

FACT SHEET - ADVICE FOR PATHOLOGISTS IN COUNTRIES WITH RCPA TRAINING PROGRAMS WISHING TO GAIN RCPA FELLOWSHIP

The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (RCPA) offers training programs in Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia and Saudi Arabia.

In Malaysia and Hong Kong alternative local training programs are offered for training to become a specialist pathologist. In addition, some pathologists where the College trains (Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore and Saudi Arabia), may have qualifications as specialist pathologists from other countries in the world. The RCPA offers a special program for these specialist pathologists who wish to attain a Fellowship of the RCPA and provides training time credits and examination exemptions for recognition of previous qualifications and experience in pathology.

A Step Guide assisting Overseas Trained Specialists domiciled in countries where RCPA has a Training Program for those who wish to attain Fellowship can be found at <http://www.rcpa.edu.au/Trainees/Overseas-Trained-Specialists/Step-Guides>

The College offers training in the following disciplines of Pathology:

Anatomical Pathology, Chemical Pathology, Clinical Pathology, Forensic Pathology, General Pathology, Genetic Pathology, Haematology, Immunopathology, Microbiology, Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology (for Dentists and Doctors).

What do I need to do to attain Fellowship of the RCPA under the special program?

1. You must be resident in Hong Kong, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore or Saudi Arabia
2. You must be eligible to be registered to practice medicine in your country of domicile
3. You must have completed a Post Graduate Medical Qualification in Pathology.

If you fulfil these criteria you may submit an Application for Training Determination which can be found on the RCPA website at <http://www.rcpa.edu.au/Trainees/Overseas-Trained-Specialists>

Applications should include full supporting documentation such as certified copies of degrees/qualifications, training and examination results, laboratory and supervisor information, projects and work history. If not part of a formal degree or qualification, the training details are to be accompanied by a statement from the supervisor for each period, verifying the claim.

Retrospective accreditation is considered on an individual basis; however training undertaken in an undergraduate program would not generally be recognised.

Some fees will be payable, see 'Fees Payable' section.

The Training Determination will provide you with an assessment of any additional training time you may require to attain Fellowship and the examinations and assessment you would be required to take.

In order to assist International Pathology Specialists the College has developed a number of tools.

Training Time Credits:

The College has developed a set of tables that provide guidance to prospective Trainees and International Medical Graduates about training time credits that may be granted in recognition of prior learning when a degree or other specialty qualification has been obtained. These are only guidelines for applying for Training at the time of applying for a training determination or at initial registration with

the College. For the latest version of the Training Time Credit Table, go to <http://www.rcpa.edu.au/Trainees/Training-with-the-RCPA/Training-Time-Credits>.

Exam Exemptions:

Admission to Fellowship is by examination or assessment, although the Board of Censors may grant exemptions from some components of examinations and assessment.

The College has developed a set of tables that provide guidance to prospective Trainees and International Medical Graduates about exam exemptions that may be granted in recognition of prior learning. These are only guidelines for applying for a Training Determination or for exam exemptions at the time of Initial Registration/Application for Examination with the College. Go to <http://www.rcpa.edu.au/Trainees/Exams/Exam-Exemptions> to obtain the latest version of the Exam Exemption Table.

Initial Registration:

If you need to undertake supervised training as detailed in the Training Determination, you will need to submit an Initial Registration Form

<http://www.rcpa.edu.au/Trainees/Training-with-the-RCPA/Initial-Registration>

Fees Payable:

- ~ A fee to process the Training Determination is equivalent to the Initial Registration Fee
- ~ Fees would be payable for any Training Time needed to be undertaken or Examination or Assessment taken.
- ~ The College recognises different socioeconomic conditions prevail in the different areas where training can occur and offers fee reductions for Trainees from these areas. For example

The fees chargeable will be on a sliding scale:

- ⇒ If the Applicant's gross income from professional practice is less than AUD\$20,000 per year the Trainee will be charged 10% of normal fees.
- ⇒ If the Applicant's gross income from professional practice is between AUD\$20,000-\$30,000 per year the Trainee will be charged 20% of normal fees.
- ⇒ If the Applicant's gross income from professional practice is between AUD\$30,000-\$60,000 per year the Trainee will be charged 50%.
- ⇒ If the Applicant's gross income from professional practice is over AUD\$60,000 per year the Trainee will be charged the normal rate prescribed for that year.

The 2018 Initial Registration Fee is \$100 and Annual Training Fees for International applicants are AUD\$1,050. If your income is less than AUD\$20,000 this would reduce to AUD\$10 and AUD \$105 respectively. Likewise the 2018 Part 2 Examination Fee was AUD\$2,350, this would reduce to AUD\$235.

Case Study:

*A Malaysian Pathologist with the Master of Pathology in Malaysia in Anatomical Pathology who had completed 4 years of training and worked as an Anatomical Pathologist in Malaysia for 2 years and current wage was less than AUD\$20,000 per year. There would be no additional training time required and the person would be exempt from the Basic Pathological Science Examination and Part I Exams. They would only be required to sit Part 2 Exams.** Total cost if passed exams first year \$350. The Trainee must apply annually for this fee reduction.

*The Chief Examiner would have to make the final determination, however generally this would apply.

**Based on 2018 fee levels