

# Applying for General Surgery SET



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# Outline



- Meet Generic Eligibility Requirements
- Meet Specialty Specific Eligibility Criteria
- Register to Apply for SET Intake
- CV/Referee/Interviews

# Websites - RACS



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[SET SELECTION REQUIREMENTS, PROCESS AND APPLICATION](#)

## SET selection requirements, process and application

Selection into SET is a competitive process which occurs annually. Applications are scored and applicants with the highest scores are offered places in the SET program.

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# Websites - GSA



← → ↻ 🔒 generalsurgeons.com.au/education-and-training/selection

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## Selection

### 2021 Selection Process for 2022 Intake

Please click [here](#) for the 2021 General Surgery Selection Regulations for 2022 Intake.

In 2021, the Selection fee for General Surgery (Australia) will be **\$935** (inc. GST).

The Selection Guidelines are available [here](#).

Information on becoming a surgeon is available from the [Royal Australasian College of Surgeons](#) website.

#### For all selection queries please contact:

E [selection@generalsurgeons.com.au](mailto:selection@generalsurgeons.com.au)

*All queries **must be in writing** and will be responded to within five (5) business days.*

*Phone calls will not be answered and you will be requested to put your query in writing to the above email address.*

#### General Surgery Education and Training (GSET) program

In 2022, the Australian Board in General Surgery will be implementing the revised General Surgery Education and Training (GSET) program.

For further information on the GSET program please click [here](#).

#### Procedural Skills and Professional Capabilities Form

Click [here](#) to access the Procedural Skills and Professional Capabilities Form.

# Generic Eligibility Criteria



- **These must be met in order to register interest:**
  - Permanent resident/citizen of Australia or NZ
  - Unconditional general medical registration
  - Complete RACS specified Hand Hygiene Learning Module
  - Complete RACS Operating with Respect eModule
  - Passed the GSSE

# GSSE – Tips and tricks



- **3 components**
- **Timing**
  - Sit it sooner rather than later
  - It is a barrier to many
- **Resources**
  - Recommended textbooks
    - ✦ Lasts Anatomy
    - ✦ Ganong Physiology
    - ✦ Robbins Pathology
  - The Bank
  - Speak to people who have recently sat it
  - Courses

# Specialty Specific Criteria



Australian Board in General Surgery  
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons & General Surgeons Australia

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## Selection Regulations:

### 2021 Australian Selection to Surgical Education and Training in General Surgery for 2022 Intake

Approved: 17 November 2020

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# GSA Eligibility Requirements



- Clinical Rotations
- Procedural Skills and Professional Capabilities
- GSSE

# GSA Eligibility Requirements



- **Clinical rotations:**
  - 26 weeks in General Surgery Rotations (Dec 2017 – Dec 2021)
    - ✦ Nights can count if 80% of the term is covering surgical wards
    - ✦ Relieving term can count if 80% of term was undertaken in General surgery units
  - 8 weeks in Critical Care Rotation
    - ✦ ED, ICU, CTSx, Vascular, Burns, Anaesthetics, Transplant

# Clinical Rotation - Tips



- **Clinical Rotations tips**
  - Make sure your rotations don't lapse out of their valid period
  - The more surgical rotations you can do, the more points you will collect on your CV

# GSA Eligibility Requirements



## Procedural Skills

Australian Board in General Surgery  
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons & General Surgeons Australia



### Eligibility Report – Procedural Skills and Professional Capabilities Application to the General Surgery SET Training Program in Australia

Applicants to the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Surgical Education and Training Program in General Surgery in Australia must demonstrate proficiency in a range of procedural skills and professional capabilities, in order to be eligible for selection. This report can be used to verify an applicant's proficiency against a minimum set of skills and capabilities, based on direct observations of an applicant's performance over time whilst undertaking terms in surgery. The report must be completed by the Consultant supervising the surgical term. Each skill and capability must be verified in order to meet minimum eligibility requirements for selection.

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Id Number \_\_\_\_\_

*Please print clearly*

#### Instructions to Consultant Surgeon

By signing against a **procedural skill**, you confirm that, based on your direct observations and, or the consensus opinion of other consultant surgeons, the applicant consistently performs the skill safely, reliably and efficiently.

Procedural skills	Name of Rotation	Start Date	End Date	Consultant Name	Consultant Signature
	<i>Please print clearly</i>				
Hand knot-tying <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Selects appropriate ligature material</li> <li>▪ Correctly forms secure knot; lays square throws; applies appropriate tension</li> <li>▪ Handles ligature efficiently and with dexterity; ties knot effectively with either hand</li> <li>▪ Communicates and coordinates effectively with assistant</li> <li>▪ Leaves appropriate ligature tail length</li> </ul>					
Instrument knot-tying <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Handles needle holder correctly and efficiently; avoids suture trauma</li> <li>▪ Correctly forms secure knot; lays square throws; applies appropriate tension</li> <li>▪ Achieves meticulous tissue apposition</li> <li>▪ Leaves appropriate suture tail length</li> </ul>					

# Procedural Skills - Tips



- Identify your supervising consultant
  - Outline your interest in surgery early
  - Attend theatres and show your interest
  - Ask **early** if they could sign you off on certain tasks that might come up during your rotation
  - Nothing worse than being asked to sign something at the end of term

# GSA Eligibility Requirements



- Pass GSSE

# Next Step



- So if you meet the General and Surgical Specific Criteria, then you can apply:
  - CV 35%
  - Referee Reports 25%
  - Interview 40%

# CV



- CV has a maximum of 28 points:
  - Surgical experience (8 points)
  - Rural and remote surgical experience (3 points)
    - 6 or 12 month term
  - Qualifications (3 points)
  - Presentations (3 points)
  - Publications (3 points)
  - Prizes/Awards for Excellence (3 points)
  - Education and Training (3 points)



**8.2**      **Surgical Experience**

**8.2.1.**      Each eligible eight (8) week rotation of surgery (excluding General Surgery rotations used for Minimum Eligibility) as per Section 4.3 will score 2 points.

**8.2.2.**      Rotations undertaken on a part-time basis will be scored pro-rata.

**8.3**      **Rural and Remote Surgical Experience**

**8.3.1.**      Hospitals listed in Appendix II classified **2-3** are considered **rural**.

**8.3.2.**      Rural Surgical Experience will be scored at one (1) point per continuous six (6) months experience or three (3) points per continuous twelve month rotation to a maximum of three (3) points as per Section 4.4.

**8.3.3.**      Hospitals listed in Appendix II classified **4 and higher** are considered **remote**.

**8.3.4.**      Remote Surgical Experience will be scored at two (2) points per continuous six (6) months experience or three (3) points per continuous twelve month rotation to a maximum of three (3) points as per Section 4.4.

**8.4**      **Qualifications**

**8.4.1.**      Eligible Qualifications that meet the criteria in Section 4.5 will be scored as follows:

- a.    1 point – Graduate Diploma or Diploma in a medically related area
- b.    2 points - Masters by coursework or thesis in a medically related area
- c.    3 points – PhD in a medically related area

**8.5**      **Presentations**

**8.5.1.**      Eligible Presentations that meet the criteria in Section 4.6 will be scored as follows:

- a.    1 point - Oral or Poster presentation at regional/state level (where the applicant is the first author and named presenter in the meeting program)
- b.    1 point - Poster presentation at national or international level (where the applicant is the first author and named presenter in the meeting program)
- c.    2 points - Oral presentation at national or international level (where the applicant is the first author and named presenter in the meeting program)

**8.6**      **Publications**

**8.6.1.**      Eligible Publications that meet the criteria in Section 4.7 will be scored as follows:

- a.    1 point - Case Report including "How I Do It" or "Perspective" peer reviewed article where the applicant is the first author.
- b.    1 point - A peer reviewed journal article or book chapter where the applicant is not the first author.
- c.    2 points - A peer reviewed journal article or book chapter where the applicant is the first author

# CV Tips



- Read the Selection Guide and work out how it is scored
  - No point doing multiple papers in Ortho if you want to do General
- Continually update your CV
  - Easy to forget certain courses/qualifications
- Continually work on adding to your CV
  - Publications
  - Presentations
  - Teaching
- Go rural in SRMO/unaccredited year
- Teaching
  - Obtain letter from the University

# Referee Reports



- Need to list between 1 and 3 consultants for each surgical rotation
- Then select 6 – 10 referee names from the supervising consultants supplied
- They score you on 20 assessment areas

# Referee Tips



- Work hard, be a good JMO/SRMO, do your job
- At the end of term, ask if they could be a referee in upcoming applications
- Keep them updated on your progress/keep in touch
- Select appropriate referee's
  - You don't need the Prof – it won't get you extra points
  - Select referee's that you believe you get along well with
  - If when you asked, didn't get a good feeling, maybe not the best person to select

# Interviews



- 5 stations, 2 questions/station, 10mins/station, 2 panel members
  - 3 clinical scenario stations
  - 2 non-technical stations

# Interview Tips



- **Clinical questions**
  - EMST/CCrISP may be helpful in providing a framework in how to address the question
  - Just think what you would do if this person was in Emergency
- **Non-technical Questions**
  - Know the 9 college core competences
  - This scenario identifies a number of issues:
    - ✦ Professionalism, communication, teamwork etc
- **Practice practice practice**
  - with friends/registrars/fellows/consultants
- **Find out previous interview questions**
  - The style can change over the years so find out what they asked recently

CORE			PRINCIPAL	
GSET1	GSET2	GSET3	GSET4	GSET5
2 Rotations	2 Rotations	2 Rotations	2 Rotations	2 Rotations
100 EPAs to the level of <b>Entrustable</b>			60 EPAs to the level of <b>Entrustable</b>	
37 PBAs to the level - <b>Able to Perform Independently</b>			28 PBAs to the level - <b>Able to Perform Independently</b>	
Skills Courses – EMST, <u>CCrISP</u> , ASSET, TIPS,				
SEAM				
500 Research Points				
1000 Majors with appropriate primary operator rate				
200 Endoscopies and 100 Colonoscopies				
4 GSA Trainees' Days				
Training Committee Educational Sessions				
Fellowship Exam				

# Questions?

