

Purpose and Scope

Applications for short-term training in a medical specialty pathway in Australia allow International Medical Graduates (IMGs) to undertake short-term training with the objective of improving their professional skills and experience not available in their country of training.

Within the speciality of dermatology, an IMG is approved to undertake short-term training, which enables them to enhance their level of skill and knowledge in dermatological conditions. Hospitals and private institutions offering such positions must provide IMGs with an appropriate scope of work, adequate clinical and academic supervision and a designated supervisor. If approved, the short-term training position will be valid for up to 24 months.

The Australasian College of Dermatologists (ACD) is required to approve of these positions prior to the Medical Board of Australia granting limited registration to the IMG. The College does not accredit these types of positions and they are not considered formal training positions. The issuing of a certificate of satisfactory completion of the training is therefore responsibility of the training site and not the College.

Short-term training positions do not lead to Fellowship of the College or specialist registration with the Medical Board of Australia.

The training position should not be a service position for the training site.

Verification of Qualifications

All IMGs must contact the Australian Medical Council to have their primary and specialist qualifications verified before applications can be assessed by the College.

If you have not yet completed your dermatology training you must provide a written statement from your training institution stating that you are no more than two years from completing your training.

Supervision

All short-term training positions must be supervised and each IMG must be allocated a dedicated supervisor of training.

The college will only accept supervision of IMGs with Level 1 or Level 2 supervision. Supervision with Levels 3 and 4 are considered remote supervision and the college currently does not support this type of supervision for any type of training position.

Supervisors must not be allocated more than four IMGs whether as a primary or co-supervisor. The college will not approve of applications where the supervisor has responsibility for more than four IMGs in total.

IMGs in short term training positions are not approved for specialist recognition in Australia and therefore should not be involved in any supervision of registrars of the College, postgraduate doctors or undergraduate medical students.

Training Program

The training site must provide the IMG with an appropriate training program with information relating to clinical activities, teaching activities and research activities clearly detailed. The College template on the website should be used when submitting the online application form. A weekly timetable of activities including all other IMGs, registrars or postgraduate doctors in accredited or non-accredited positions should be provided.

Teaching

IMGs in short term training positions are not approved for specialist recognition in Australia and therefore should not be involved in teaching activities for registrars on the College training program.

Assessment

The ACD will assess the documents presented to determine:

- that the applicant is a genuine specialist-in training or international qualified specialist.
- that the training position is a genuine training position and its suitability for that individual training requirements, by assessing the training program and position description against the IMG's qualifications and curriculum vitae.
- that the level of supervision and support is adequate.

Applications will only be processed by the IMG Committee after all documentation has been provided and payment has been received by the College.

Processing Times

The College will endeavour to process and assess your application within 4 - 12 weeks of you submitting your application. Please ensure you apply well in advance of your training position commencing.

How to Apply

1	Find a training position
2	Submit an application for primary source verification of your primary medical degree and specialist qualification (if obtained) to the Australian Medical Council
3	Apply online to the College for approval of the short term training position
4	Apply to AHPRA for limited registration
5	Apply for an appropriate work visa (if applicable)

Additional Information

The Medical Board of Australia has released new guidelines on short-term training in a medical specialty and guidelines on supervised practice for international medical graduates on 1 July 2016.

Applicants and supervisors of international medical graduates should be aware of their responsibilities under these guidelines.

If your application for short term training is approved by ACD you will be notified via email and your application and supporting documents will be uploaded to the Australian Medical Council for AHPRA to access prior to granting limited registration. It is important to note that it is the responsibility of the Medical Board of Australia (MBA) to grant registration for the purposes of short-term training in a medical specialty. Potential applicants are advised to consider information on the MBA website prior to making an application.