

Expression of Interest in Appointment as an RCPA Examiner - 2009

Please refer to the attached Policy 9/2000 Selection of Examiners for the College. Fellows on the Panel of Examiners may also be invited to participate in other training-related roles, such as laboratory visits, Overseas Trained Specialist assessment interviews and mentoring.

Name: _____

Address: _____

State: _____ **P/Code:** _____

Phone: Work () _____ Home () _____

Fax: Work () _____ Home () _____

Email: _____

Year of Fellowship: _____

AREA OF EXPERTISE

1. In which area would you like to examine? (You may tick more than one box)

- | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Anatomical Pathology | <input type="checkbox"/> | Chemical Pathology | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| General Pathology | <input type="checkbox"/> | Genetics | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Haematology | <input type="checkbox"/> | Immunology | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Microbiology | <input type="checkbox"/> | Basic Path Sciences | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Oral Pathology | <input type="checkbox"/> | Forensic Pathology | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2. Do you have any expertise in a sub-specialty eg. Cytopathology, Neuropathology?

3. In which area of Pathology did you undergo training/examination?

Anatomical Pathology	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chemical Pathology	<input type="checkbox"/>
General Pathology	<input type="checkbox"/>	Genetics	<input type="checkbox"/>
Haematology	<input type="checkbox"/>	Immunology	<input type="checkbox"/>
Microbiology	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oral Pathology	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forensic Pathology	<input type="checkbox"/>		

4. Have you undertaken any slanted examinations or a post-Fellowship Diploma?

Yes No

If yes, in what area(s)?

5. In which area(s) of pathology are you currently practising?

6. Have you been involved in any form of examination process in the past?

Yes No

If yes, please specify:

7. Are you participating in the College's Continuing Professional Development Program (CPDP) or the equivalent program of another College?

CPDP Other College (*please specify*): _____

Not participating:

8. Please attach a brief CV with a list of publications.

Please return this form to the College by Friday 20 February 2009

Mail to: The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia
207 Albion Street
Surry Hills NSW 2010

Fax to: (02) 8356 5828

Email to: boc@rcpa.edu.au

Thank you for your interest

Policy

Subject: Selection of Examiners for the College
Approval Date: 31 July 2000, Revised July 2001, Revised October 2001, August 2006
Review Date: August 2010
Review By: BOC
Number: 9/2000

Introduction

The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia, as part of its principal object, is responsible for the training and examination of medical and dental practitioners in Australasia who wish to become specialist Pathologists.

Part of this process involves the examination of Trainees to certify whether they are of an appropriate standard to practise Pathology as a specialist.

Under Article 45 of the Articles of Association, the Council may establish a Board of Censors for the purpose of inquiring into and testing the qualifications of candidates for membership of the College. The Board of Censors has had delegated to it, the responsibility for overseeing the training and examination of such candidates. Please refer to the Terms of Reference for the Board of Censors.

In order to maintain and enhance the transparency and accountability of the RCPA examinations, the College has developed the following procedures and guidelines.

1. Criteria for Selection of Examiners

Whenever possible, examiners should be Fellows and/or Fellows of the Faculty of Oral Pathology of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia. Only in exceptional circumstances should a specialist who is not a Fellow of the College, be approached to participate in the examinations. Such circumstances include withdrawal of College Fellows from the panel of examiners at short notice, and when no suitable replacement can be found among the College Fellowship. It is anticipated that this situation will be encountered only on rare occasions and in one of the disciplines or sub specialities in which there are only a few Fellows for example Genetics. In these circumstances, the situation should however be drawn to the attention of the Board of Censors, before an examiner from outside the College Fellowship is invited to participate.

- As a rule examiners will have qualified for Fellowship of the College by examination in the relevant discipline. For example, examiners in Anatomical Pathology will have completed their Fellowship in Anatomical Pathology (or, in

some instances, General Pathology).

- It is expected that an examiner will participate in an appropriate program of continuing professional development.
- As a general rule, at least five years post-Fellowship status in the College will be required for selection as an examiner.
- Familiarity with the form and content of College examinations is essential.
- Prospective examiners should demonstrate a commitment to fairness, impartiality, confidentiality and integrity of the examination process.
- Prospective examiners should also demonstrate motivation or enthusiasm to participate as examiners.

2. Orientation and Training for Examiners

Before carrying out the duties as a fully fledged examiner, it is desirable that the individual has previous relevant experience. This could include participation in medical or allied health undergraduate examinations or examination of pathology as a basic science, as a prerequisite for medical specialities other than pathology. The College will, however, afford training for new examiners by:

1. Providing guidance in examination procedures for the College, by way of formulation of marking systems, and pairing inexperienced examiners with a more experienced examiner. It may also be worthwhile offering observer status at the oral examinations for prospective examiners.
2. Providing a phased introduction to participation in the College examinations. For example i) involvement in trial examinations in the first instance ii) marking of written examination papers initially, when the “new” examiner can be paired with a more experienced assessor so that the two can discuss and formulate common approaches to marking, including weightings assigned to information in the answers; and iii) at a later stage, an examiner with experience in the assessment of written papers may be asked to participate in the oral examinations - either as an observer initially, or, by pairing the “new” examiner with a more experienced colleague. However, there is no overriding reason why some examiners should not proceed directly to participation in the oral assessments.

3. Panel of Examiners

- The Board of Censors shall have the responsibility for the establishment of a panel of examiners who fulfil the above selection criteria.
- An advertisement calling for expressions of interest from prospective examiners will be published during February each year.
- The names of those Fellows interested in being Examiners will be sent to the relevant Chief Examiner for assessment of their suitability for appointment as an examiner.
- The expression of interest, along with the Chief Examiner’s recommendations, will be considered at the next Board of Censors meeting.

- The panel of examiners should represent a broad and representative cross-section of College Fellows involved in the everyday practice of Pathology in the relevant sub-discipline.
- With these general principles as a background, it is suggested that the examiners in any one year should be recruited from among the following, subject to their availability:
 1. Pathologists in various States actively involved in post-graduate professional training programs as preparation for the College examinations.
 2. Pathologists from a broad cross-section of Australian States, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore.
 3. In order to minimise bias in the assessment of a Trainee's performance at the oral examination, examiners and the Trainees they examine should not ordinarily have a close association.
- The names of the panel of Examiners will be published on the website.

4. Length of Appointment

All examiner appointments shall be for five (5) years in the first instance.

The Board of Censors may, at its discretion, extend the period of time a Fellow may remain on the panel as required.