

Frequently Asked Questions

Information for Existing and Previous Trainees

Questions

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1. I am already in the WA anaesthetic training program, how do I get a contract for next year?

In mid-May each year, you will be sent an email from Medical Workforce at SCGH offering you a contract extension for the following years employment. You will need to accept this offer by the due date to be offered a place on the rotational training program for the following year. We will also request you specify at this time if you think you will be requiring a 6 or 12 month contract.

In mid-September each year, a formal contract offer will be sent to you by Medical Workforce at SCGH.

In mid-November each year, Dr Steve Myles will send you your hospital allocations for the following year.

Please note:

Current trainees do not need to reapply via the MedjobsWA website as in previous years. This application process is now only for potential new trainees to the rotational training program.

2. I need time in an Extended training position, what happens to me?

Extension of Initial and Basic training periods

The WA rotational training program will support trainees with employment, training and exam preparation for a period of **up to 2.5 years of ANZCA training time*** in any combination of IT, ITE, BT and BTE positions, as long as the trainee meets the ongoing ANZCA training requirements. The appointment for 6 months of BT-E will only be given if the trainee has made appropriate commitment to the first part exam and attempted sitting at least once during his/her BT time.

*Note: * any training time that the trainee has accredited by ANZCA while not a member of the training program will count towards their 2.5 years of supported time.*

For trainees who will be in BT-E in the following year please organise a meeting with the Deputy EO, Dr Kevin Hartley (hartleykev@gmail.com), after the second sitting of the primary exam has finished, to discuss any implications on your training and contract.

Additional information

- The ANZCA training program allows a maximum period of 52 weeks to complete initial training. A trainee undertaking ITE in the first 6 months of a Hospital employment year (HEY) will be issued with 2 six month contracts, the second six month contract being conditional on progression to BT.
- Trainees who are due to complete the 2.5 year supported period for IT/BT within the first 6 months of the HEY will be issued with 2 six month contracts, the second six month contract being conditional on progression to AT.

- The selection process for positions in the following HEY may be completed before the date of the second sitting of the Primary Viva Examination (August/September). As such, BT-E trainees on the WA anaesthetic training program, and who intend to sit this primary exam, should reapply for the training scheme prior to sitting the exam. Offers of positions will be subject to the successful completion of the exam and the conditions stated above.
- Progression to specialized areas of training – Obstetrics, Paediatrics and Neuro anaesthesia allocations are dependent on passing the Part 1 exam. Trainees from the following peer group who pass the Part 1 exam will advance to specialized areas of training ahead of those who have not passed the exam. As such trainees passing the part 1 exam in BTE may be unable to complete training within 4 years.

Extension of the Advanced Training Period

The WA rotational training program will support trainees with employment and training and exam preparation for trainees in ATY 1 and 2 years. Please contact someone in the EO team to discuss options if you require an ATE contract if more training time is required to complete specialized areas of training.

Trainees in ATY2E, ATY3 and PFY years are responsible for finding training positions directly with individual anaesthetic departments. The WA training scheme will continue to support the trainee with training and college issues and exam preparation.

3. I am currently on approved leave from the WA rotational anaesthetic training program and expect to return to training in the following 12 months, how do I go about this?

If you had been approved leave from the WA rotational anaesthetic training program and are returning to work next year, you will undertake the same process as outlined in question 1 above for current trainees. If you do not receive a contract offer by the end of May, please contact Dr Kevin Hartley at hartleykev@gmail.com.

4. I will complete my ATY2 time before the end of next year and only need part of the year in the training program, do I still need to reapply?

Yes. You will need to apply to the training program for the time you will need as an ATY2 trainee, please provide relevant information in your cover letter. The training program will only issue 6 or 12 month contracts and you will need to nominate which of these you require to complete your training requirements.

5. I want to take some time off the training program, what is the process and are there any consequences?

Please notify Dr Kevin Hartley at hartleykev@gmail.com of your intentions as far in advance as possible, to allow planning of allocations both for yourself and other trainees. For anyone wishing to take time off from the WA rotational training program there are **three different processes** depending on the reason for leave.

1. For trainees who wish to take extended leave from the WA Anaesthetic Rotational Training Program *for the purposes of temporarily continuing their anaesthetic training in another area or for dual trainees who wish to complete components of their training in the other specialty:*

Please complete the following process:

- Accept an offer for a place on the WA training program for the year in which they will be away.
- Having been offered a place on the anaesthetic training program you then need to apply for leave without pay, giving proof that they are on leave for the purposes of continued training, (letter from the relevant college that their position is an approved training position and a letter from their employer confirming the job position).
- Accept an offer for a place on the WA training program for the following year, you will be treated as a current trainee in that application process.

If you have been working in a position outside of the Health department of WA, upon returning to the WA training program your leave entitlements will be reinstated.

2. Trainees who take extended leave from the program for *parental leave, sick leave or compassionate leave* can do so under the conditions of the relevant AMA award.

If you are expecting to return to work at any time in the following year you *should accept an offer for a position on the training program* and are considered in the same manner as current trainees.

3. Trainees who wish to take extended leave from the WA training program *for any other reason* will be deemed to have completed their contract and no longer be part of the WA rotational training program.

Their accrued leave entitlements will be paid out/lost depending on the type of leave. To be readmitted to the WA anaesthetic training program they will have to reapply for the training program and will be considered in the same manner as any other applicant who is not currently on the training program.

6. Are there other training implications with ANZCA if I take time off from anaesthetic training?

Yes. Any period of leave that is longer than normal leave is considered interrupted training by ANZCA. This includes parental leave and extended sick leave. ANZCA must be advised of any interruptions to training. Please see ANZCA regulation 37.5.6.

If you have been out of anaesthetics for more than 12 months ANZCA requires that you complete a formal return to work process, this needs to be worked out with the SOT of the hospital you are starting back in.

7. I was on the WA anaesthetic training program but left for reasons other than outlined in Question 3 and now I want to reapply for the training program. What do I need to do?

You need to reapply following the instructions outlined in the handout 'FAQs – New Applicants'. A copy of this handout can be found at the ANZCA WA [website](#). Job applications are done through the MedJobsWA [website](#).

We would encourage you to speak to one of the EO team to discuss your plans prior to reapplying for the training program -

The EO is Dr Jay Bruce who can be contacted at Jennifer.Bruce@health.wa.gov.au.
The Deputy EO is Dr Kevin Hartley who can be contacted at hartleykev@gmail.com.