

Certificates of Advanced Training

Selection Criteria and mandatory requirements



In addition to general psychiatry training, the College offers *Certificates of Advanced Training* in various areas of practice to enable trainees and Fellows to extend their training in the field. Certificates of Advanced Training cannot be commenced until a trainee is eligible to enter Stage 3 of the 2012 Fellowship Program and has satisfied the selection criteria of the relevant certificate (see below). Completion of all Fellowship requirements is necessary for eligibility to receive a Certificate of Advanced Training.

Trainees undertaking a Certificate of Advanced Training program and Stage 3 of the Fellowship Program concurrently must follow the requirements for both programs.

Selection criteria – all Certificate programs

In order to be eligible to enter any of the seven Certificates of Advanced Training, trainees must have at least:

- passed the **MCQ exam**
- participated in an interview with the relevant Director of Advanced Training (DOAT) or their delegate (where progression in other assessments can be considered, e.g. Essay-Style exam, Psychotherapy Written Case, OSCE, Scholarly Project)
- been formally selected to the Certificate of Advanced Training.

Additional selection criteria – Certificate of Advanced Training in Forensic Psychiatry

In addition to the above selection criteria, in order to be eligible for selection into the *Certificate of Advanced Training in Forensic Psychiatry*, trainees must have also:

- passed **one other written assessment** (e.g. Essay-Style exam, Psychotherapy Written Case or Scholarly Project).

Additional selection criteria – Certificate of Advanced Training in the Psychotherapies

In addition to the above selection criteria, in order to be eligible for selection into the *Certificate of Advanced Training in the Psychotherapies*, trainees must have also:

- completed the required minimum 40 psychotherapy sessions towards the Psychotherapy Written Case. A letter from the psychotherapy supervisor confirming the completion of the psychotherapy sessions must be provided on application.

Please note: these mandatory selection criteria will be effective for the selection processes related to Certificate of Advanced Training entry from rotation two, 2016.

For more detail, please refer to the *Progression through Training Policy* available in the [Progression chapter](#) of the Regulations, policies and procedures.

Mandatory requirements – all Certificate programs (except psychotherapies)

Trainees undertaking a Certificate of Advanced Training program and Stage 3 of the Fellowship Program concurrently must follow the requirements for both programs.

For all Certificates of Advanced Training (except psychotherapies) there are mandatory training requirements (outlined below) in addition to specific training requirements that apply to each Certificate (see relevant Certificate of Advanced Training web page).

- Pre-Fellowship trainees must be in accredited training posts; Fellows in training must have their position reviewed and approved by their DOAT to ensure they can fulfil the requirements of the Certificate of Advanced Training program.
- Trainees and Fellows-in-training must attain two summative Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) per 6-month FTE rotation (up to 3 months FTE requires the attainment of 1 EPA).
 - A minimum of three Workplace-Based Assessments (WBAs) are required to contribute to the evidence base for each required EPA.
 - Trainees and Fellows-in-training are able to attain extra Stage 3 Fellowship (FELL) EPAs in addition to the two EPAs per 6-month FTE rotation required of their Certificate of Advanced Training.
 - Fellows in Training are not required to attain EPAs following the completion of 24 months FTE training time towards one certificate.
- Trainees and Fellows-in-training must complete a mandatory minimum of one Observed Clinical Activity (OCA) WBA during each 6-month FTE rotation as per the specific training requirements of their Certificate of Advanced Training.
 - The OCA will be recorded on the end-of-rotation In-Training-Assessment (ITA) form.
 - The Certificate of Advanced Training OCA requirement will satisfy the Fellowship OCA requirement.
 - **Please note:** completing one OCA WBA during each 6-month FTE rotation is required of the Certificates of Advanced Training (except adult psychiatry, see below) and applies to all trainees (including transitioning trainees) and Fellows-in-training, regardless of whether they have passed the OCI.
 - The *Certificate of Advanced Training in Adult Psychiatry* does not require trainees or Fellows-in-training to complete one OCA during each 6-month rotation in order to be eligible for the Certificate, although trainees are required to complete one OCA per 6-month FTE rotation to fulfil Fellowship training requirements.
 - **Transitioning trainees:** trainees who have transitioned from the 2003 program who have not passed the OCI are required to complete a minimum of four OCAs in order to be eligible to attain Fellowship. Transitioning trainees who have passed the OCI are exempted from the requirement to complete OCAs for Fellowship, unless this is a requirement of the certificate. An OCA during each 6-month FTE rotation is required if a requirement of the Certificate of Advanced Training.
- Trainees and Fellows-in-training must submit a summative end-of-rotation ITA form to the College training team within 60 days of the completion of a rotation.
 - Failure to submit the ITA form within 60 days will result in a letter being sent which reminds the trainee/Fellow in training to submit the ITA form within 30 days (of the date of correspondence).
 - Continued non-receipt of the ITA form 30 days from the date of correspondence will result in a failed ITA form and rotation unless exceptional circumstances* have been accepted by the College on a case-by-case basis.

***Exceptional circumstances:** Where relevant, the DOAT may recommend in writing that a trainee/Fellow in training receive a specified amount of extra time for the completion of an assessment(s) due to exceptional circumstances. The DOAT does not have the authority to determine when a case is exceptional or to grant an extension; this will be done by the Committee for Training (CFT) on a case-by-case basis.

- Clinical supervision for trainees must be maintained at a minimum of 4 hours per week over 40 weeks for full-time trainees. Of these hours, at least 1 hour per week must be individual supervision of a trainee's current clinical work.
 - While 1 hour per week of individual clinical supervision is required in full for all trainees, the other 3 hours of supervision per week can be on a pro-rata basis for part-time trainees.
- Fellows-in-training are required to undertake 1 hour per week of individual clinical supervision for at least 40 weeks of the year.
- Trainees undertaking non-clinical training are encouraged to maintain their clinical currency by spending at least 0.2 FTE or 1 day per week in direct clinical work (in an accredited training post); however, the College acknowledges that this is not always feasible.
- Trainees must undertake after-hours and emergency duties required by being in an accredited training post.
 - Where a trainee believes there are exceptional circumstances that would prevent them from undertaking these duties, they should submit an application for exemption from after-hours experience for a specified or temporary time period to their employer and should notify their DOAT of this application.
 - If approved, this exemption must be communicated to the Branch Training Committee.
- Training undertaken in the Fellowship Program prior to acceptance into a Certificate of Advanced Training Program cannot be converted to or granted as RPL toward that Certificate. For information on RPL, please refer to the *Recognition of Prior Learning Policy and Procedure* available in the [Administration chapter](#) of the Regulations, policies and procedures.
 - Certificate of Advanced Training months can only be credited upon acceptance into the Certificate of Advanced Training program. Any training completed under the 2012 Fellowship Program, prior to the Certificate of Advanced Training start date, cannot be counted towards the Certificate.
- The targeted learning and progression requirements of Certificate of Advanced Training programs for both trainees and Fellows-in-training are:
 - a targeted learning plan is required when there has been a failure to successfully complete a rotation
 - Any three rotation failures will result in a requirement to show cause to the CFT as to why the trainee/Fellow in training should be able to continue in the program.
- Certificate training must be completed within 6 calendar years of commencement of the Certificate, inclusive of any breaks in training or part-time training.
 - If Certificate training has not been completed within 6 calendar years, the trainee or Fellow in Training must show cause in writing to the relevant Subcommittee of Advanced Training (SAT) as to why they should be able to continue towards the Certificate. Communication will be sent to the trainee or Fellow in training indicating this.
 - SATs have the capacity to grant an extension of 1 calendar year in the first instance. Further requests for extension must be considered by the CFT with recommendation from the relevant SAT.

- **Please note:** The 6 year calendar maximum will be effective from 1 January 2017 for six Certificates of Advanced Training. The Certificate of Advanced Training in the Psychotherapies 6 year calendar maximum was implemented from rotation 1, 2016.

All trainees and Fellows-in-training are able to apply for variation to the normal requirements on the grounds of exceptional circumstances. Applications must be made prospectively to the relevant SAT in the first instance.

For more information or to submit an application contact training@ranzcp.org.

Mandatory requirements – Certificate of Advanced Training in the Psychotherapies

Trainees and Fellows need to adhere to the specific training requirements that apply to the [Certificate of Advanced Training in the Psychotherapies](#).

The rotation model of training does not apply to this Certificate of Advanced Training program. There are very few accredited psychotherapy posts and training in psychotherapies can be flexibly incorporated into a range of training and consultant work situations.

Certificate award process

- In order to be awarded a Certificate of Advanced Training, Fellowship must be attained.
- To commence the Certificate of Advanced Training award process, the Certificate checklist must be submitted to the DOAT once all Certificate of Advanced Training requirements are completed.
- Upon approval of the Certificate checklist from the DOAT, the checklist is submitted to the RANZCP Training team. The trainee's record will be audited to ensure all Certificate of Advanced Training requirements have been satisfied. The trainee cannot progress if any of the certificate requirements are outstanding.
- On confirmation that all Certificate of Advanced Training requirements have been completed, the RANZCP organises approval from SAT Chair.
- On approval of the SAT Chair, the application progresses via the SAT to the CFT for ratification.
- The CFT ratifies the award of the Certificate of Advanced Training and makes recommendation to the Education Committee (EC) for the award of Certificate of Advanced Training.
- The EC shall proceed to grant the awarding of the Certificate of Advanced Training.
- The EC and the CFT reserves the right to accept or reject the awarding of the Advanced Certificates if it does not conform to recommendations.

The EC ratification dates on the [Admission to Fellowship schedule](#) are when Certificates of Advanced Training are awarded. CFT approval is required to be finalised by the paper due date outlined in the Fellowship schedule in order to make the round.

- The RANZCP shall endeavour to adhere to the ratification deadlines, as outlined in the [Admission to Fellowship schedule](#), though it may not always be possible. Trainees are encouraged to plan in accordance with the Fellowship schedule dates to be awarded a Certificate of Advanced Training.

Dual Certificate training

Trainees undertaking Certificates of Advanced Training and Stage 3 of the Fellowship Program concurrently must follow the requirements for all three programs.

Trainees and Fellows-in-training are able to undertake two Certificate programs concurrently (Dual Certificate training).

- In order to be eligible for selection into Dual Certificate training, trainees must satisfy the mandatory selection criteria for both Certificates of Advanced Training.
- Trainees and Fellows-in-training enrolled in a Certificate of Advanced Training can apply to enter Dual Certificate Training. Approval must be granted from both Directors of Advanced Training (DOAT) relevant to the certificates being attempted.
 - A DOAT may refer the application to the relevant Subcommittee for Advanced Training (SAT) if further consideration of the application is required.
- Progression in the initial certificate will be assessed as part of the Dual Certificate application. Applications into Dual Certificate Training more than 12 months FTE after commencement of first Certificate of Advanced Training will impact the ability to complete both certificates in the minimum time allowable. Recognition of concurrent training will only be recognised once accepted into Dual Certificate training. Dual Certificate training begins at the commencement date of the first certificate.
- Trainees and Fellows-in-training must present a detailed plan to both Certificate of Advanced Training program's DOATs describing how each Certificate of Advanced Training's requirements will be met, particularly in any rotations where requirements from both programs will be achieved concurrently. The plan also needs to address:
 - proposed rotations for each area of practice
 - supervision
 - attainment of EPAs and the proposed entrusting supervisor(s), particularly in any rotations where EPAs from both Certificates of Advanced Training will be attained
 - the trainee's progress with regards to the centrally administered summative assessments and their plan to achieve them within the expected timeframes. [Trainees only]
- The plan must be prospectively approved by the respective DOATs and tabled for noting at the next meetings of the SATs.
- Dual Certificate trainees and Fellows-in-training will be awarded both Certificates of Advanced Training upon satisfactory completion of all Certificate program requirements. Trainees are not eligible to be awarded dual certificates until they have completed a minimum of 36 months[†] FTE training once accepted into Dual Certificate training, depending on the degree of overlap between the two Certificates. Training time completed in one certificate prior to entering in the dual certificate will contribute to assessing minimum time Dual Certificate requirements.
 - If a post is assessed as meeting the requirements of two areas of practice, it can contribute concurrently to the time requirement of each certificate. One end-of-rotation ITA form, with two EPAs attained every six FTE months must be completed for each Area of Practice
 - Dual Certificate trainees and Fellows-in-training can apply and be awarded the first Certificate of Advanced Training at the completion of 24 months FTE training accredited for that Certificate's area of practice and all other requirements for the first Certificate of Advanced Training, even if incomplete in the requirements for the second Certificate of Advanced Training.

[†]Approved Dual Certificate training programs will vary as to the degree of overlap possible so not all combinations may be manageable within 36 months.

*when paired with psychotherapies certificate, two certificates cannot be completed in less than 3 calendar years. 24 months FTE must be completed in the non-psychotherapies certificate.

- If a trainee or Fellow in training withdrew from, or stopped, one of the Certificates of Advanced Training at any point, a single certificate would only be awarded on the full completion of all requirements for the relevant Certificate program.
- Dual Certificate trainees and Fellows-in-Training must complete each Advanced Training Certificate within 6 calendar years of commencement, inclusive of any breaks in training and part-time training.
 - If Certificate training has not been completed within 6 calendar years, the trainee or Fellow in Training must show cause in writing to the relevant SAT as to why they should be able to continue towards the Certificate. Communication will be sent to the trainee or Fellow in training indicating this.

SATs have the capacity to grant an extension of 1 calendar year in the first instance. Further requests for extension must be considered by the CFT with recommendation from the relevant SAT.

 - **Please note:** The 6 year calendar maximum will be effective from 1 January 2017 for six Certificates of Advanced Training. The Certificate of Advanced Training in the Psychotherapies 6 year calendar maximum was implemented from rotation 1, 2016.

Revision Record

Contact	Training team		Project Officer, Education and Training
Date	Version	Approver	Description
29/06/2021	v.1.9	Education Committee	Approval for Dual Certificate training approval to be done by DOAT instead of SAT chair. Approved by CFT 24/06/21, Approved by EC 1/10/21.
07/08/2019	V.1.8	N/A	Addition of the awarding process of Advanced Certificate
13/08/2018	V1.7	Education Committee	Amended rule to having to pass the psychotherapy case to having complete the minimum required 40 psychotherapy sessions and obtaining a letter from the supervisor indicating completion of the required psychotherapy sessions.
27/07/2018	V1.6	Education Committee	Amended to include rule that Fellows in Training are not required to complete EPAs after completing 24 months FTE in a certificate. This rule doesn't apply to the Psychotherapies certificate. Approved by CFT 31/5/18, Approved EC 27/07/18.
20/4/2018	V1.5	Education Committee	Amended to clarify how time is counted when completed in a blended post. Clarification also on the eligibility to commence Dual Certificate training. Approved by CFT 12/4/18, Approved EC 20/4/18.
27/1/2017	V1.4	Education Committee	Amended to clarify that training time cannot be credited prior to the Certificate start date. Maximum training time added to the DCAT section.
19/08/16	v1.3	Education Committee	Updated to clarify that Certificates can only be awarded when eligible for Fellowship, the Training Agreement is not required for entry to Certificates and the implementation of the six year calendar maximum to complete all Certificates.
20/01/16	v1.2	N/A	Minor amendment to further clarify the OCA requirements for the adult certificate and transitioning trainees.
11/11/15	v1.1	N/A	Minor amendment to clarify the OCA requirements for transitioning trainees.
29/10/15	v1.0	Education Committee	New document. Approved by CFT 08/10/15. Approved EC out of session 14/10/15.
April 2021			NEXT REVIEW