



RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING POLICY

1. Purpose

- 1.1. This policy provides guidelines for granting recognition of prior learning (RPL) that is deemed comparable to the Training Time and Training Program Requirements for training, education, and assessment.
- 1.2. Recognition of prior learning is assessed with consideration of currency of experience, skills, and knowledge.

2. Application and scope

- 2.1. The policy applies to registrars training on the Fellowship Training Program.

3. Policy

- 3.1. The College seeks to facilitate recognition of prior learning that is consistent with supporting a registrar's successful progression through the program to achieve Fellowship.
- 3.2. RPL applications are assessed with consideration of the following principles:
 - 3.2.1. Authenticity - the applicant has demonstrated the level of competency outcomes that are being claimed.
 - 3.2.2. Currency - the competency outcomes are still valid and performable.
 - 3.2.3. Quality - the competency has reached the acceptable level.
 - 3.2.4. Relevance - the competency is applicable to the relevant area of training and curriculum.
 - 3.2.5. Transferability - the competency outcome can be applied outside the specific context in which it was gained.
 - 3.2.6. Comparability - the assessment mechanisms adopted ensure that the prior learning is comparable to training.
- 3.3. Applicants must demonstrate and provide evidence that Training Time and Training Program Requirements sought through RPL meet the requirements for the Training Program.
- 3.4. Applicants who demonstrate experience that meets Training Placement requirements will have Training Time credited.
- 3.5. The maximum Training Time that may be credited through RPL on all pathways is:
 - 3.5.1 two years, inclusive of Core Generalist and Advanced Specialised training,

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- 3.5.2 under exceptional circumstances, where a doctor has undertaken a comparable training and/ or academic program, RPL beyond these maximums may be awarded.
- 3.6 Training Programs Requirements may be credited when evidence of meeting requirements and recency of practice are provided.
 - 3.6.1 Recency of practice for Core Generalist paediatrics, anaesthetics and O&G is five years, from training start date.
 - 3.6.2 Recency of practice for Core Generalist secondary care, emergency care and rural and remote practice is two years, from training start date.
 - 3.6.3 Recency of practice for Advanced Specialised disciplines is two years, from training start date.
- 3.7 Primary care minimum Training Program Requirement cannot be credited through RPL, it must be completed in training to allow completion of workplace assessments.
- 3.8 Clinical experience in Australia and overseas experience in a Medical Board of Australia approved [competent authority](#) may be recognised.
- 3.9 Clinical experience gained in other countries may be considered case by case.
- 3.10 Registrars not demonstrating satisfactory performance during training may be required to undertake Training Program Requirements that have previously been credited through RPL.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

- 4.1 Registrars are responsible for ensuring that:
 - 4.1.1 information is accurate, complete and accompanied by all required evidence
 - 4.1.2 documents in other languages are translated into English by a recognised authority, such as an official translator or government official
 - 4.1.3 applications are submitted early in training and accompanied by a Training Plan
 - 4.1.4 applications are submitted at least 10 weeks prior to enrolling in assessment, if the RPL outcome is required to meet assessment eligibility
 - 4.1.5 applications are submitted through their Training Organisation.
- 4.2 Training Organisations are responsible for:
 - 4.2.1 supporting registrars to understand RPL requirements and outcomes
 - 4.2.2 working with registrars to work out what RPL is appropriate and develop a Training Plan
 - 4.2.3 ensuring RPL application is complete and evidenced prior to sending to ACRRM
 - 4.2.4 sending completed application to ACRRM along with a recommendation of what RPL is supported.

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4.3 The College is responsible for:

4.3.1 processing the application in accordance with this policy

4.3.2 providing the RPL Outcome to the applicant and their Training Organisation within eight weeks.

5. Related Documentation

5.1 ACRRM Training Program Requirements Policy

5.2 ACRRM Training Placement Policy

5.3 ACRRM Training Time Policy

5.4 ACRRM Fellowship Training Program Handbook

5.5 ACRRM Fellowship Assessment Handbook

5.6 ACRRM Advanced Specialised Training Handbooks

5.7 ACRRM Rural Generalist Curriculum

5.8 ACRRM Standards for Supervisors and Training Posts

6. Definitions

Word/Term	Definition (with examples if required)
RTO	Regional Training Organisation
Training Organisation	A training organisation is the organisation who is responsible for training delivery and ensuring that training requirements are met. This is the Regional Training Organisations on the Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) program, Remote Vocational Training Scheme (RVTS) on this scheme or ACRRM on the Independent Pathway (IP) including for registrars with places on the Rural Generalist Training Scheme (RGTS).

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7. Document Control Management

7.1 Policy information

Policy Contact and Author	Kyra Moss Lynn Saul	Approving Body:	Board
Status:	Final	Review period:	Three years
Policy No and Version:	T9 V1.1/2021	Next review date:	March 2024
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Responsible Officer:	Lynn Saul	Policy System Manager:	Mary Jane Streeton

7.2 Document History

Version	Date Approved	Author	Description of revision	Internal Distribution	
				Date	Recipient/s
V1.1	September 2021	L Saul, Mgr A/S	Clarification provided on definition of currency as being measured from start of training	Sep 21	EST, DoT, CiC/OCEO
V1.0	March 2021	L Saul, Mgr A/S	RGTS added to definition for Training Organisations	Mar 21	ELT/CEO
Previous system	July 2020	L Saul, Mgr A/S	Terminology updated to reflect Fellowship Training Program terminology changes	Jul 20	ELT/CEO
Previous system	January 2018	L Saul, Mgr A/S	Currency of experience required to apply for RPL reduced to: CCT within past seven years, PRRT within past five years and AST within past two years. Provisional RPL removed, RPL can only be applied for during training.	Jan 18	ELT/CEO
Previous system	January 2017	L Saul, Mgr A/S	Maximum RPL set at 2 years for AGPT & RVTS and 3 years for IP. Training Plan must be included with application.	Jan 17	ELT/CEO
Previous system	June 2013	L Saul, Mgr A/S	Applications prior to training are provisional to provide an indication of what may be recognised, RPL confirmed once in training.	Jun 13	ELT/CEO
Previous system	March 2011	L Saul, Mgr A/S	First version of the policy	Mar 11	ELT/CEO

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