



AGPT ACADEMIC POST POLICY 2017

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Responsible Section:	GP Training Policy Section, Health Training Branch
Supporting documents, procedures and forms:	Application for AGPT Academic Post Form
Audience:	Registrars enrolled on the AGPT Program Regional Training Organisations Stakeholders

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1 Purpose of Policy

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to set out the circumstances under which registrars may apply for an Academic Post as part of the Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) Program.

2 Definitions

Word/Term	Definition (with examples if required)
Academic Post	The Academic Post is a 12-month (0.5FTE) training term taken in conjunction with (0.5FTE) clinical work as part of registrar training on the AGPT Program.
ACRRM	Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine.
AFP	Australian Family Physician – the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners' journal.
AIDA	Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association.
ARST	Advanced Rural Skills Training.
AST	Advanced Specialised Training.
Core Vocational Training	Core Vocational Training refers to GPT1, GPT2, GPT3, Mandatory Elective and Extended Skills Training for FRACGP registrars and Primary Rural and Remote Training and Advanced Specialised Training for FACRRM registrars.
Extension to undertake an approved Academic Post	This is an extension of training time term available only to registrars undertaking a Department of Health approved Academic Post. It is restricted to six calendar months.
FACRRM	Fellowship of Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine.
FARGP	Fellowship in Advanced Rural General Practice through the RACGP. Registrars must be enrolled in FARGP to undertake Advanced Rural Skills Training.
First year applications	This applies to registrars that have obtained their first approval for their Application for AGPT Academic Post.
FRACGP	Fellowship of Royal Australian College of General Practitioners.
RACGP	The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners.
Relevant College	The GP College to which the registrar is enrolled – RACGP, ACRRM or both.
RIDE	Registrar Information Data Exchange – the information management system used to record the training and education of registrars on the AGPT Program.
Second year applications	This applies to registrars seeking their second approval for their Application for AGPT Academic Post form. Registrars must have training time available in accordance with the AGPT Policies to undertake a second year Academic Post.

3 Application and Scope

- 3.1 This policy applies to all registrars enrolled on the AGPT Program.
- 3.2 This policy supersedes the previous *AGPT Academic Post Policy 2016* and will come into effect as of 1 January 2017.

4 Policy Principles

- 4.1 This policy is intended to:
 - 4.1.1 Outline the eligibility criteria for submitting an application for an Academic Post;
 - 4.1.2 Outline the requirements for submitting an application; and
 - 4.1.3 Outline the preferencing system for selection.

5 Eligibility

- 5.1 Registrars are eligible to apply to undertake an Academic Post if they:
 - 5.1.1 Are enrolled in the AGPT Program; and
 - 5.1.2 Have completed their first six months of core vocational training.
- 5.2 Academic Posts can either be undertaken as a part of the:
 - 5.2.1 RACGP core vocational training (as an Extended Skill term or as an Extension to undertake an Academic Post); or
 - 5.2.2 FARGP qualification as an ARST post (which must first be submitted to the RACGP National Rural Faculty prior to the commencement of the registrar's clinical placement); or
 - 5.2.2.1 Registrars must be enrolled in FARGP; or
 - 5.2.3 ACRRM vocational training program as a component of PRRT (where the Academic Post has been prospectively approved by the ACRRM Censor in Chief).
 - 5.2.4 ACRRM vocational training program as a component of AST in Academic Practice, Population Health, Remote Medicine, or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health (where approved prospectively by the ACRRM Censor in Chief).
- 5.3 Registrars must undertake any required clinical practice in conjunction with the Academic Post term to fulfil the training requirements of the Relevant College and/or the terms of appointment to the Academic Post.
- 5.4 Extension to undertake an approved Academic Post – Elective Training can only be commenced once the registrar has successfully completed at least GPT1 and/or PRRT training of their core vocational training and before they complete their core vocational training.
- 5.5 Registrars apply to the Relevant College for funding approval to undertake an Academic Post.

6 Application Requirements

- 6.1 Applications for an Academic Post must be made using the Application for AGPT Academic Post form. These are available from the Relevant College.
- 6.2 Applicants will determine their preferred topic and placement in conjunction with their RTO and academic institution. The registrar's supervisory team must be led by or have oversight from a GP academic.
- 6.3 Applications must be supported by:
 - 6.3.1 The registrar's RTO senior medical educator;
 - 6.3.2 The proposed Academic Post university supervisor;
 - 6.3.3 A learning plan developed by the registrar in collaboration with their academic supervisor, their medical educator and their RTO; and
 - 6.3.4 The Relevant College censor and/or College faculty, where College Standards require prior approval.

7 Assessment of Applications

- 7.1 The two GP Colleges will align their separate Academic Post application processes.
- 7.2 The two GP Colleges will establish separate Assessment Panels to assess applications for Academic Posts and operate under Terms of Reference.
- 7.3 Each Assessment Panel will assess applications against the following criteria:
 - 7.3.1 Demonstrated benefit to the registrar's learning and career plans;
 - 7.3.2 Quality of research;
 - 7.3.3 Quality of research: feasibility of methodology and ethics;
 - 7.3.4 Quality teaching experience; and
 - 7.3.5 Demonstrated engagement with academic GPs and University Departments of General Practice or Rural Clinical School.
- 7.4 Academic Post research projects must address issues around clinical practice, health service delivery, medical education or policy.
- 7.5 Applications will be assessed and allocated on merit against the selection criteria and against the preferencing system.
- 7.6 Feedback will be provided to registrars whose applications were unsuccessful.
- 7.7 Specialised Academic Posts

A 'specialised Academic Post' is a Post where there is a defined research project to be completed and some objectives of the term are predetermined. Specialised posts are designed to facilitate accessibility to research opportunities. These terms count towards training in the same way as a standard Academic Post. There are currently two types of specialised Academic Posts: AFP Fellow Academic Post, and the identified AIDA Academic Post.

- 7.7.1 The AIDA Academic Post is an identified training term for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander registrar to undertake policy research and teaching. This specialised Academic Post supports the Government's commitment to Closing the Gap.
- 7.7.2 The AFP Academic Post is a training term with a focus on medical editing and research. This specialised Academic Post is undertaken at the RACGP's AFP Journal.

8 Preferencing System for Selection

- 8.1 Each Assessment Panel will use the following criteria for preferencing applications:
 - 8.1.1 Posts that will count towards vocational training for fellowship (FACRRM and/or FRACGP and/or FARGP) will be preferred over posts that do not count towards fellowship. This means that suitable first year applications will have preference over suitable second year applications.
- 8.2 Second year applications will be considered against additional criteria including:
 - 8.2.1 The need to demonstrate a greater depth of research than first year applicants;
 - 8.2.2 Demonstrated superior skills and commitment to a future in academic general practice during their first year, compared with their peers; and
 - 8.2.3 The expectation to contribute to a peer education program.
- 8.3 Second year applicants will be expected to be enrolled in, or working towards enrolling in, a higher research degree.
- 8.4 Each Assessment Panel will preference academic projects according to:
 - 8.4.1 Quality:
 - Synthesis of current literature and evidence of where the research project will address a gap in current knowledge;

- Clarity of the research question;
- Match between methodology and the research question;
- Research projects that have considered the ethical implications;
- Research projects that have clear research methods including analysis;
- Research that is likely to be achievable in the time available; and
- Research projects that have built in time for dissemination.

8.4.2 **Impact:**

- Relevance of the research question to current or emerging national health priorities or issues in Australian general practice and/or primary care;
- Research that has the potential to produce answers of value to the Australian community;
- Research that has the potential to produce innovation in general practice and/or primary care, or general practice education, training or policy; and
- Research projects that have the most potential to improve the registrar's knowledge and skills in research.

9 Entering Data into RIDE

- 9.1 RTOs must record Academic Posts as Advanced Academic Terms in the registrar's training profile record in RIDE.

10 Related Documents

- 10.1 Relevant College standards and curricula
- 10.2 Academic Industrial Awards and/or Enterprise Agreements
- 10.3 *AGPT Extension of Training Time Policy 2017*
- 10.4 *AGPT Program Leave Policy 2017*
- 10.5 *AGPT Withdrawal Policy 2017*
- 10.6 *AGPT Training Obligations Policy 2017*
- 10.7 *AGPT Training Region Policy 2017*
- 10.8 NHMRC Ethics Framework

11 Version Control and Change History

Version Control:	2
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