

NORTHERN QUEENSLAND REGIONAL TRAINING HUBS

ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

How to apply for a specialist training position in Orthopaedic Surgery

Selection to the AOA 21 Training Program in Orthopaedic Surgery in Queensland is managed by the [Australian Orthopaedic Association \(AOA\)](#) and the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS).

Applicants wishing to apply to the Australian Orthopaedic Association AOA 21 Training Program must first register with [Royal Australasian College of Surgeons \(RACS\)](#) and fulfil all of the RACS generic eligibility criteria.

In addition to RACS generic eligibility criteria, applicants must fulfil the AOA special criteria.

Applicants who are successful with AOA and RACS will need to apply to the [Queensland Health RMO Campaign](#) for an employment contract to be issued by the allocated facility.

Find out more about Queensland-specific workforce demographics and specialty information:

<https://medinav.health.qld.gov.au/careers/surgery/orthopaedic-surgery/>

nqrth.edu.au

Entry Requirements

- ✓ Australia or New Zealand permanent resident or citizen
- ✓ General medical registration
- ✓ Completion of PGY3
- ✓ Completion of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) Hand Hygiene Learning Module
- ✓ Completion of the Generic Surgical Sciences exam
- ✓ Completion of the RACS "Operating with Respect" eLearning module
- ✓ AOA Specialty Specific Eligibility Criteria:
 - Completion of at least 26 weeks full-time equivalent of orthopaedic surgical experience within the last two years in a public hospital with an Emergency Department
 - Completion of the Generic Surgical Sciences exam
 - Successful completion of a state-licenced Radiation Safety Course
- ✓ Refer to the Australian Orthopaedic Association [AOA 21 Training Program](#) for further information on selection and/or eligibility.

Total Training Time

The AOA 21 Training Program is competency-based rather than time-based. Average time to complete the program is 5 years.

Contact Us

If you would like to get more information on training in Orthopaedic Surgery, please contact us by email nqrth@jcu.edu.au or phone:

Cairns region - (07) 422 68187

Central West region - (07) 47641547

Mackay region - (07) 488 57121

North West region - (07) 47641547

Torres and Cape region - (07) 409 56103

Townsville region - (07) 478 14712



ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN
COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

VISIT SITE

A man and a woman are walking together in a rural landscape. The man is wearing a blue and white checkered shirt and khaki pants, and the woman is wearing a red t-shirt and green pants. They are both smiling and looking towards the camera. The background shows a dirt road, trees, and a clear sky.

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Map out your medical career in northern Queensland

Training Pathway for Orthopaedic Surgery

College: Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS)

The AOA 21 training program includes a number of rural rotations in Queensland, including the Northern Queensland region – Mackay, Townsville and Cairns and we encourage our trainees to consider a career in rural Australia. Rotations in regional areas (where relocation is required) are for a period of 12 months but in metropolitan hospitals they are generally 6 months on average to provide a diverse range of learning experience. Orthopaedic Trainees interested in starting consultancy in one of these regional sites upon completion of training should notify their Regional Chair of Training early on as there may be provision for either:

- more than one 12 month rotation at the desired regional site during training
- or
- completion of the final 'Transition to Practice' stage of training at the desired regional site

As with all medical specialties, there is a need for more orthopaedic surgeons to work in rural and regional areas. According to the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS), approximately 31 per cent of Australians live in rural, regional and remote areas, but only 15 per cent of practicing surgeons work in these areas. As the surgical workforce ages and the rural population continues to grow, more surgeons will be needed to serve the rural and remote communities of Australia.