



Royal Australasian College
of Dental Surgeons
Let knowledge conquer disease

OMS EXAMINATION POLICY

December 2024

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Purpose

This policy outlines the examination processes for the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS) Foundation (Foundation) Examination and Fellowship Examination not explicit within the Accredited Training in OMS Handbook and associated policies. The policy governs the decisions of the Board of Studies and Examinations Committee.

Background

The Foundation Examination is a summative assessment designed to evaluate a trainee's knowledge and understanding of the OMS Curriculum's Foundation Module. The examination comprises of an online written examination and a clinical viva examination.

OMS 1 trainees are required to undertake the Foundation Examination during their first clinical training year. The Foundation examination must be passed in order for OMS trainees to progress their training path towards OMS 3 level. Trainees who have not passed the examination after three (3) attempts will be dismissed from the training program. The Fellowship Examination is a summative assessment of a trainee's achievement of the learning outcomes outlined in the OMS Curriculum Advanced Modules. The examination assesses whether the trainee has the appropriate knowledge and experience to care autonomously for the surgical patient as an OMS consultant. The examination consists of four sections: an online written examination, clinical examination, surgical Anatomy viva, and OMS vivas. An OMS trainee must pass the Fellowship Examination and complete all other training requirements to be awarded a fellowship.

A maximum of three attempts at the Fellowship Examination will be permitted. Failure to pass the Fellowship examination by the third attempt will result in dismissal from the OMS Training Program.

Definitions

RACDS / the College	the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons
OMS	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
Trainee	A medical and dental practitioner undertaking accredited training in the RACDS OMS Training Program
Specialist International Medical Graduate	A medical and dental practitioner who completed their primary medical, dental, and specialist qualifications outside of Australia or New Zealand and is undergoing specialist recognition assessment
Candidate	A medical and dental practitioner who is a trainee and registered to attempt the examination
RACDS / the College	the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons

1. EXAMINATION REGISTRATION

- 1.1. Candidates must register for the Foundation Examination and Fellowship Examination by submitting the appropriate registration form (i.e., FOMS 04, FOMS 06) to the College by the advertised closing date. Their respective Director of Training must review and approve their registration before submission to the College. Furthermore, the Training Committee must review and approve the trainee's eligibility for the Fellowship Examination before registration. The forms, timetables, and fees can be found on the OMS trainees page of the RACDS website.
- 1.2. The Overseas Trained Specialist Subcommittee may require specialist international medical graduates (SIMGs) to complete the Fellowship Examination as part of their specialist recognition assessment. Please refer to the RACDS Specialist Assessment of Specialist International Medical Graduate Policy for information about the specialist assessment process in Australia and New Zealand.

2. WITHDRAWAL FROM EXAMINATION

- 2.1. Candidates who wish to withdraw from an examination must advise the College in writing before the written examination date in accordance with the RACDS Refund Policy.
- 2.2. Candidates who do not attend an examination without notifying the College will be considered a failed attempt unless there are extenuating circumstances, which can be supported by appropriate documentation submitted to the Board of Studies.

3. EXAMINATION CONDUCT

- 3.1. A breach of academic integrity may constitute academic misconduct. Academic misconduct occurs when behaviour or action (i.e., intentional or unintentional) breaches the principles underpinning academic integrity. Academic misconduct in examinations includes but is not limited to plagiarism, unauthorised collaboration, unauthorised materials and resources, and impersonation. All instances or allegations of Academic Misconduct will be considered in accordance with the RACDS Academic Integrity Policy.
- 3.2. The College reserves the right to withhold examination results while investigations are ongoing.

4. OUTCOMES

- 4.1. The passing standard is set at each examination using formal standard-setting methods. It may be adjusted with consideration to differences in the difficulty of examinations and to maintain the standards. The minimum score required to pass may be set by applying an error adjustment to the passing standard score.

- 4.2. To successfully pass the Foundation examination, a candidate must achieve the passing standard in the written examination, an overall pass in the clinical/viva examination, and pass the clinical/viva examination anatomy module and communication module in the same examination diet.
- 4.3. To successfully pass the Fellowship Examination, a candidate must achieve the passing standard in the written examination, the anatomy viva examination, and an overall pass in the clinical/viva examinations in the same examination diet.
- 4.4. The College will securely dispose of all examination materials, including online candidate scripts, thirty (30) days after unsuccessful candidates receive individual feedback. Online candidate scripts will be deleted permanently and cannot be recovered or reconstructed.

5. NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

- 5.1. The Court of Examiners assesses the marks of all candidates immediately following the written and clinical examinations. The Registrar will notify candidates of the results by email within two (2) working days.
- 5.2. Unsuccessful candidates will receive general feedback within four weeks following the release of examination results. The College encourages unsuccessful candidates to meet with their Director of Training, Supervisor of Training, or mentor to discuss results and to prepare for the next examination if eligible.

6. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

A candidate may apply for consideration of special circumstances in accordance with the Special Consideration Policy.

7. RECORDING OF EXAMINATIONS

- 7.1 The College reserves the right to record the Foundation and Fellowship Examination in accordance with the RACDS Recording Examination Policy.

8. APPEALS

- 8.1. A candidate may appeal the decision subject to the RACDS Reconsideration, Review, and Appeals Policy. The Registrar and Board of Studies will consider each case on its merits in accordance with the policy.