

Frequently Asked Questions

Information for New Trainees

Visit the ANZCA WA [website](#) for information on the dates for the

- a. 'Introduction to Anaesthetics in WA' evening – held in March each year**
- b. Anaesthetic selection interview days – held late August / early September each year**

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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. The advertisement can be found at the MedJobsWA [website](#).

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, Joondalup Health Campus, King Edward Memorial Hospital, Midland Health Campus, Perth Children's Hospital, Rockingham General Hospital, Royal Perth Hospital and Sir Charles Gardiner Hospital.

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 encouraged 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 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 MedJobsWA [website](#). For short listed candidates the interviews, simulations and presentations will be conducted sometime from late 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 Medical Employment Services 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 given to the candidates around 15-30 minutes prior to their interview) followed by four 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' available at the ANZCA WA [website](#)).*
- 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

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5. 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.

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: *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 within normal training time 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 or New Zealand or be in Australia on a 457 visa*
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

Please note: ** preference will be given to applicants who have Permanent Residency (PR) or who are on 457 visas and have submitted an application for PR that is awaiting approval. If relevant, clear reference to your stage of application for PR must be made in your application.*

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 SIMG pathway (assessed as partially or substantially comparable). Am I eligible for a position on the WA Rotational Training Program?

No. ANZCA SIMG pathway candidates (assessed as partially or substantially comparable) are not eligible to apply for the WA Rotational Training Program. ANZCA SIMG 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.