

1. Policy Statement

- 1.1. Registrars are supported to further develop skills in an area of special interest or to strengthen their existing knowledge by undertaking skills training (extended and advanced skills) with EV GP Training (EV).

2. Application and Scope

- 2.1. Registrars are required to train in accordance with EV, the Department of Health (Commonwealth) and the relevant College(s), Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) and Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM), standards, policies and procedures.
- 2.2. This procedure applies to all registrars enrolled in the Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) Program.
- 2.3. This procedure is effective from 1 August 2021.

3. Principles

- 3.1. To be eligible for vocational recognition as a GP, registrars must have completed the training obligations within the specified timeframes set by EV, the Department and the relevant College(s).
- 3.2. Skills training includes:
 - 3.2.1. RACGP - Extended Skills posts (ESP) and Advanced Rural Skills Training (ARST),
 - 3.2.2. ACRRM – Core Generalist Training (CGT) and Advanced Specialised Training (AST)
- 3.3. The majority of skills training posts are accredited by EV and include a documented teaching and learning plan as outlined in *ED-Org-8.20 Training Facility and Supervisor Accreditation* procedure.
- 3.4. Other skills training posts are accredited by third-party arrangements such as the Joint Consultative Committee on Anaesthetics (JCCA), the Diploma of Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetrics and Gynaecologists (DRANZCOG) and the Australian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM).
- 3.5. Skills training posts will have a nominated and suitably qualified lead supervisor for each registrar as per the accreditation requirements for the training post.
- 3.6. Where rural pathway registrars plan to undertake skills training (excluding general practice) in a metropolitan location (MMM 1), EV may approve the post on the following basis:
 - 3.6.1. The training is on a temporary basis and registrars are expected to return to the rural pathway on completion;
 - 3.6.2. All options for placements within the rural pathway have been exhausted; and
 - 3.6.3. The training is in accordance with the *ED-Org -8.9 Registrar Training Time* and *ED-Org-8.16 AGPT Program Transfer* procedures.
- 3.7. Advanced Skills posts are funded by the Department of Health Victoria as part of the Victorian Rural Generalist Program (VRGP) and registrars may be required to seek lateral entry to the VRGP by making application through the PMCV allocation and placement service.
- 3.8. There is a fair and transparent process in relation to matching registrars to skills training posts. For ARST and AST posts, this process is managed by the PMCV and co-ordinated by the Victorian Rural Generalist Program.
- 3.9. To maximize the range of skills training available to registrars, EV facilitates accreditation of appropriate training posts for registrars.
- 3.10. Registrars must refer to the RACGP/FARGP and/or ACRRM standards available at the relevant College websites.

4. Procedure

4.1. Extended Skills and Core Generalist Training

- 4.1.1. Registrars are given the opportunity to extend the depth and breadth of their training by learning skills that are relevant in primary medical care. This enables registrars to further their knowledge and/or skills in an area of interest or weakness.

- 4.1.2. ESP/CGT posts are up to a maximum of six-month full time equivalent (FTE) placements in one discipline.
- 4.1.3. These posts can be undertaken in a range of accredited training facilities including:
 - 4.1.3.1. Hospital based posts such as obstetrics and gynaecology
 - 4.1.3.2. Community based posts such as aged care, Aboriginal Medical Services (AMS)
 - 4.1.3.3. Academic posts
 - 4.1.3.4. Medical education
 - 4.1.3.5. General practice posts
- 4.1.4. Registrars must have completed a certain amount of time in training before being eligible to commence skills training:
 - 4.1.4.1. For RACGP registrars undertaking an ESP:
 - 12 months (FTE) of hospital training after the intern year or recognition of prior learning (RPL); and
 - 12 months (FTE) of general practice terms prior to all community, academic, medical education and Aboriginal Health posts;
 - 18 months (FTE) of general practice placement for general practice posts;
 - 4.1.4.2. For ACRRM registrars undertaking CGT:
 - 12 months (FTE) of hospital core generalist training after the intern year or RPL; and
 - Skills training can be undertaken at any stage during CGT after 12 months hospital or RPL.
 - EV may require a registrar to complete sufficient CGT time prior to commencing certain skills training placements.
 - Registrars must cover the broad range of learning experiences as outlined in the *ACRRM Fellowship Training Handbook*
- 4.1.5. ESP/CGT undertaken in general practice must have clear learning objectives with the aim of extending the registrar's skill set in an area of interest beyond the core skill set required for general practice.
- 4.1.6. For ESP/CGT undertaken in other settings, registrars must be able to add specific skills to their general practice experience or to meet any gaps in their training plan. These posts may require prior approval of at least 3 months in advance by EV.
- 4.1.7. ESPs undertaken in a variety of non-general practice settings, including non-clinical posts, must have at least 50% of total hours worked is concurrent clinical work as outlined in the RACGP Vocational Training Pathway – Requirements for Fellowship Policy.
- 4.1.8. RPL can be claimed for skills training as outlined in the *ED-Org-8.4 Recognition of Prior Learning* procedure.
- 4.1.9. Registrars must have an agreed learning plan before the commencement of the post. The registrar is expected to attend any educational meetings that are available and also to have access to a supervisor as required. There is also an expectation that feedback will be available throughout the term.
- 4.1.10. A supervisor feedback report must be submitted to EV before the end of the placement either electronically or using the relevant feedback form provided to the registrar.
- 4.1.11. Registrars must complete the formative assessments as specified by the relevant College and EV.
- 4.1.12. ESP/CGT posts are detailed on the EV website and are promoted to registrars throughout their training, specifically during re-enrolment.
- 4.1.13. Registrars can apply for ESP/CGT (excluding general practice) either directly to the training facility or as advised by EV. Registrars applying for general practice posts are included in the practice match process as outlined in *ED-Org-8.6 Matching Applicants to Practices*

ED-Org-8.5 Skills Training

4.2. Advanced Skills Training

- 4.2.1. Advanced skills training aims to broaden skills and capacity beyond the standard scope of GP training, particularly for Australia’s rural and remote communities.
- 4.2.2. Advanced skills training involves undertaking a fourth year in one of the disciplines specified by the respective Colleges and may be undertaken at any time after completion of the PGY2 year.
- 4.2.3. For RACGP registrars undertaking an Advanced Rural Skills Training:
- 4.2.3.1. Optional fourth year undertaken any time after completion of hospital training;
 - 4.2.3.2. Completion of one or two disciplines over 12 months (FTE);
 - 4.2.3.3. May be eligible to apply for RPL exemption for up to 52 weeks;
 - 4.2.3.4. Must be enrolled in the Fellowship in Advanced Rural General Practice (FARGP) to undertake an ARST;
 - 4.2.3.5. Financial membership of RACGP is mandatory.
 - 4.2.3.6. Refer to the RACGP Policy Position Statement – Advanced Rural Skills Training for information on the principles of how training time will be recognised.
 - 4.2.3.7. Further information on FARGP and ARST curriculum is available at the RACGP website
- 4.2.4. For ACRRM registrars undertaking an Advanced Specialised Training:
- 4.2.4.1. Mandatory fourth year may be undertaken any time after completion of hospital core generalist training (PGY2);
 - 4.2.4.2. Completion of 12 months (FTE) in one discipline is required except for surgery which requires 24 months;
 - 4.2.4.3. There may be eligibility to apply for RPL for up to 52 weeks (104 weeks for surgery);
 - 4.2.4.4. Financial membership of ACRRM is mandatory.
 - 4.2.4.5. Further information on AST curriculum is available at the ACRRM website
- 4.2.5. Registrars must complete the formative and summative assessments as specified by the relevant College advanced skills curriculum and EV.
- 4.2.6. Advanced skills training posts are detailed on the EV website and are promoted to registrars throughout their training.
- 4.2.7. Registrars may be required to apply through the PMCV allocation and placement service for lateral entry to the VRGP for funding to undertake these training posts.

5. Additional Information

- 5.1. [RACGP Vocational Training Pathway – Requirements for Fellowship](#)
- 5.2. [RACGP rural education and training](#)
- 5.3. [RACGP Policy Position Statement – Advanced Rural Skills Training](#)
- 5.4. [ACRRM Training Placements Policy](#)
- 5.5. [ACRRM Fellowship Training Program Handbook](#)
- 5.6. [Victorian Rural Generalist Program](#)

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