



GENERAL SURGERY

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS)

To become a General Surgeon, you will need to apply for fellowship with the [Royal Australasian College of Surgeons](https://www.racs.edu.au). Fellowship is a 5-year (full time) Surgical Education and Training (SET) pathway and consists of:

- SET 1, 12 months full time: Satisfactory completion of a minimum of 2 x 6 month terms.
- SET 2-5, 48 months full time: Satisfactory completion of 8 x 6 month rotations at accredited posts.

For trainees commencing 2022 onwards, a revised General Surgery Education and Training (GSET) pathway is being implemented, consisting of two stages:

- Core Training (36 months), GSET 1-3 focuses on foundation skills relating to general surgery.
- Principal Training (24 months), GSET 4-5 provides increased trainee involvement and clinical complexity.

Entry requirements/pre-requisites

- General Medical Registration with the Medical Board of Australia.
- Be a citizen of Australia or New Zealand or a permanent resident of Australia.
- Completion of PGY2 (earliest year of entry is PGY3), including a minimum of 26 weeks in General Surgery rotations and a minimum of 8 weeks in a critical care rotation. Each rotation must be a minimum of 8 continuous weeks.
- Completion of the RACS Hand Hygiene Learning Module and the RACS Operating with Respect eLearning module.
- Successful completion of the Generic Surgical Sciences exam.

Application and selection process – [how to apply](#)

Applicants must first register their intention to apply with the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS). Responsibility for the administration of the GSET program of RACS has been delegated to General Surgeons Australia, therefore applications are to be submitted via the General Surgeons Australia Online Application form.

Queensland Health offers a central allocations program for SET 1 Principal House Officer (PHO) applications in General Surgery. Applicants will need to complete their Queensland Health preferencing via the [RMO Campaign](#).

SET 2-5 allocations for General Surgery are conducted by RACS, and selection to the SET Program occurs annually. Applicants need to apply directly to RACS for a training position in General Surgery. In Queensland, for an employment contract to be issued by your allocated training facility, applicants must also submit an application via the RMO Campaign.

Regional Training Hub Central Queensland

Phone: (07) 4931 2999; Email: rthcq@uq.edu.au

Useful contacts and links

Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service: MEU_Rockhampton@health.qld.gov.au

Medi-Nav: <https://medinav.health.qld.gov.au>

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons: <https://www.surgeons.org/>

General Surgeons Australia: <https://www.generalsurgeons.com.au>

National Medical Workforce Factsheet: <https://hwd.health.gov.au/webapi/customer/documents/factsheets/2016/General%20surgery.pdf>



Program requirements

Training summary: <https://www.generalsurgeons.com.au/media/files/Education%20and%20Training/GSET/REG%202020-11-16%20-%20Final.pdf>

Regional training opportunities in Central Queensland

There are currently 2 General Surgery registrar positions in Rockhampton*.

***Position data valid as at October 2020.**

The following table outlines the training pathway and stages that the Rockhampton Hospital is accredited for:

RACS	SPECIALTY	Total Training Time (months)	Earliest year of entry into program	TRAINING PROGRAM		
	General Surgery			Basic Training SET 1 (months)	Advanced Training SET 2-4 (months)	Advanced Training SET 5 (months)
	Rockhampton Hospital			60	PGY3	12
				✓	✓ (6 months)	

Please note that as Departments prepare for the revised Training Program transition, accreditation status will change to align with the revised Training Stages.

Map your General Surgery training pathway in Central Queensland

In Queensland, there are 4 network rotations: Far North, Gold Coast, Northside and Southside. The Rockhampton Hospital forms part of both the Gold Coast Rotation and Southside Rotation.

Hospitals in the Gold Coast Rotation include Cairns Hospital, Gold Coast University Hospital/Robina Hospital, Ipswich Hospital, Logan Hospital, Mackay Hospital and **Rockhampton Hospital**.

Hospitals in the Southside Rotation include Bundaberg Hospital, Caboolture Hospital, Greenslopes Private Hospital, Hervey Bay Hospital, Ipswich Hospital, Logan Hospital, Mackay Hospital, Mater Hospital, Princess Alexandra Hospital, QEII Hospital, Queensland Children's Hospital, **Rockhampton Hospital**, Sunshine Coast University Hospital, The Prince Charles Hospital and Toowoomba Hospital.

The following tables provide example networked pathway from internship through to fellowship in the Central Queensland region:

SURGICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM - GOLD COAST ROTATION EXAMPLE										
PGY1	PGY2	PGY3	PGY4	PGY5	PGY6	PGY7	PGY8	PGY9		
Intern	RMO	RMO	PHO	SET 1	SET 2	SET 3	SET 4	SET 5		
Rockhampton Hospital	Rockhampton Hospital	Rockhampton Hospital	Rockhampton Hospital	Rockhampton Hospital	Rockhampton Hospital	Mackay Hospital	Cairns Hospital	Logan Hospital	Gold Coast University Hospital	Gold Coast University Hospital

SURGICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM - SOUTHSIDE ROTATION EXAMPLE										
PGY1	PGY2	PGY3	PGY4	PGY5	PGY6	PGY7	PGY8	PGY9		
Intern	RMO	RMO	PHO	SET 1	SET 2	SET 3	SET 4	SET 5		
Rockhampton Hospital	Rockhampton Hospital	Rockhampton Hospital	Rockhampton Hospital	Rockhampton Hospital	Rockhampton Hospital	Bundaberg Hospital	Mackay Hospital	The Prince Charles Hospital	Princess Alexandra Hospital	Princess Alexandra Hospital

Updated example pathways will be provided for trainees commencing 2022 onwards, once departments have transitioned to the updated accreditation system.

Disclaimer

The University of Queensland Regional Training Hubs have taken all reasonable steps to ensure that the information contained in this document is both accurate and current. Information in this Guide is accurate as at April 2021. Pathways provided are examples only and may be dependent on availability of positions, allocation processes and individual progression through the training program. While care has been taken to provide accurate information in this Guide, it is the responsibility of prospective candidates for training pathways and positions to check and confirm specific details with relevant Colleges and health authorities directly.