may include consultants and other medical professionals, allied health professionals, nursing staff, patients and their families, administrative staff, and consumer representatives.

Responsibilities

- Be aware of the learning goals of the training program.
- Provide feedback to support the progression of Advanced Trainees within the setting:
 - Complete Observation Captures.
 - Provide feedback on Learning Captures as required.

Progress Review Panel

Role

A group convened to make evidence-based decisions on Advanced Trainees' progression through and certification of training.

More information on Progress Review Panels will be available in 2025.

Responsibilities

- Review and assess trainees' progress.
- Communicate and report on progression decisions.
- Monitor delivery of the Advanced Training program.
- Ensure compliance to regulatory, policy and ethical matters.

RACP oversight committees

Role

RACP-administered committees with oversight of the Advanced Training Program in Australia and New Zealand. This includes the relevant training committee and/or Aotearoa New Zealand training subcommittee.

Responsibilities

- Oversee implementation of the Advanced Training program in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand:
 - Manage and review program requirements, accreditation requirements, and supervision requirements.
 - Monitor implementation of training program requirements.
 - Implement RACP education policy.

- Oversee trainees' progression through the training program.
 - Monitor the accreditation of training settings.
 - Case manage trainees on the Training Support pathway.
 - Review progression and certification decisions on application in accordance with the RACP Reconsideration, Review, and Appeals By-Law.
- Work collaboratively with Progress Review Panels to ensure the delivery of quality training.
- Provide feedback, guidance, recommendations, and reasoning for decision making to trainees and supervisors.
- Declare conflicts of interest and excuse themselves from decision making discussions when conflicts arise.
- Report to the overseeing RACP committee as required.

Resources

See [RACP Online Learning](#) for new curricula training and support resources.

For trainees

- [Education policies](#)
- [Trainee support](#)
- [Trainee responsibilities](#)
- [Accredited settings](#)
- [Training fees](#)

For supervisors

- [Supervisor Professional Development Program](#)
- [RACP Research Supervision resource](#)
- [RACP Training Support resource](#)
- [RACP Creating a Safe Workplace resource](#)