

FAQs for new applicants

Should I apply to the network?

The Queensland Basic Paediatric Training Network is a statewide approach to basic paediatric training that emphasises improved access to training and increases capacity and quality of training across the state.

You are eligible to apply if you:

- hold general registration with the Medical Board of Australia
- are registered (or eligible to register) with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians as a basic paediatric trainee
- are commencing your first or second year of basic paediatric training next year.
- are commencing PGY3 or above next year

When and how do I apply?

Applications must be submitted via the annual [Queensland Health RMO Campaign](#).

If you apply for a network position you are asked to indicate the following:

- **Select YES** to the question 'Are you applying for a position on the Queensland Basic Paediatric Training Network'
- **Select NO** to the question 'Are you currently employed in a Queensland Basic Paediatric Training Network position?'

You will be required to upload the following:

- a copy of your curriculum vitae (CV) in the template provided on the network webpage (**please note the CV is scored, so failure to utilise the template may impact your score**)
- a clinical experience template outlining your paediatric experience within the last three years. This template is available on the [network webpage](#).
- A short statement addressing criteria outlined in the application

These documents will be assessed by the network and will determine who will be shortlisted for interview.

RACP – Situational Judgement Test (SJT)

The Network is collaborating with the College to pilot a pre-interview screening assessment of personal and professional attributes included in the selection criteria for Basic Training.

As part of your application for first-year training in 2023, you will complete an online assessment called "Casper", a form of "situational judgement test" ideally during the application period or before the interview offers are allocated.

Casper has been designed for the College by Altus Assessments, who will host the assessment online. You can complete the assessment at home or in a quiet private venue on one of two test dates offered for your Network. The assessment is free of charge. All the information you need to know about the pilot and how to register for Casper is available [here*](#) on the RACP website.

How do I preference a network position?

Once you have selected “YES” to apply for a network position, you will be asked to preference:

- three rotations
- one metropolitan non-tertiary hospital
- one regional non-tertiary hospital.

All trainees are required to spend at least one year at the Queensland Children’s Hospital and this placement is included in each of the four rotations.

If you are unsuccessful in obtaining a network position, you may wish to be considered for a non-network paediatric position. It is recommended that you complete Section 10, RMO preferences, 2-5 for non-network paediatric positions by nominating a facility and a position, e.g. Registrar, PHO or SHO in paediatrics.

SHO/PHO paediatric positions should be negotiated directly with the Director of Paediatrics at individual Hospital and Health Services.

Will I get my preference?

Allocations will be based on merit, preference and workforce requirements. The higher you rank, the more likely it is that you will get your preference.

Will I be required to attend an interview?

If you are shortlisted, yes. Interviews will be held

virtually as Multiple Mini Interview format for all applicants. Full details will be provided to those shortlisted for interview.

What can I expect at the interview?

The interview will assess you against specific selection criteria outlined in the how to apply document located on the [network webpage](#).

Interviews are a six station Virtual Multiple Mini Interview (MMI) assessment with each station covering a specific domain e.g. Communication. Each station has one or two panel members who may be a senior medical officer, advanced trainee or a non-clinical representative. Panels will be standardized, so you may be offered an interview on any of the given days based on the number of applicants. The MMI process takes approximately 1 hour.

How will I be appointed?

If you are successful and are a first-year trainee, you will be offered a three year network place within one of the four rotations. You will complete all three years within the same rotation. This will ensure you complete all basic training requirements in preparation for the College examinations.

This position will cover you for the remainder of your basic training. Employment contracts will be arranged by the facility where you commence network training. Successful applicants will be offered a 12-month Senior House Officer (SHO) or Registrar appointment followed by two 12-month Registrar appointments.

Depending on previous experience, attributes, skills and training locations, some applicants may be offered an appointment at registrar level upon joining the network.

All network trainees can be promoted to registrar status at any point in time during their training, at the discretion of their employing hospital. All network trainees are subject to a satisfactory annual performance review for continuation on

the network.

If successful which hospital will I be allocated to?

The network comprises four rotations:

- Queensland Children's Hospital Rotation
- Gold Coast University Hospital Rotation
- Townsville University Hospital Rotation
- Townsville University Hospital including Royal Darwin Hospital Rotation

Network trainees will be allocated to a single rotation for the duration of their training. Each rotation consists of a combination of affiliated hospitals, including tertiary teaching hospital/s and metropolitan and regional teaching hospitals.

Trainees will be pre-allocated three, 12-month training placements (known as a training pathway) at various hospitals for the duration of network training. You will be asked to nominate a hospital preference, once you have been notified that your network application has been successful.

Once on the network, what can I expect?

A typical three-year training pathway for Queensland network trainees will likely involve:

- a) one placement outside South East Queensland (SEQ)
- b) one placement at a tertiary hospital
- c) one placement in a local SEQ secondment hospital.

Variations will be possible, dependent upon training needs and trainee preferences.

Townsville and Gold Coast University Hospital trainees can remain at either hospital for up to two years of their basic training subject to satisfactory performance.

You will be expected to register with RACP for the new basic training program when registration opens in 2023.

What do I do if I defer or fail the exam?

Trainee progress on the network will be monitored by the respective Rotation DPE. Trainees will be expected to attempt completion of basic training, including the written and clinical examinations, within the allocated timeframe (up to three years). If this is not completed successfully, registrars will need to re-apply through the RMO Campaign for continuing employment in the subsequent year. Trainees who have made a conscientious attempt at the examinations and have a satisfactory supervisor report will generally be considered favourably for at least one additional year's employment at registrar level outside of the network at the discretion of the employing hospital.

If a network trainee interrupts the training for prolonged leave for example maternity leave; they will be considered for an extension of training on the network in order to complete their required (core) basic training rotations including tertiary time and will be expected to fulfil their original three-year pathway allocation. If basic training is prolonged beyond four years and the trainee has completed core rotations and tertiary time, the trainee will be expected to secure a training position outside the network which will be supported by the DPEs. Trainees may be allocated outside the planned pathway once core and tertiary training components are fulfilled. When a trainee has completed their three-year pathway, the two-way commitment between the trainee and the network will cease, whether or not they have been successful in the RACP examinations.

Do I have to rotate between hospitals?

Yes. Network rotations are intended to facilitate a breadth of educational and clinical experiences in different contexts.

All trainees will benefit from the unique and complementary opportunities offered by placements in rotation hospitals throughout Queensland.

Is there an appeals process?

Yes. Refer to the [appeals](#) document on the network webpage.

What if I have concerns regarding my training, housing or workload?

Questions and concerns should first be directed to your current supervisor or DPE. You may be advised to contact medical administration or human resources for certain issues. If the situation is not resolved within a reasonable timeframe, you should contact the Network Medical Director for further advice.

Further information

Contact the network:

Email: paediatric-training@health.qld.gov.au

Web: www.health.qld.gov.au/employment/work-for-us/clinical/medical/recruitment/training/basic-paediatric

College training:

Web: <http://www.racp.edu.au/>