

RANZCP Honorary Fellowship

Regulation



Authorising Body:	Board via the Corporate Governance and Risk Committee
Responsible Department(s):	Membership and Events
Document Code:	REG MOP-MEM Honorary Fellowship Regulation

Description

The RANZCP Honorary Fellowship recognizes exceptional and prominent contributions to psychiatry and mental health by a person who does not otherwise qualify for Fellowship of the RANZCP.

Purpose

The purpose of this regulation is to provide recognition for a class of Honorary Fellows within the College pursuant to Article 3.6 of the Constitution, as well as to detail eligibility criteria and administrative procedures for the conferring of Honorary Fellowship.

Background

The RANZCP Constitution sets out five classes of membership of the College: Fellows, Affiliates, Associates, Honorary Fellows and International Corresponding Members. The previous Memorandum and Articles of Association also allowed for Honorary Fellowship, and this class of membership has been utilised within the RANZCP dating back to at least the 1970s.

Article 3.6 of the Constitution states:

- 3.6.1 *The Board may in its sole discretion elect as Honorary Fellows such persons who meet prescribed criteria as may be determined by the Board in accordance with Regulations.*
- 3.6.2 *An Honorary Fellow shall have the same powers, privileges and liabilities as a Fellow, except that an Honorary Fellow shall not be required to pay any annual subscription or other fee or levy or to satisfy the College's professional development requirements.*
- 3.6.3 *An Honorary Fellow shall be entitled to attend and speak but shall not be entitled to vote at General Meetings.*

Eligibility criteria

The following criteria will be used by the Board in considering a nomination for Honorary Fellowship:

- Honorary Fellowship will be awarded to medical practitioners, other health professionals, or community members – either from within Australia and New Zealand or from overseas – who do not otherwise qualify for Fellowship of the RANZCP.
- Honorary Fellows are expected to have made an exceptional and prominent contribution to psychiatry and/or mental health in Australia, New Zealand or the Asian or Pacific regions, directed towards improving the mental health of communities through high quality mental health care, education, leadership or advocacy. Contributions may include (but are not limited to) promoting better care and patient outcomes, increasing public understanding of mental illness, and/or informing and influencing mental health policy.

Individuals nominated for Honorary Fellowship may have an existing relationship with the College.

Nomination requirements

The RANZCP Honorary Fellowship is presented annually, with nominations to be received by 31 October each year. If there are no suitable applicants, it will not be awarded that year.

The RANZCP Honorary Fellowship will generally be capped at two (2) Honorary Fellows per year.

Nominations are to be made from a minimum of two Fellows.

In addition, a minimum of one (1) letter of recommendation from another Fellow is required.

Nominators are also encouraged to seek the written support of the relevant [RANZCP Branch committee](#).

The nomination will address the following items separately:

1. Describe the nominee's overall contributions to psychiatry and/or mental health in Australia, New Zealand or the Asian Pacific regions.
2. Describe the ways in which the nominee has contributed to the improvement of mental health of communities.
3. Describe specific involvements the nominee may have had with the RANZCP.
4. Describe the impacts the nominee has made on College members, or how they have inspired College members through their work and service.
5. Summarise the nominee's legacy within psychiatry and/or mental health.

(The total word count for all items above must be a minimum of 1,000 words and a maximum of 2,000 words)

Nominators are required to provide:

- a current CV highlighting biographical details of the nominee; and
- relevant information on the nominee's appointments and any publications.

Assessment process

The Awards and Recognition Committee will review any nomination to determine whether additional information is required before submission to the Board.

The Board will assess complete nominations against the stated criteria. The Board shall have absolute discretion in the granting or revocation of Honorary Fellowship of the RANZCP. The election to Honorary Fellowship of the RANZCP is made by the Board, and Board approval must be unanimous.

Further information

Honorary Fellowship does not reflect the qualification and educational achievements of Fellowship of the RANZCP and does not qualify an individual to practice psychiatry.

Conferring arrangements, testamur and post-nominals

If Honorary Fellowship has been approved by the Board, it should be formally conferred to the recipient during the RANZCP Congress, at the College Ceremony. The recipient will receive complimentary registration to attend the RANZCP Congress in that year. Unless otherwise agreed by the Board. Costs associated with attending Congress will be borne by the recipient.

An Honorary Fellowship testamur will be produced, and presented to the recipient as part of the College Ceremony.

Honorary Fellows are not entitled to use post-nominals (e.g. Hon. FRANZCP) or the FRANZCP insignia, however may refer to themselves as 'Honorary Fellow, The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists'.

Revision Record

Contact: Executive Manager, Membership, Events & Publications

Date	Version	Approver	Description
22/09/2009	1.0	GC2009/3 R43	New Document
19/07/2014	2.0	B2014/4 R11	Document updated with new governance structure and nomination assessment process which includes requirement to reflect that Board approval must be unanimous.
16/10/2016	3.0	B2016/7 R22	Document updated to provide recognition for a class of Honorary Fellows within the College.
10/08/2019	4.0	B2019/6 R4	Background, eligibility criteria, and nomination/assessment process updated.
27/10/2025	5.0	B2025-10	Nomination and assessment process updated as per Board approval. Added online form requirements to be completed and provided to Awards and Recognition Committee for review prior to consideration by the Board.
NEXT REVIEW: 2027			