

Addendum to the Selection Regulations for 2021 entry into the Surgical Education and Training (SET) program

The Education Board of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons is the senior board responsible for the oversight of the education policy of the College and the maintenance of surgical education, training, examination and other assessment standards. The authority of the Education Board to develop, regulate and approve all education activities is delegated by Council.

For the purpose of enabling selection to the 2021 Surgical Education and Training (SET) Program under COVID-19 conditions, the Education Board has approved a range of amendments to be included in specialty-specific Selection Regulations (Selection Regulations Approved Amendments).

The Selection Regulations Approved Amendments may only apply:

1. For the purpose of the Specialty Training Boards to undertake their respective SET selection process during 2020. The Selection Regulations Approved Amendments cannot be relied upon for SET selection in future years; and
2. To eligible candidates who have successfully completed the SET registration process in 2020. Candidates are deemed eligible once they have satisfied the generic eligibility requirements for the SET program in accordance with the [RACS Registration for Selection into SET Policy](#) in addition to the specialty-specific eligibility requirements as set out in the specialty-specific Selection Regulations (Eligible Candidates).

The Selection Regulations Approved Amendments are as follows:

1. Modifications made to the application opening and closing dates, but only in instances where the application process was suspended prior to the original advertised application closing date communicated as at the end of 2019. Any modification is to allow Eligible Candidates a minimum of two weeks to submit an application for SET selection.
2. Modifications made to the application process, but only in instances where the application process was suspended prior to the original advertised closing date communicated as at the end of 2019. Any modification is to allow Eligible Candidates a minimum of two weeks to submit an application for SET selection.
3. Modifications made to dates, times and locations relevant to the SET selection process and requirements.
4. Modifications made to the composition of interview panels used as part of the SET selection process.
5. Modifications to the delivery mode of the selection tools to accommodate the use of online, teleconference and/or videoconference functionality.
6. Modifications to the SET selection process on the condition that such modifications do not alter the scoring, weighting of the selection tools, shortlisting standards or the ranking process as earlier approved by Education Board for the purpose of selection to the 2021 SET Program and in accordance with the [RACS Selection to Surgical Education and Training Policy](#).
7. Modifications to the SET selection offer dates, on the condition that offers are made prior to the cut-off date of 30 November as determined by the Board of Surgical Education and Training.

The Education Board grants an exception to all Specialty Training Boards to comply with clause 3.1.5 and clause 3.1.10 of the [RACS Selection to Surgical Education and Training Policy](#) for selection to the 2021 SET Program, on the following provisos:

8. A waiver of Clause 3.1.5 *Detailed specialty selection regulations, which have been assessed for compliance with this policy, are publicly available in November prior to the year of selection* is

granted ONLY where the specialty-specific Selection Regulations can be made publicly available prior to the recommencement of selection to the 2021 SET Program.

9. A waiver of Clause 3.1.10 *Notification of the outcome for each specialty selection process must be released on the common announcement dates, as approved by the Board of Surgical Education and Training. This does not preclude earlier notification to applicants as part of any short-listing process* is granted with notification to successful applicants to be made by no later than 30 November 2020.

A revised timeline for the 2020 SET selection is enclosed below. Exact dates may vary for different specialties. Each specialty will be required to publish dates for key selection activities upon opening selection into their programs.

Application opening date*:	20 May 2020
Application closing date*:	12 June 2020
Notification of shortlisting for Interview:	In accordance with specialty specific selection regulations – a minimum of 5 days’ notice will be provided
Specialty Specific Exams (where applicable):	to be advised by relevant specialty with 3 months’ notice
Interviews:	24 August 2020 to 25 October 2020
Latest date of Notification of outcome:	30 November 2020

* for specialties where selection was suspended prior to the original advertised application closing date.