
The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons collaborate in the delivery of the Surgical Education and Training Program in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

Training Regulation: SET Program Transitioning Arrangements

I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This document outlines the Australian Board of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (“**the Board**”) regulations and process for transitioning trainees from the time based training (Legacy SET) Curriculum in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (“**PRS**”) of Surgical Education and Training (“**SET**”) to the hybrid time and competency based (SET 2022) training Curriculum.

This Regulation will be retired following the graduation of the last trainee who was selected before 2021.

This Regulation does not convey any determination about the assessment of clinical training of a SET trainee.

2. OVERVIEW

Historically, trainees on a pathway to Fellowship have typically been expected to complete SET in five (5) years on average and longer if support is required for underperformance, or where trainees have varied their registration in the SET PRS program. Trainees selected prior to 2021 will need a set of rules to transition into the revised program, those rules are defined in this Regulation.

3. DEFINITIONS

Legacy SET – refers to the SET PRS Program into which trainees were selected prior to 2021 and have not or will not transition into the SET 2022 program.

SET 2022 – refers to the training program, its rules and stakeholders for trainees who were selected in or after 2021 as well as trainees who transition into SET 2022 from the Legacy SET program.

Training Period – is defined as 6 months of accredited clinical training time.

4. STAGES OF TRAINING

- 4.1. All trainees have a maximum training time of nine (9) years (refer to Training Regulation: Variation of Training).
- 4.2. In addition to the classification of trainees listed in RACS Regulation: Trainee Registration and Variation (ETA-SET-010), a Trainee in active clinical training selected into the:
- 4.2.1. Legacy SET program is classified into one of five (5) SET levels, commencing with SET 1 and concluding with SET 5. Each level of SET equates to 12 months of clinical training;
- 4.2.2. SET 2022 program is classified into one of three (3) stages of training, commencing with Early SET, followed by Mid SET and concluding with Late SET. Each stage of training has a fixed minimum and maximum number of calendar months required or allowed for each stage as per the following table.
- 4.2.3. Table representing stages of training and accredited clinical training time requirements for trainees selected into the relevant program:

Stage of training	Minimum time	Maximum time
Early SET	12 calendar months	24 calendar months in an accredited training post
Mid SET	24 calendar months	48 calendar months in an accredited training post
Late SET	12 calendar months	36 calendar months in an accredited training post\
Total	48 calendar months	108 calendar months
	Accredited clinical training time	
SET 1	12 calendar months	
SET 2	12 calendar months	
SET 3	12 calendar months	
SET 4	12 calendar months	
SET 5	12 calendar months	
Total	60 calendar months	108 calendar months

5. TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

- 5.1. All trainees have requirements that must be completed either to progress through training, register for another requirement or graduate from SET. Requirements include skills courses, clinical training time, formative and summative assessments, workplace based assessments, recording an electronic log of procedures performed, research, learning, knowledge and skills acquisition. SET 2022 has additional workplace based assessments and other requirements called Entrustable

Professional Activities. (Refer to the following table for a summary of requirements by stage of training.)

- 5.2.** All requirements are defined by the Board in the current Training Handbook and in relevant Training Regulations.
- 5.3.** Eligibility for RACS Examinations is defined in the relevant RACS conduct of examination policy as published on the RACS website and in relevant Board Training Regulation and the current Training Handbook.
- 5.4.** Table of Training Requirements to be completed by the end of each stage of training:

Program name	SET 2022			Legacy SET				
	Early SET	Mid SET	Late SET	SET 1	SET 2	SET 3	SET 4	SET 5
Stage of training	9 years			9 years				
Maximum time in SET	9 years			9 years				
Courses								
Early Management of Severe Trauma (EMST)	x			x				
Care of the Critically Ill Surgical Patient (CCrISP)	x			x				
A&NZ Surgical Skills Education and Training (ASSET)	x			x				
Emergency Management of Severe Burns (EMSB)			x					x
Learning								
SET Conference attendance	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Annual research presentation	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Logbook (MALT)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Training Periods (6 months)								
Satisfactory rotations (<i>absolute or range</i>)	2 - 4	4 - 8	2 - 6	2	2	2	2	2
Workplace Based Assessments (per 6 months)								
Operative Feedback Form				x	x	x	x	x
Clinical Feedback Form	6 of any type	6 of any type	6 of any type	x	x	x	x	x
Case Based Discussion				x	x	x	x	x
Multisource Feedback				Not applicable				
Presentation Evaluation form				Not applicable				
Performance Reviews (per 6 months)								
Mid term Professional Performance Assessment	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
End of Term Professional Performance Assessment	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Competency Assessments								
Entrustable Professional Activities	4	6	4	Not applicable				
Examinations								
Clinical Examination	x				x			
Plastic and Reconstructive Surgical Sciences and Principles Examination	x						x	
Fellowship Examination			x					x

6. TRANSITIONING ARRANGEMENTS

6.1. Legacy SET Program trainees who have satisfactorily completed 7 or more training periods by the start of Term 2 2022, will not transition into revised SET 2022 program.

6.2. Legacy SET Trainees who do not satisfy clause 6.1 will transition into the 2022 SET Program in February 2023 as per the following table:

Legacy SET Status (start T2 2022):	Satisfactory Training periods (by start T2 2022):	SET Program in 2023	Stage of SET (start T1 2023):	EPA Credits that apply (for T1 2023):	EPAs remaining (T1 2023):	Maximum time allowances*	Other SET requirements
Exam pending	10	Legacy SET	SET 5.3	N/A	N/A	Refer to clause 4.1	Refer to clause 5.4
SET 5.2	9		SET 5.3				
SET 5.1	8		SET 5.2				
SET 4.2	7		SET 5.1				
SET 4.1	6	SET 2022	Mid SET	4 Early SET and 5 others	4 Late SET 1 Mid SET	30 months in Mid SET	Refer to clause 5.4
SET 3.2	5		Mid SET	4 Early SET and 4 others	4 Late SET 2 Mid SET	36 months in Mid SET	
SET 3.1	4		Mid SET	4 Early SET and 3 other	4 Late SET 3 Mid SET	42 months in Mid SET	
SET 2.2	3		Mid SET	4 Early SET	4 Late SET 6 Mid SET	48 months in Mid SET	
SET 2.1	2		Early SET	2 Early SET	4 Late SET 6 Mid SET 2 Early SET	12 months in Early SET	
SET 1.2	1		Early SET	1 Early SET	4 Late SET 6 Mid SET 3 Early SET	18 months in Early SET	
SET 1.1	0		Early SET	Nil	4 Late SET 6 Mid SET 4 Early SET	24 months in Early SET	

* All trainees have a maximum time in training as per clause 4.1.

6.3. Trainees who will transition into SET 2022 in 2023 will:

- 6.3.1.** Receive a letter from the Board after the commencement of Term 2 2022 advising:
- Relevant completed SET requirements; and
 - Relevant incomplete SET requirements including any time or attempt limits that may apply; and
 - Exemptions or extensions to any SET requirements that may apply (such as skills courses, examinations, research, etc.);
 - The anticipated Stage of SET in the SET 2022 Program at the commencement of the 2023 training year.

- 6.3.2.** Confirm in writing their individual transition arrangements by select a number of Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs), as per clause 6.2, for which they wish to receive credit at the commencement of Term I 2023.
- 6.4.** Trainees on an interruption of training during the 2022 year, will be assessed at their Legacy SET status from before they commenced interruption.
- 6.5.** The Board reserves the right to modify the anticipated Stage of SET communicated per clause 6.3.1.d, if a trainee:
- 6.5.1.** Is involved in probation or performance management during the 2022 year or is planned to commence probation or performance management at the commencement of the 2023 training year; or
 - 6.5.2.** is not in good standing as defined as set out in relevant RACS Policies, Regulations, the RACS Code of Conduct or the ASPS Code of Practice; or
 - 6.5.3.** has a current or new condition attached to their medical registration during 2022.

7. RECONSIDERATION, REVIEW AND APPEAL

Trainees have options available to challenge a decision about their training. Challenges are governed by the RACS Regulation “Reconsideration Review and Appeal”, available to download from www.surgeons.org.

8. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Australasian Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery Curriculum
RACS Examination Policies
RACS Policy: Trainee Agreement (ETA-SET-018)
RACS Policy: Training Requirements and Curriculum Structure (ETA-SET-044)
RACS Regulation: Reconsideration, Review and Appeal
RACS Regulation: Trainee Registration and Variation (ETA-SET-010)
Training Handbook
Training Regulation: Assessment of Clinical Training
Training Regulation: Training Agreement
Training Regulation: Variation of Training