
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: Training Requirements and Progression

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This document outlines the Australian Board of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (**“the Board”**) regulations for the progression of trainees through Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (**“PRS”**) Surgical Education and Training (**“SET”**) Program.

*Notes: Trainee assessment of clinical training is covered in the Training Regulation: Assessment of Clinical Training.
Trainee misconduct is covered in the Training Regulation: Trainee Misconduct.*

2. OVERVIEW

Each stage of SET has a variety of requirements which trainees must complete in order to progress through SET.

3. DEFINITIONS

Legacy SET

Refers to the training program, its rules and stakeholders for trainees who were selected prior to 2021.

SET 2022

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

Support Person

In this regulation, a support person may accompany a trainee to assessment meetings. The support person may not advocate for the trainee and cannot be a legal advocate.

4. Stages of Training

Legacy SET Trainees must refer to Section 2.5 the Training Handbook for a complete list of training requirements for each level of SET.

SET 2022 Trainees must refer to Section 2.6 the Training Handbook for a complete list of training requirement for each stage of SET.

SET requirements for Legacy SET trainees will carry over to the SET 2022 program after the transitioning of trainees occurs for Term I 2023.

4.1. Professional Performance Assessment Report

All trainees must complete one Performance Review meeting each three (3) calendar months during SET. The trainee must complete one (1) formative and one (1) summative Professional Performance Assessment (“PPA”) per training term.

4.2. Workplace Based Assessments

Legacy SET trainees must complete one (1) of each type of workplace based assessment (WBA) during every training term (6 calendar months):

- Operative Feedback Form (OFF)
- Clinical Feedback Form (CFF)
- Case-based Discussion (CBD) Form

SET 2022 trainees must complete a variety of workplace based assessment (WBA) conducted by different trainers during training toward completion of Entrustable Professional Activity requirements. WBAs include:

- Operative Feedback Form (OFF)
- Clinical Feedback Form (CFF)
- Case-based Discussion (CBD) Form
- Presentation Evaluation Form (PEF)
- Multisource Feedback (MSF) Report

4.3. Logbook

All trainees must keep their online logbook up to date. All logged procedures for a term must be entered prior to the PPA for each term.

4.4. Research

All trainees must present research at the annual regional presentation day, as determined by the relevant Regional Training Subcommittee.

All trainees must be awarded four (4) research points before nine (9) years have elapsed from the first clinical rotation (not including periods of approved interruption).

4.5. Courses

The following table indicates the date by which trainees must complete mandatory courses:

SET Program	Course name (acronym)	Completion requirement
Legacy SET	ASSET	By the end of SET 1
	CCrISP	By the end of SET 1
	EMST	By the end of SET 1
	EMBS	By the end of SET 5
SET 2022	ASSET	By the end of Early SET
	CCrISP	By the end of Early SET
	EMST	By the end of Early SET
	EMBS	By the end of Late SET

4.6. Examinations

The following table indicates the date by which trainees must complete an examination (also refer to the relevant RACS examination policy, as published on RACS website):

SET Program	Examination name	Completion requirement
Legacy SET	Generic Surgical Sciences Examination	Where a trainee was selected prior to 2016, before the end of SET 2.
	Clinical Examination	Where a trainee was selected prior to 2021, before the end of SET 2.
	Plastic and Reconstructive Surgical Sciences Examination	Where a trainee was selected prior to 2016, before the end of SET 4.
	Fellowship Examination	Before 9 years have elapsed from the first clinical rotation (excluding periods of approved interruption)
SET 2022	Clinical Examination	By the completion of Early SET
	Plastic and Reconstructive Surgical Sciences Examination	By the completion of Early SET
	Fellowship Examination	Before 9 years have elapsed from the first clinical rotation (excluding periods of approved interruption)

4.7. Conferences

The following table indicates the conference attendance requirements trainees must satisfy:

SET Program	Conference Name	Completion requirement
Legacy SET		Attend a total of five (5) conferences
	Australasian SET 1 Registrars' Conference	Once at the commencement of SET
	Australasian SET 2-5 Registrars' Conference	Four times before the completion of SET
	Australasian SET Conference	Commencing in 2022, annually until the completion of SET

SET Program	Conference Name	Completion requirement
SET 2022	Australasian SET Induction Conference	Commencing in 2022, once for Early SET trainees
	Australasian SET Conference	Annually until the completion of SET

4.8. Entrustable Professional Activity (“EPA”) requirements for SET 2022 trainees

Trainees must complete the required number of EPAs before the maximum training time allowance passes for that stage of SET in the below table.

Trainees in Early SET need to complete EPA 1 to 4 before the end of Early SET.

Trainees in Mid SET need to complete any six (6) of the remaining ten (10) EPAs before the end of Mid SET.

Trainees in Late SET need to complete the remaining four (4) EPAs before the end of Late SET.

EPA Names:

EPA 1 Prioritise and manage an after-hours trauma list

EPA 2 Manage patients with common skin cancer

EPA 3 Manage patients with chronic wounds

EPA 4 Postoperative care of patients on the ward

EPA 5 Negotiate challenging interactions with patients and colleagues

EPA 6 Manage patients with a head and neck malignancies

EPA 7 Manage patients requesting aesthetic surgery

EPA 8 Manage patients requiring breast reconstruction

EPA 9 Manage patients with craniomaxillofacial trauma

EPA 10 Educate self, patient and others

EPA 11 Manage patients with a non-acute hand conditions

EPA 12 Manage patients with complex skin or soft tissue tumours

EPA 13 Manage patients with acute lower limb trauma

EPA 14 Manage paediatric patients with a cleft lip and palate

Table: SET 2022 Trainees

Stage of SET	* Maximum Time Allowance in Stage of SET	* EPAs required by completion of Stage of SET
Early SET	24 calendar months	EPA 1, EPA 2, EPA 3, EPA 4
Mid SET	48 calendar months	Any six (6) EPAs from the list of EPA 5 through EPA 14
Late SET	36 calendar months in an accredited training post, and a maximum of 9 years since the first clinical rotation (excluding approved interruptions).	The four (4) remaining EPAs

* Except for trainees who have transitioned from Legacy SET to SET 2022 programs in 2023. Also refer to clause 6 of Training Regulation: Transitioning Arrangements.

5. RECONSIDERATION, REVIEW AND APPEAL

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

6. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Form: Clinical Feedback
Form: Case Based Discussion
Form: Multisource Feedback
Form: Operative Feedback
Form: Presentation Evaluation Form
Form: Professional Performance Assessment Form
RACS Policy: Assessment of Clinical Training (ETA-SET-016)
RACS Position Paper: Natural Justice – Information for Decision Makers (ETA-SET-027)
RACS Regulation: Dismissal from Surgical Training (ETA-SET-007)
RACS Regulation: Reconsideration, Review and Appeal (ETA-SET-061)
Training Regulation: Trainee Misconduct
Training Regulation: Transitioning Arrangements
Training Regulation: Variation to Training