



REGULATIONS LEADING TO MEMBERSHIP (MRACDS) AND FELLOWSHIP (FRACDS) IN GENERAL DENTAL PRACTICE AND SPECIALIST DENTAL PRACTICE AND FELLOWSHIP (FRACDS) IN ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

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Several Handbooks are available and should be read in conjunction with these *Regulations*.
The relationship of the Handbooks to these *Regulations* is shown in the table below.

FOR INFORMATION ON:	REFER TO DOCUMENT ENTITLED:
Membership in General Dental Practice (MRACDS)	Handbook – Membership and Fellowship in General Dental Practice
Fellowship in General Dental Practice (FRACDS)	Handbook – Membership and Fellowship in General Dental Practice
Membership in Specialist Dental Practice and Fellowship in the Specialist Dental Practice	Handbook – Membership and Fellowship in Specialist Dental Practice for the disciplines of Endodontics, Oral Medicine, Orthodontics, Paediatric Dentistry, Periodontics, Prosthodontics, Dental Public Health, and Special Needs Dentistry.
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS)	Handbook for Accredited Education and Training in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery



PART A

INTRODUCTION

1. The onus of responsibility for undertaking and fulfilling the requirements of these Regulations rests with the candidate.
2. In these Regulations and in the associated Handbooks, the following definitions apply:
 - (i) Subscription: the process of application to become a candidate for the award of Membership or Fellowship of the College. Subscription was discontinued from April 2020.
 - (ii) Enrolment: the process of application to sit for an examination
 - (iii) Provisional Enrolment: the process of registration when approval of an application for exemption from the Primary examination is pending
 - (iii) Admission: the process by which candidates who fulfil the requirements of the Regulations for Examination are identified for election to Membership or Fellowship
 - (iv) Election: the process by which Council grants Membership or Fellowship
 - (iv) Post-nominal: letters placed after the name of the individual to indicate successful election to Membership or Fellowship (refer to Part F below)
3. The qualifications awarded by examination by the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons are:
 - (i) Membership in General Dental Practice (refer to Part B below)
 - (ii) Fellowship in General Dental Practice (refer to Part C below)
 - (iii) Membership in [a] Specialist Dental Practice discipline (refer to Part D below)
 - (v) Fellowship in [a] Specialist Dental Practice discipline (refer to Part E below)
 - (vi) Fellowship in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (refer to part F below)

General Dental Practice is a pathway to the acquisition of further knowledge in general dentistry.

The disciplines of Specialist Dental Practice are designed for the specialist dental practitioner who wishes to gain Membership and potentially Fellowship in a specialist discipline.



Membership and Fellowship is currently available in nine (9) Specialist Dental Practice disciplines:

- Dental Public Health
- Endodontics
- Oral Medicine
- Orthodontics
- Paediatric Dentistry
- Periodontics
- Prosthodontics
- Special Needs Dentistry
- Dento-Maxillofacial Radiology (via the Memorandum of Understanding Pathway)

Fellowship is available in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

Dentists who have satisfied the requirements of these Regulations may be admitted to Membership or Fellowship as applicable.

Note: Candidates should seek advice from their relevant registering authority regarding the registration status of Membership or Fellowship.

- 4 Fees payable are determined from time to time by the Council of the College, at its absolute discretion. Reference should be made to the college Fees.
- 5 Certain fees may be refundable, as specified in the College's Refund Policy.

SUBSCRIPTION (or Affiliate Membership if after April 2020. Refer to By-Law 16 for these Regulations)

- 6 The following Regulations apply:
 - (i) Dentists wishing to enrol for College examinations must subscribe, pay the prescribed fee and nominate which program they intend to undertake.

At the time of subscription certified evidence must be produced from a registering authority that they are entitled to practise dentistry as a dentist in their country of residence.
 - (ii) Non-dentists who wish to sit for the Primary Examination (see Part C below) must subscribe and pay the prescribed fee.
 - (iii) Subscription is valid for a maximum of six (6) years, or until such time as the candidate has fulfilled the requirements set out for election to Membership or Fellowship of the College (see Parts B to F below).



- (iv) The College may in its absolute discretion decline to subscribe, enrol or examine any candidate for Membership or Fellowship of the College without assigning any reason thereof and any decision of the Council in this regard shall be final and conclusive and not subject to appeal.

ENROLMENT

- 7 The following Regulations apply:
 - (i) Candidates are required to enrol and pay the full fee for the examination by the date specified on the College Calendar. Enrolment is only valid for that examination.
 - (ii) At the time of enrolment certified evidence must be produced from a registering authority that they are entitled to practice dentistry as a dentist, unless the Handbook specifies otherwise.
 - (iii) The College reserves the right to appoint, change and determine the number of appointed examiners and to amend the timing and dates of examinations whenever conditions warrant. If examinations are cancelled or postponed, the examination enrolment fee will be refunded in full. The College does not take any responsibility for any other costs incurred by the candidate.
 - (iv) When a candidate withdraws enrolment for an examination, or fails to attend the examination, the fees paid may be refunded in part as specified in the College's Refund Policy. Applications for a refund based on compassionate or medical grounds may be made in writing to the Director of Education as per the Special Consideration in Assessment Policy.
- 8. Following Admission to Membership or Fellowship, the successful candidate will be awarded a testamur validating the examination passed.
- 9. Successful candidates are entitled to use the post-nominal/s set out in the relevant Clause of Section G below.
- 10. Candidates who are unsuccessful in any of the Membership or Fellowship examinations will receive a report on their performance within two (2) months of the examination.

Examiners shall make reports and recommendations to the Registrars of the relevant program as the case requires, who shall (after discussion with and approval by one (1) other Officer) determine and publish the results of the Examination and subsequently report to Council. Examination results and any feedback on the examination from examiners including a copy of the failed candidate report will be forwarded to the relevant Board of Studies for noting. In addition, for trainees in the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Training Program, a copy of the examination report will be sent



to the Director of Training. All proceedings and reports of examiners and meetings of examiners shall be confidential and privileged.

PART B

MEMBERSHIP IN GENERAL DENTAL PRACTICE

11. Admission to Membership in General Dental Practice is achieved by completing the requirements set out in the Handbook – Membership and Fellowship in General Dental Practice.

PART C

FELLOWSHIP IN GENERAL DENTAL PRACTICE

12. Admission to Fellowship in General Dental Practice is achieved by a sequence of:
 - (i) a) completion of, or exemption from, the Primary Examination (Clauses 13, 14), or
b) completion of the MRACDS(GDP) Program.
 - (ii) completion of the Final Examination (Clauses 16 - 21).

Primary Examination

13. Enrolment for the Primary Examination must be made by the date specified in the College Calendar.
14. Exemption from the Primary Examination may be allowed to those candidates who:
 - (i) hold a university higher degree in research or a degree leading to a specialist qualification in the health sciences, such a degree being of not less than two (2) years full time study or its equivalent
- 15 Information regarding the subject matter and conduct of the Primary Examination is contained in Handbook – Membership and Fellowship in General Dental Practice

Final Examination

16. Enrolment for the Final Examination must be made by the date specified in the College Calendar
17. Enrolment for the Final Examination will not be accepted until the candidate has passed, or been exempted, from the Primary Examination, or has been admitted to Membership (MRACDS(GDP)) in General Dental Practice



18. At the time of enrolment for the Final Examination candidates must produce certified evidence from a registering authority that they hold a current licence to practise dentistry as a dentist.
19. Enrolment for the Final Examination will not be accepted until three (3) years after the candidate has obtained a dental qualification, during which time the candidate must have completed a minimum of two (2) years clinical experience as a dentist.
20. Provisional enrolment and payment of the appropriate fee for the Final Examination may be accepted, provided that a candidate who does not comply with Clause 14 (exemption from the Primary Examination) prior to the date of enrolment for the Final Examination will so comply prior to the date of the Final Examination.
- 21 Information regarding the subject matter and conduct of the Final Examination is contained in Handbook – Membership and Fellowship in General Dental Practice.

PART D

MEMBERSHIP IN SPECIALIST DENTAL PRACTICE

22. As specified in Clause 3, Membership is offered in all Specialist Dental Practice disciplines.
23. Admission to Membership in Specialist Dental Practice is achieved by completing the requirements set out in the relevant Handbook – Membership and Fellowship in Specialist Dental Practice

The relevant Handbook details the requirements for eligibility, areas of study, assessment and award of Membership in each Specialist Dental Practice discipline.
24. The dates for application and examination are specified in the College Calendar.

PART E

FELLOWSHIP IN SPECIALIST DENTAL PRACTICE

25. As specified in Clause 3, Fellowship is offered in all Specialist Dental Practice disciplines.
26. Admission to Fellowship in Specialist Dental Practice is achieved by completing the requirements set out in the relevant Handbook – Membership and Fellowship in Specialist Dental Practice
27. Standards and requirements applying to examinations in a particular Specialist Dental Practice discipline are set out in the relevant Handbook.



28. In order to enrol for an examination, candidates must first apply to the relevant Board of Studies for an assessment of eligibility. Candidates assessed to be eligible will be so informed and invited to enrol for the examination, as provided in Clause 30.
29. Approval of the appropriate Board of Studies for eligibility for enrolment for the Fellowship Examination for Specialist Dental Practice is valid for three (3) years.
30. Applications for enrolment for the Fellowship Examination in a Specialist Dental Practice discipline shall be:
 - (i) made on the prescribed form
 - (ii) accompanied by the prescribed fee
 - (iii) lodged with the College before the due date specified in the College Calendar
31. The closing dates for application for enrolment and of the examination vary and will be specified in the College Calendar.

PART F

ORAL AND MAXILLORFACIAL SURGERY

As specified in Clause 3, Fellowship is offered in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

32. Admission to Fellowship in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery is achieved by completing the requirements set out in the relevant Handbook for Accredited Education and Training in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery or by the Specialist Assessment Process

PART G

POST-NOMINALS

Refer to By-Law 3 in the College By-Laws for information about post-nominals.