

OCCUPATIONAL TRAINING VISA (OTV) APPLICATION PROCESS



The Royal Australian
and New Zealand
College of
Obstetricians and
Gynaecologists

What is an Occupational Training Visa?

Occupational Training Visas (OTVs) are available from the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (DIMIA) and allow overseas trained doctors to access training in obstetrics and gynaecology in short-term positions in Australian hospitals (i.e. usually 12 to 24 months' duration).

Who can apply for an OTV?

Overseas-trained doctors are eligible to apply for OTVs. Hospitals must first advertise the position within Australia. If no Australian candidates can be found, the hospital can recruit from abroad. Once a suitable candidate has been employed, the hospital must then assist them to apply for an OTV from DIMIA.

Please note: If you are a permanent resident or hold a permanent spousal visa, you are **NOT** eligible for an OTV

What is the role of RANZCOG?

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) provides formal letters of support for successful OTV applicants. This letter of support is necessary for overseas trained doctors to obtain approval from DIMIA and Medical Board registration. OTVs will not be issued without this letter.

Please note: The Australian Medical Council has no involvement in OTV assessment

What documents are required in an OTV application to RANZCOG?

The hospital must submit the following five documents:

- the **hospital** application form, available on the RANZCOG website - <http://www.ranzcog.edu.au/overseas/pdfs/otv-form-a-hospital-application.pdf>
- a position description
- a detailed training program including:
 - name of approved supervisor/s
 - training timetable
 - statement indicating that the applicant will attend and participate in any appropriate professional development opportunities available within the training period
 - brief description of the objective/s of the proposed training and how the applicant's progress/performance will be evaluated at the end of his/her training period
- a written statement that the appointment will not disadvantage any trainees currently registered in the College's training program
- a copy of the newspaper advertisement for the position.

If the application does not contain all of the required information, it will not be processed and will be posted back to the hospital.

OTV Applications

Contact:

Administration Officer
RANZCOG

254-260 Albert Street
East Melbourne
Victoria 3002

Tel +61 3 9412 2911

Fax +61 3 9419 7817

Email

mbrislin@ranzcog.edu.au

www.ranzcog.edu.au

RANZCOG website-<http://www.ranzcog.edu.au/overseas/index.shtml>

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NOTE:

If you are already in the 6-year training course or have been assessed as an Overseas Trained Specialist by the College, you do not need to apply for an OTV to obtain a letter of support for medical board registration.

For further information please contact Katherine Goodwin (see contact details below)

The **applicant** must submit the following five documents:

- the candidate's application form, available on the RANZCOG website - <http://www.ranzcog.edu.au/overseas/pdfs/otv-form-b-doctor-application.pdf>
- an up-to-date curriculum vitae
- a certified copy of their primary medical degree
- a current certificate of good standing (dated less than six months ago)
- certificates of membership of appropriate medical bodies
- a brief summary of why the applicant wishes to undertake the position.

What is the process for the College assessment of an OTV application?

The Chair of the RANZCOG Training Accreditation Committee in the relevant state approves the application. Then the Chair of the College Training and Accreditation Committee gives final authorisation.

How long does the College OTV assessment process take?

Up to three weeks, provided all documentation is submitted. Hospitals must ensure the application is complete before submitting it to the College to avoid administrative delays. Once the applicant has been assessed, the College will send a formal letter of support to the relevant hospital.

What is the fee for the College assessment process?

The 2008 administrative fee is AUD \$648.00, including GST.

Can an OTV be extended?

Yes, OTVs can be extended. To do this, the employing hospital must submit a new application together with the processing fee.

What if the applicant already has the right to work in Australia?

Often overseas trained doctors have a **temporary** spousal visa entitling them to full working rights in Australia. The College can issue a letter of support necessary for Medical Board registration providing the applicant applies for and is granted an OTV.

Is the training accredited by the College?

No, the training is not accredited by the College. Overseas trained doctors wanting to undertake accredited training must apply to enter the RANZCOG six-year training program at Year 1. Please contact the College for details.

Can an OTV holder enrol in the ITP?

No. To enter the ITP in Australia, doctors must have an approved Australian or New Zealand primary medical degree, OR an Australian Medical Council certificate. Certified evidence of Australian residency and medical registration status must also be supplied. For further information regarding the ITP, please refer to the College website: www.ranzcog.edu.au

Does the College have information on current job vacancies?

No. For a list of hospitals which have O&G departments, please refer to pages 16-18 of the 2007 Training Program Handbook on the website -

<http://www.ranzcog.edu.au/publications/pdfs/education/Training-Handbook.pdf>

These hospitals may have job vacancies listed on their individual websites.

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kgoodwin@ranzcog.edu.au

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