

2022 Annual General Meeting – Frequently asked questions

[Updated 22 November 2022]

AGM resolution related questions

Q: When will the AGM be held?

The 65th [Annual General Meeting \(AGM\)](#) will be held on Thursday 24 November 2022 from 4.30 pm (AEDT) at [GP22](#), the RACGP's annual conference taking place at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. The AGM will be held as a hybrid meeting, which will allow you the flexibility to attend in person or participate online.

Q: I won't be attending the conference, but can I still attend the AGM?

Yes, you can. The RACGP will be live streaming the AGM. You can register to attend the AGM live stream via the online registration form, and you will be sent the access details upon completion of your registration.

[Register for the AGM live stream.](#)

Q: Will convocation be held this year?

Yes, it will. The 2022 RACGP Convocation will be held on Thursday 24 November 2022 from 3.30 pm (AEDT) at [GP22](#).

Convocation is an opportunity for RACGP members to raise matters of importance with other members and alert the Board to issues that GPs consider important. Resolutions passed by Convocation are not binding on the Board; however, all items passed by Convocation will be considered. The RACGP will report back on the progress of 2021 items during the 2022 Convocation.

Q: How can I vote at the AGM?

The voting period for the RACGP AGM resolutions is from 12.00 pm (AEDT), Wednesday 16 November 2022 until the announcement of the resolutions during the AGM on Thursday 24 November 2022.

Eligible voters will receive an email from our Returning Officers at OGL Group from the email address racgpreturningofficer@gmail.com. The email will contain your unique voting link to submit your vote via the BigPulse voting platform. Please check your spam and junk folders for the email.

Any questions about the voting process can be directed to the RACGP Returning Officer, Gavin Ryan at racgpreturningofficer@gmail.com or on 0403 336 829.

Q: How do I know if I'm eligible to vote?

The eligibility of members to vote on AGM resolutions is outlined in the [RACGP Constitution](#).

- Fellows, Members and Registrar Associates can vote on all resolutions.
- Associates can vote on Resolution 1 (Director's remuneration) only.

*Affiliates are not eligible to vote on resolutions, however, they are welcome to attend the AGM.

“Member” does not include Honorary Member unless it is expressly stated that it does so.

Q: Why are changes to the RACGP Constitution proposed?

An important change is the establishment of the Northern Territory Faculty Council.

The RACGP entered into a new funding agreement with the Department of Health in August 2022 to deliver the Australian General Practice Training Program. Changes are proposed to ensure the Constitution is appropriate for the RACGP’s current and proposed structure, operations and expanded activities.

Q: What is meant by “vocational training” in the constitution?

Vocational training refers to undertaking a RACGP program or one of the pathways to RACGP Fellowship.

Q: How much does the RACGP President get paid?

The RACGP President currently gets a director fee of \$41,457.15, a Presidential fee of \$196,800 plus superannuation which equates to \$263,274.15.

There is no increase to the base fee proposed at the 2022 AGM, other than federally mandated superannuation increases.

Q: How much do our Board Directors get paid?

The RACGP Directors receive a Director Fee of \$41,457.15 plus superannuation. Fees are also paid to Board Directors in addition to the Director Fee, for the following positions:

- Board Chair \$58,971.02
- Vice-President \$20,727.46
- Chair of Finance Audit and Risk Management Committee \$20,727.46
- Chair of People Culture Nominations and Remuneration Committee \$20,727.46

No increase to fees is proposed for the 2022 AGM other than federally mandated superannuation increases.

Q: What roles make up the RACGP Board?

The RACGP Board of Directors consist of the following positions:

- Board Chair
- President
- Vice President
- Chair of Finance Audit and Risk Management Committee / co-opted Board director
- Chair of People Culture Nominations and Remuneration Committee
- Censor in Chief
- Chair of RACGP Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health
- Chair of RACGP Specific Interests
- Chair of RACGP Rural
- Chair of GPs in Training
- Chair of RACGP VIC
- Chair of RACGP WA



- Chair of RACGP SA
- Chair of RACGP NT
- Chair of RACGP NSW&ACT
- Chair of RACGP QLD
- Chair of RACGP TAS
- Co-opted Board director

The separate positions of Chair of RACGP SA and Chair of RACGP NT is pending member approval of the constitution amendment, proposed at the 2022 AGM.

Q: What are related party transactions?

Board directors have a statutory duty to act in the best interests of the company. To aid in the delivery of this obligation there are statutory restrictions on the benefits that a Board Director and others (including “related parties”) may receive. The duty to avoid conflicts of interest also supports this premise.

Related party transactions are circumstances in which financial benefits are provided to related parties of a legal entity. There are limited circumstances in which financial benefits to related parties of public companies, like the RACGP, are permissible.

For the purposes of RACGP "related parties" include:

- i. directors of RACGP;
 - ii. the spouses/domestic partners of RACGP directors
 - iii. children of RACGP directors,
 - iv. spouses/domestic partners of children of RACGP directors
 - v. any dependants to categories ii, iii & iv above
 - vi. entities controlled by any of the above.
- at the relevant time, in the previous 6 months, or if likely in the future.

Examples of a financial benefits include:

- RACGP providing a related party with finance or property;
- RACGP buying an asset from or selling an asset to a related party;
- RACGP leasing an asset from or to a related party; and
- RACGP supplying services to or receiving services from a related party.

If RACGP, as a public company, wishes to give a financial benefit to a related party it must:

- obtain approval of its members to give the benefit (such benefit is to be received by the related party within 15 months of the date of member approval); or
- be a benefit which falls within the exception provided for in the *Corporations Act* as set out below:
 - o financial benefit is on arm's length terms;
 - o financial benefit is reasonable remuneration to an officer or employee of the public company or a related company;
 - o financial benefit is payment of expenses incurred by such an officer or employee in performing their duties.

All related party transactions must be declared to the Board, assessed that they meet the arm's length terms and disclosed in the RACGP Statutory Accounts report.

Q: Can I appoint a Proxy for the AGM?

Yes, you can. Please use the [Proxy Appointment Form](#) if you would like to appoint a Fellow, Member or Registrar Associate to act as your proxy for the AGM.

Completed Proxy Appointment Forms must be received by the RACGP Returning Officer by 4.30pm (AEDT) on Tuesday 22 November 2022. Forms received after this time cannot be accepted.

*NB: It is noted that due to conflict of interest provisions, the Board directors will not be casting votes for, and the AGM and Chair will not be receiving proxy votes from Board directors for Ordinary Resolution 6.1.

Continuing Professional Development related questions

Q: What changes can we expect in the 2023 CPD triennium?

As of 2023, continuing professional development (CPD) is changing for not only GPs, but doctors of every speciality across Australia. The Medical Board of Australia (MBA) has outlined new annual CPD requirements, but the RACGP is here to help you navigate the changes as your trusted CPD home.

[Visit the RACGP Website for detailed information](#) or [Register for a GP information session](#) to find out more.

Q: Is there a detailed overview of changes in the new triennium?

There is a detailed overview of the changes, the basics and the detail on the RACGP CPD website in our [frequently asked questions](#).

Q: What sort of activities will I have to undertake in the new CPD triennium?

There is a detailed overview of the [CPD options by activity type](#) on our website.

Q: Can the Board detail the strategy and timelines for getting the RACGP Foundation back on track in terms of fundraising and re-orienting the Foundation focus to the current needs of GP members.

The RACGP have made a commitment in our 2022-2025 operating plan to build the RACGP Foundation to support research aligned with member needs. We want to support research where it is needed:

- to progress the development of the profession and the environment they work within
- in support of sector and social issues such as equity and access, models of care and workforce distribution
- to inform policy and advocacy positions and communicate social impact.



We have heard the feedback regarding an opportunity to review our current Foundation grants and to work towards a model which allows greater flexibility for appropriate funds to be available to support research that aligns with current and future core needs of general practice. Ultimately, we want to provide opportunities for members to lead and translate research that will improve the health and wellbeing of our community and to support a sustainable and evidence-based general practice community and pipeline. We see this as critical in achieving sustainability of the profession.

RACGP has identified that internal structure and capacity has been a barrier to implementing a review and improvement strategy for the RACGP Foundation. To address this, we have:

- realigned the Research and Foundation department within the RACGP to sit within Policy and Advocacy to enable better linkages and alignment.
- committed funds to enable an increase in capacity to support Foundation and related Research activity.

We have very recently welcomed a new Research and Foundation Manager who will work closely with the RACGP Expert Committee for Research and the Foundation Board to oversee a review and development of the inter-related RACGP Research and Foundation strategies. We are also currently recruiting a Fundraising Manager position to the team. This is a new position, which will bring in skills and capacity to develop and deliver on a member informed RACGP Foundation Fundraising Strategy. We hope to welcome this position in 2023.

We acknowledge that major review and development will take time and would anticipate that we will be able to communicate incremental celebrations through 2023 as we work through the larger process. We welcome member feedback at any time and continue to capture this as we are building our capacity.

Q: Given advocacy is one of RACGP's priorities, how does the board explain its lack of an ACT faculty? Are there any plans for a new faculty, similar to NT? If not, are professional lobbyists on the cards?

Thank you for your question regarding the consideration of a standalone ACT faculty of the RACGP. Unlike the Northern Territory, where there has never been a standalone faculty, ACT has enjoyed 2 different attempts to stand up a separate faculty, once in 1971, when sub faculties were established in ACT, as well as the Hunter/Newcastle and Illawarra regions of NSW, and again, to full faculty status in 1997. These sub-faculties became non-functional and were subsumed back to the NSW faculty in the late 80's, while the ACT faculty, created in 1997, ceased to function in 2001.

The College continues to assess the placement of faculty footprints and will examine the appropriate placement as is both financially sustainable and strategically beneficial.

A professional lobbyist is employed by the RACGP and working from office space leased at the National Press Club in Canberra, and additional resourcing will be assessed as required.

Q: What is meant by the amendment to clause 104 of the Constitution, Income to be applied towards the college's objects?

This change is to ensure the college's income may be applied to a related entity, such as GP Synergy (now called RACGP Training Services), provided that the related entity's charitable purpose is consistent with that of the RACGP. This will facilitate the use of RACGP Training Services to employ staff and to help deliver the Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) program.

Q: I wish to ask when a full & frank disclosure incl forensic investigation report will be forthcoming from the RACGP in relation to the failed KFP 2020.2? Many members have been affected & await the promised communication from the RACGP about the debacle. Furthermore, the mistake that caused the failed examination has proven to disenfranchise an entire cohort of Registrars from RACGP. Delivery on the promised information may serve as one small step to rebuild lost trust.

Following the exam failure, an extensive internal review was undertaken and a number of learnings were implemented.

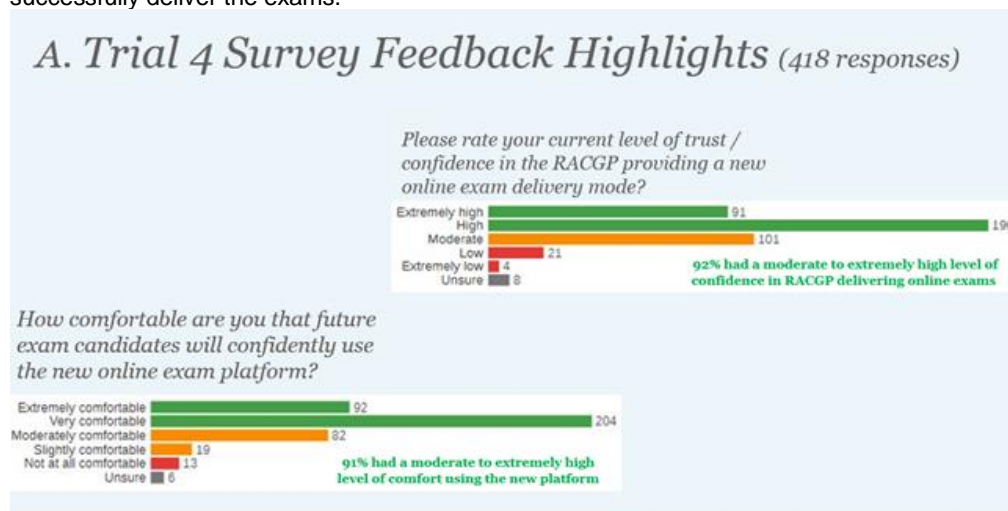
Legal mediation is currently underway with the exam vendor, therefore the RACGP is limited in detail of what we are able to disclose at this time.

The RACGP engaged external consultancy agency PwC to undertake two key pieces of work to ensure the learnings identified from the exam failure had been embedded in current practice.

- Independent Quality Assurance Review
 - A review of the RACGP's governance, scope management, project plans and schedule, delivery methodology and approach, Risk & Issues management in relation to the execution of the new online assessment software project implementation.
- A Go-Live Readiness Check
 - A review which looked extensively at exam readiness processes to ensure safe execution for the implementation of the new online assessment system for July 2022 exams. Findings provided reassurance that there were no findings that impeded the go live of the project for real exams.

The July exams online for the AKT was successfully delivered with no issues encountered for participants.

A recent member trial was undertaken for the new KFP online exam with around 520 members. This trial was a large success and a survey of over 418 responses showed a high level of confidence in the RACGP to successfully deliver the exams.



An extensive readiness check to proceed with both the AKT and KFP online exams for February 2023; a significant number of test events have been undertaken to ensure the RACGP is ready to proceed.



Q: Can we scrape [sic] The PLAN for the next triennium that was removed for this triennium due to overwhelming unpopularity. The non-executive GPs are already inundated with S8 compliance paperwork and others. There is less than 15% uptake for General Practice & this will worsen the situation.

One of the new minimum annual requirements mandated by the Medical Board of Australia for all medical practitioners, is the completion of a professional development plan (PDP) each year. This requirement will take effect from January 2023.

We understand the concerns that were raised about PLAN and have developed a simple platform and solution to reduce the administrative burden, making recording and completing your CPD easier. We have also developed a range of fully curated examples and recommended activities by Scope of Practice that will demonstrate how you can meet your CPD requirements through activities that you do in your everyday practice.

Development of the PDP, whilst mandated, has been integrated and simplified, offering you two options:

1. To develop your own PDP and upload it or
2. Use the RACGP's simple four question template in your myCPD dashboard.

More information about the new CPD requirements can be found [here](#).