

PART A 4 VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM

4.1 Policies and TORs

4.1.4 S-IMG – Fellowship Eligibility: Ophthalmologists Assessed by MCNZ



The Royal Australian
and New Zealand
College of Ophthalmologists

RANZCO Fellowship Eligibility: Ophthalmologists Assessed by the Medical Council of New Zealand

Approved by: Board

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1. Purpose and Scope

To outline the process by which a Specialist - International Medical Graduate (SIMG) who has been assessed as eligible to register and practice as an ophthalmologist in New Zealand by the Medical Council of New Zealand (MCNZ), is assessed for eligibility for admission to RANZCO membership as a Fellow.

2. Admission to RANZCO Membership as a Fellow for New Zealand Ophthalmologists

The philosophy of the assessments required by the Medical Board of Australia (MBA) and the Medical Council of New Zealand (MCNZ) are subtly different. Therefore, while many individual S-IMGs in New Zealand will have had scrutiny similar to that which specialist recognition applicants face in Australia, it is considered that Vocational Registration in New Zealand should not automatically lead to acceptance to practice in Australia, nor to eligibility for admission to RANZCO membership as a Fellow.

2.1 Application Types under this Category

The following guide should be used by an S-IMG assessed as eligible to register and practice as an ophthalmologist in New Zealand by the MCNZ, seeking admission to RANZCO membership as a Fellow;

- An S-IMG ophthalmologist practicing in New Zealand who is not a RANZCO Fellow and who wishes to become a RANZCO Fellow, must apply to the College Membership Committee. The Membership Committee will then refer the application to the College S-IMG Committee for assessment, seeking a recommendation as to whether the applicant is eligible for consideration under this category.
- An S-IMG ophthalmologist practicing in New Zealand who is not a RANZCO Fellow and who wishes to be recognised to practice as an ophthalmologist in Australia must apply to the College for Specialist Recognition Assessment (see Related Documents). This assessment of applicants is undertaken by the College S-IMG Committee on behalf of the MBA.

2.2 Application and Assessment Process

An S-IMG ophthalmologist practicing in New Zealand who is not a RANZCO Fellow and who wishes to be considered for Fellowship eligibility under this category must submit all of the following;

- a letter of application requesting to be assessed under this category
- the same documents as required for specialist recognition applications (see Related Documents).
- any other material which the S-IMG Committee may request

The S-IMG Committee is responsible for assessing the training, qualifications and experience of overseas-trained ophthalmologists for comparability with the training and qualifications of ophthalmologists trained in Australia and New Zealand.

The Membership Committee will consider the recommendation of the S-IMG Committee and any other relevant material to make the decision as to whether the applicant is eligible for admission to RANZCO membership as a Fellow under this category. Should the application be considered eligible for such admission, the Membership Committee will make a recommendation to Council. The final decision is then made.

RANZCO shall confidentially advise the applicant of the outcome of the assessment.

2.3 Assessment Criteria

Applicants are assessed for comparability with the training and qualifications of ophthalmologists trained in Australia and New Zealand. Australian and New Zealand trainees are required to demonstrate knowledge and competence in all RANZCO's clinical curriculum standards (see Related Documents).

Assessment is conducted via a combination of the following: review of application documents, interviews, examinations, periods of oversight or supervised practice, and by any other means RANZCO sees fit. RANZCO will determine which assessment methods are required for individual applicants during the assessment process.

3. Appeals

If an applicant wishes to appeal the decision of RANZCO they must do so in accordance with the Appeals Policy (see Related Documents).

4. Related Documents

[Specialist Recognition Applications](#)

[Curriculum Standards](#)

[Appeals Policy](#)

5. Record of Amendments

Page	Details of amendment	Date approved