FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

INFORMATION FOR NEW APPLICANTS

Questions

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Answers

1. **What is the WA Anaesthetic Rotational Training Program?**

   This is a coordinated training program, run on behalf of all of the WA anaesthetic training hospitals, for trainees in Introductory training (IT), Basic training (BT) and Advanced training (AT) years 1 and 2. Hospital placements are allocated to enable completion of ANZCA training requirements in the core units (CU) and the specialised study units (SSUs). The program provides support for trainees through the training program including exam preparation courses.

   There is a single, yearly competitive entry process to this program with positions advertised in June each year for the following years positions.

2. **Are all of the jobs accredited for training?**

   All anaesthesia registrar positions in accredited hospitals are accredited for training with ANZCA.

   Hospitals which are accredited for training in anaesthesia in WA include: Armadale Hospital, Bunbury Regional Hospital, Fremantle Hospital, Fiona Stanley Hospital, Hollywood Private Hospital, Joondalup Hospital, King Edward Memorial Hospital, Midland Health Campus, Princess Margaret Hospital, Rockingham General Hospital, Royal Perth Hospital, Sir Charles Gardiner Hospital and St John of God Hospital Subiaco.

3. **What can I do to improve my chances of getting a position on the WA rotational training scheme?**

   Selection to a training position in anaesthesia in WA is very competitive, with the number of applicants usually far exceeding positions available. Therefore you should aim to improve the quality of your Curriculum Vitae, and ensure that you meet all the selection criteria.

   ANZCA requires a minimum of 24 months working in prevocational medical education and training before commencing your training. Of this 24 months there must be a minimum of 12 months working in areas outside of Clinical Anaesthesia, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Medicine.

   You should aim for broad medical and surgical experience as well as some critical care experience such as Intensive Care, Coronary Care or Emergency Medicine. Anaesthesia experience is not a specific pre-requisite for entry to the training program, however gaining some experience in anaesthesia is advisable to ensure that this is the right career choice for you.
It is important that you use your application and the interview to explain how the skills you have gained so far in your career will contribute to your training and future career as an anaesthetist.

Efforts to become involved in areas outside clinical performance are also recognised by the selection committee, such as teaching, audit and research. We also encourage you to find out as much information about the training program as possible by speaking to registrars and consultants in anaesthesia positions in WA.

4. I have an anaesthetic registrar job in a hospital accredited with ANZCA for training but am not on the WA rotational training scheme. Do I have to apply to get on it?

Any doctor appointed directly to an anaesthetic department outside of the WA rotational training scheme appointment process, for example to positions created to fill short term service requirements, who wish to obtain a position on the WA rotational training program, will be required to apply in the next available selection process.

5. I am not currently on the WA rotational training program. What is the process for applying for a training position?

We have a single advertisement for all registrar positions on the WA Anaesthetic Rotational Training Program. Positions are advertised in June each year on the Health Department of Western Australia employment website. For short listed candidates the interviews, simulations and presentations will be conducted sometime from mid-August to early September.

Please note that the positions are advertised as part of the WA teaching hospitals combined advertisement for junior medical staff; they are not advertised individually. The selection process is conducted through Human Resources at Sir Charles Gardiner Hospital, following WA Public Sector guidelines.

The following process is for new applicants to the WA rotational training program and for trainees who have previously left the program and wish to return (see Note 1 below), applying for positions in Introductory Training (IT), Basic Training (BT) and Advanced Training (ATY 1 and 2).

Applicants will need to complete two (2) separate online applications providing a cover letter, a CV, a statement addressing the selection criteria and three referees. From this information candidates will be shortlisted for further assessment.

For shortlisted applicants the interview process will involve a face-to-face interview including a short presentation (the topic will be emailed to candidates 48 hours prior) followed by three questions. Following the interview there will be two short Objective Clinical Examinations. Applicants need to be present in Perth for this part of the assessment process.
**Please note:**

1. **This application process is for new candidates to the WA rotational training scheme and those who have left the WA Training program and are returning to it, except for the following circumstances:** WA rotational program Trainees who have had time out of the program for parental leave, extended sick leave, compassionate leave and trainees who have formally taken leave without pay to undertake training outside the WA rotational scheme. (Applicants who meet these criteria please see the handout ‘FAQs – Existing or previous trainees’).

2. **There is no entry into BTY2E, ATY2E, ATY3 or PFY positions via the rotational training program. These positions are available on application to individual hospitals.**

3. **The process for trainees applying for introductory, basic and advanced training is the same.**

Any inquiries should be made directly to:

Dr Kevin Hartley  
Deputy Education Officer  
WA Anaesthesia Rotational Training Program  
hartleykev@gmail.com

6. **I have already completed part of my ANZCA training outside of WA and now wish to enter the WA rotational training program can I do so?**

**Yes.** You are eligible to enter the WA rotational training scheme. Please note that registrars who commence training in Western Australia in IT are given priority access to certain modules such as cardiac, neuro and paediatric anaesthesia. Access to these modules is not assured for trainees who commence training in WA at a later stage of training, however all attempts will be made to facilitate this if possible.

7. **I am an overseas trained doctor wanting to join the WA ANZCA Rotational Training Program. Am I eligible for a position?**

If you are an overseas trained doctor (International Medical Graduate) you must meet the following three criteria to be eligible to apply -

1. Be a permanent resident of Australia
2. Be eligible for registration by the Medical Board of Australia
3. Have worked as a medical practitioner in Australia or New Zealand within 24 months of the time of submitting your application

We are no longer able to offer new places to overseas trained doctors on 457 visas as we are currently unable to guarantee the ongoing availability of 457 visas for the minimum required duration of training time mandated by ANZCA.
8. I have completed part of my anaesthetic training overseas can this be counted towards my Australian training?

Yes. You need to apply directly to the ANZCA assessor who will review your training so far and decide how it relates to the FANZCA curriculum requirements, and which components of the curriculum will still need to be completed. This process is separate from the application to the WA Rotational Anaesthetic Training Program. If available, please provide the results of this process in your application to ensure that you will be able to be placed in appropriate training positions. Accrediting previous anaesthetic training experience has potential implications for future training. We advise seeking advice before doing so.

9. I am part of the ANZCA IMGS pathway (assessed as partially or substantially comparable). Am I eligible for a position on the WA Rotational Training Program?

No. ANZCA IMGS pathway candidates (assessed as partially or substantially comparable) are not eligible to apply for the WA Rotational Training Program. ANZCA IMGS pathway candidates who wish to do anaesthetics training in WA will need to contact the department directly at the hospital in which you wish to work.

10. I am currently a junior registrar on an overseas training program not affiliated with the ANZCA. Can I get a job on the WA rotational training program, to gain further experience for a year or two?

No. The WA Anaesthetic Rotational Training Program is strictly for registrars who wish to complete the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetist’s training program to gain their FANZCA.

For senior registrars on overseas training programs, who wish to do a fellowship in WA, positions are organised by individual anaesthetic departments. You will need to contact the department directly at the hospital in which you wish to work. It is very unusual for there to be similar positions available for junior registrars.