

## FAQs for current network trainees

All current network trainees must complete an application **each year** through the RMO Campaign – this is a Queensland Government requirement.

### Contents

When and how do I apply? .....	2
Do I need to re-enter my information each year? .....	2
How should I preference? .....	2
Will I be required to attend an interview? .....	2
When can I expect to be notified of the outcome of my application? .....	3
Is there an appeals process? .....	3
Can I request to change my allocations? .....	3
Can I change between rotations (i.e., from Northside to Southside)? .....	3
<b>Exam sitters</b> .....	<b>3</b>
I have already passed the written and am awaiting the clinical exam results. Should I re-apply to the network and if so, how should I preference? .....	3
How do I apply for an additional year on the network? .....	4
Do I need to re-apply if I have failed or deferred the exam? .....	4
What do I do if I fail the exam more than once? .....	4
<b>Post network/time-expired trainees</b> .....	<b>5</b>
How should I decide whether to exit the network or not? .....	5
How are the additional year network allocations made? .....	5
<b>Further information</b> .....	<b>5</b>

## When and how do I apply?

Submit your application through the [Resident Medical Officer \(RMO\) and Registrar campaign](#) within the [application period](#). You will need to complete the following questions:

- Are you applying for a position on the Qld basic physician training network)? Select **YES**
- Which year of your basic training (BPT) do you expect to commence next year? Selection **relevant option**
- Indicate if you've sat and/or passed the RACP examinations or are awaiting results.
- Are you currently training on the Queensland Basic Physician Training Network? Select **YES**
- Indicate which network rotation you're currently employed / training in:
  - Coastal
  - Far North (Cairns)
  - North Queensland (Townsville)
  - Northside
  - Southside

Answering these questions will ensure you automatically skip many others that don't apply to you.

## Do I need to re-enter my information each year?

A large proportion of your previous year's information will pre-populate to your new application. Certain fields such as current employment and referee details will need to be updated. Read the [Queensland Health RMO applicant user guide](#) for further details.

## How should I preference?

Unless you are awaiting your clinical exam results, you must **nominate the following as your first preference to remain on the network** (further details for clinical exam candidates are provided on page 3 of this document):

<b>Facility:</b>	College/Pathway/Network Determined
<b>Position:</b>	Registrar
<b>Specialty:</b>	Medicine
<b>Subspecialty:</b>	Basic Physician Training

## Will I be required to attend an interview?

In most cases current network trainees do not require an interview. Your Network Rotation Coordinator (NRC) and Director of Physician Education (DPE) are responsible for approving you to continue training. This is subject to

- ongoing satisfactory performance at the level of employment
- receipt of two satisfactory referee reports
- recommendation from your current DPE that you continue network training.

If performance issues are identified, you may be required to attend an interview to determine if you can continue, and if there are any associated conditions.

## When can I expect to be notified of the outcome of my application?

You'll be notified by email in late August. Trainees who are not approved will be notified as soon as possible to enable a change of preference and consideration for other non-network positions in the subsequent position rounds [e.g. Principal House Officer Medicine or Registrar General/ Internal Medicine (not FRACP)]. For information relating to the position rounds and dates refer to the [RMO Campaign website](#)

## Is there an appeals process?

Yes. If your issue is rotation-based e.g. hospital allocations, you should contact your NRC. If you're not satisfied with their response, you can contact [Physician\\_Training@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:Physician_Training@health.qld.gov.au) and request for your concern to be reviewed by a member of the physician training team. Refer to the [network Queries, Complaints and Appeals](#) for further information.

## Can I request to change my allocations?

Network trainees must commit to prospectively allocated placements to cover the duration of basic training. If special circumstances affect your ability to comply with this, you can apply for [special consideration](#) for alternate allocation. You must contact your NRC in the first instance to make the request and discuss the process and possible options. It should be noted that network rotations cover the whole state, therefore some trainees will be allocated across large geographical distances.

## Can I change between rotations (i.e., from Northside to Southside)?

You can apply to change between rotations in the event of extenuating circumstances providing the current and new rotations both agree to the change. You must contact your NRC in the first instance to make the request and apply for [special consideration](#) if applicable. These arrangements will need to be negotiated and agreed between the respective NRCs, who will then notify you of the outcome. Approval will depend on the availability of suitable exam capacity in the desired rotation.

If you're approved to change, you'll be offered hospital placements based on availability. This may include being located at a non-tertiary hospital for the lead up to the clinical examination and/or additional non-metropolitan secondment terms.

## Exam sitters

### I have already passed the written and am awaiting the clinical exam results. Should I re-apply to the network and if so, how should I preference?

It's recommended that you apply for the position that's most relevant to your stage of training. If you're sitting the clinical exam and will complete all other RACP time-based requirements this year, you should preference advanced training positions (using RMO Campaign preference options 1-4).

As a back up to your advanced training application, if you fail the exam, you can apply for an additional year on the network to re-attempt, providing you are eligible. You'll be eligible if you have not previously failed or deferred an exam.

## How do I apply for an additional year on the network?

You should apply through the RMO campaign during the specified dates.

1. **select YES** to 'Are you applying for the Queensland Basic Physician Training (Adult Medicine) Network?' in Section 8 of the RMO Campaign application
2. complete all subsequent questions indicating that you're a current network trainee
3. nominate the following as your **fifth preference** in Section 10 of the RMO Campaign application:

<b>Facility:</b>	College/Pathway/Network Determined
<b>Position:</b>	Registrar
<b>Specialty:</b>	Medicine
<b>Subspecialty:</b>	Basic Physician Training

You'll then be contacted from late July and asked to complete a preference survey to provide you with hospital allocations for the next year. In late August, you'll receive a letter of offer that outlines your allocation. If you accept this, you'll remain on the network. If you decline, you'll exit the network and you'll need to independently secure your own post-network training position suitable for re-attempting the exam. Those still on the network will get priority access to exam preparation resources.

If you expect to have outstanding RACP time-based requirements next year, then you must remain in a network approved position until basic training is complete. Non-network positions in Queensland can't be signed off towards training requirements. Contact your NRC to flag this and discuss plans for completion of your basic training.

## Do I need to re-apply if I have failed or deferred the exam?

You're entitled to one additional year on the network if you fail or pre-arrange to defer an exam. If you've not passed or undertaken the exam, we advise you to talk with your NRC and DPE to discuss your eligibility for an additional year. If you've completed all RACP requirements, this year isn't mandatory so you can choose to exit the network and find your own training position.

If you decide to continue on the network for an additional year, you'll have a suitable training position provided and will have priority access to exam preparation resources. Further details are provided in the [clinical exam preparation standards for network trainees](#).

## What do I do if I fail the exam more than once?

If you fail the clinical more than once (or fail and defer) then you're deemed to be a time-expired trainee. Time-expired trainees have completed all basic training requirements other than passing the exam and further training placements are not required as part of a network. Time-expired trainees **should not re-apply to the network** but instead seek employment with RACP-accredited hospitals to complete training. Ultimately, it's your responsibility to secure a job and negotiate with a DPE for further training support.

You can preference non-network positions (e.g., Registrar, General/Internal Medicine (not FRACP)) through the RMO Campaign.

## Post network/time-expired trainees

### How should I decide whether to exit the network or not?

This is a good topic to discuss with your DPE and NRC. RACP training settings are routinely saturating their exam sit capacity, meaning that there are limited positions for post network, time-expired trainees.

Key advantages of remaining on the network are:

- Hospital allocations are provided in August before other trainees
- Guaranteed training position
- Exam preparation that meets network standards
- Access to network exam and educational resources (CEPP, weekly lectures, network practice exams)
- Training oversight and advocacy from the network team (DPEs, NRCs and Network Medical Directors)
- Priority access to vacant training capacity at network settings

If you choose to exit and find your own position, it's important to have robust discussion with your employer covering:

- what exam preparation you'll receive
- what your roster pattern will be
- what access you'll have to education
- if the position is accredited for RACP training.

Once you choose to exit the network, the network is no longer responsible for any aspect of your training and any issues will need to be sorted out directly with your employer. Be cautious with accepting non-training subspecialty specific Principal House Officer roles. Ensure that the position has been discussed with the local DPE and that it comes with exam preparation resources. These roles often exist outside of certified training positions and may not be included in local examination preparation activities.

### How are the additional year network allocations made?

Once you have completed your allocated training program, you'll need a new allocation for the additional year. This will be created based on your preferences, available positions, exam sit capacity, your previous experience and could be to any of the hospitals within your rotation. Previous allocations may be taken into consideration.

You'll be given an opportunity to preference hospitals (separate to the RMO Campaign preference process) and if required can apply for [special consideration](#). In general, it's best to approach your DPE and NRC to discuss what your additional year may look like.

## Further information

Further information can be found on the [network webpage](#) or by contacting the Physician Training team via email [Physician\\_Training@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:Physician_Training@health.qld.gov.au)

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