



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.org.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 Southern Queensland

Phone: (07) 4633 9700; Email: rthsq@uq.edu.au

Useful contacts and links

Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service: DDHHS-MEU@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 Southern Queensland

There are currently 3 General Surgery registrar positions in Toowoomba*.

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

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

COLLEGE	SPECIALTY	Total Training Time (months)	Earliest year of entry into program	TRAINING PROGRAM		
				Basic Training SET 1 (months)	Advanced Training SET 2-4 (months)	Advanced Training SET 5 (months)
RACS	General Surgery	60	PGY3	12	36	12
	Toowoomba Hospital			✓	✓ (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 Southern Queensland

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

Hospitals in the Northside Rotation include Bundaberg Hospital, Caboolture Hospital, Cairns Hospital, Greenslopes Private Hospital, Hervey Bay Hospital, Noosa Private Hospital, Queensland Children's Hospital, Redcliffe Hospital, Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital, Sunshine Coast University Hospital, The Prince Charles Hospital, **Toowoomba Hospital** and Townsville 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, Sunshine Coast University Hospital, The Prince Charles Hospital and **Toowoomba Hospital**.

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

SURGICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM - NORTHSIDE 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
Toowoomba Hospital	Toowoomba Hospital	Toowoomba Hospital	Toowoomba Hospital	Toowoomba Hospital	Toowoomba Hospital	Caboolture Hospital	Redcliffe Hospital	The Prince Charles Hospital	Greenslopes Private Hospital	Royal Brisbane & Women's 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
Toowoomba Hospital	Toowoomba Hospital	Toowoomba Hospital	Toowoomba Hospital	Toowoomba Hospital	Toowoomba Hospital	Ipswich Hospital	Logan Hospital	QEII Hospital	Mater 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.