

## Policy

Subject:	<b>Training Limitation</b>
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To ensure that candidates for RCPA qualifications are exposed to more than one style and philosophy of pathology practice, they are ordinarily limited to spending a maximum of 4 years training in one laboratory. Where the same members of a pathology service/practice supervise geographically separate laboratories, this may be viewed as training undertaken in a single laboratory and may not fulfil the College requirements for employment in a different institution, unless significant differences in practice and supervision can be demonstrated. Training undertaken in a different discipline within that service/practice may be acceptable. Time spent doing pure research at another institution will also not count as a rotation.

RCPA Trainees who are also registered with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians in a joint specialist training program may not complete both their clinical and laboratory training entirely within one service of an institution. Alternative employment may occur either in the laboratory or the clinical component of JSAC training.

For any trainee requiring more than 24 months of diagnostic laboratory training, at least 12 months must be spent in each of two different laboratories. For joint trainees requiring 24 months or less of laboratory training, the whole of their combined specialty training (clinical advanced training, research and laboratory) cannot be spent within the same institution; at least 12 months must be spent at a second institution. Notwithstanding the above, all trainees must obtain experience across the scope of the discipline. Even for a trainee requiring 24 months or less of laboratory training, that period could not be wholly spent at a laboratory that only offers a limited scope of testing. RCPA Trainees should also refer to the Discipline specific Handbooks regarding laboratory training requirements.

Change of supervisor to another member of an integrated clinical/laboratory service will not qualify; nor will change to a different geographical site of an integrated service.

For the purposes of this policy, any short-term employment in a different institution must be for a minimum of 2 months unless otherwise approved. This does not preclude sending the candidate to another institution for training in a specific technique or method.

As applications for retrospective waiving of this requirement are unlikely to be granted, any Trainee for whom this ruling is likely to be problematic should contact the Registrar of the Board of Education and Assessment as early as possible in his/her training.

Laboratories seeking accreditation for training will be strongly encouraged to participate in a formal rotation scheme.

Ordinarily, at least two years of the training program must be spent in public laboratories or other public facilities.

### **Post Fellowship Diploma Trainees**

For those pursuing Post Fellowship Diploma's, brief periods of training in another laboratory / site are strongly encouraged and may be required at the Chief Examiner discretion.