

Affiliate Membership

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Overseas Trained
Psychiatrists



THE ROYAL
AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND
COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS

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www.ranzcp.org

An invitation to become a member of the RANZCP

The RANZCP is pleased to announce a new category of membership aimed at overseas trained psychiatrists currently working in Australia. This new category adds to the two existing membership types within the College (for Fellows and trainees).

If you would like to:

- Become part of the RANZCP, an internationally recognised institution representing the medical specialty of psychiatry in Australia and New Zealand
- Participate in the RANZCP's Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Program
- Ensure the needs of overseas trained psychiatrists are addressed
- Develop yourself professionally
- Have access to information, journals, member benefits and other resources
- Take advantage of networking opportunities, as well as receive formal recognition within the College
- Have a voice in the affairs of the College

Then we invite you to apply for Affiliate Membership with the RANZCP.

What is the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists?

The RANZCP is the principal body representing the medical specialty of psychiatry in Australasia. It represents more than 2,600 Fellows in Australia and New Zealand and approximately 800 doctors who are training to become psychiatrists.

Established in 1963, the College has prime responsibility for training, examining and awarding the qualification of Fellowship of the College to medical practitioners specialising in psychiatry. Other College functions include administering continuing medical education and professional development programs for practicing professionals; holding an annual scientific congress and various sectional conferences throughout the year; publishing a range of journals, statements and other policy documents; managing and delivering to a range of high level projects and liaising with government, allied professionals and community groups in the interests of psychiatrists, patients and the general community.

Affiliate Membership

Until now, membership of the RANZCP in Australia has only been available to psychiatrists who have been granted College Fellowship status, and to psychiatric trainees (as Associate Members). With the development of the Affiliate Membership program, overseas trained psychiatrists now have the opportunity to become Affiliate Members of the RANZCP and benefit from the educational activities, advocacy, projects, development and other activities of the College.

The RANZCP acknowledges that overseas trained psychiatrists working in Australia and New Zealand are a key part of the workforce and an important component of mental health care. The College is committed to representing overseas trained psychiatrists and enhancing their involvement in College life, to providing increased support, and to improving its own knowledge of the issues facing overseas trained psychiatrists working here.

As an Affiliate Member, you become part of the RANZCP, an internationally recognised institution.

With a new category of Affiliate Membership, the RANZCP recognises the need to build on the exceptional and diverse knowledge base of psychiatrists who gained their qualifications outside Australia and New Zealand. By providing a special category of membership, the College is recognising that overseas trained psychiatrists have unique needs and concerns. It seeks to establish stronger relationships with all overseas trained psychiatrists, to provide access to networking opportunities, education and other resources, and to give an official 'voice' within the College.

Affiliate Membership is not equivalent to Fellowship of the RANZCP, and it does not carry the same rights and privileges of Fellowship. The Affiliate Membership category does not in itself act as a direct pathway to RANZCP Fellowship; overseas trained psychiatrists wishing to obtain Fellowship are required to apply via the specialist assessment pathway to Fellowship.



Benefits and entitlements of Affiliate Membership

- A say in the future and direction of your profession
- A welcome / membership pack
- Access to psychiatry-related education, activities and resources
- Free College journals - the *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry* (12 issues per year) and *Australasian Psychiatry* (6 issues per year)
- Monthly e-newsletter
- Enrolment in the RANZCP's CPD (Continuing Professional Development) Program and access anywhere in Australia and New Zealand to the College's CPD activities
- Involvement in branch-level activities
- Access to the College's online resources, including resources designed especially for overseas trained psychiatrists
- A voice in College affairs, through an elected OTP committee
- Possibility to participate in the activities of other relevant College boards and committees
- An opportunity to attend the RANZCP's annual scientific congress
- Opportunities to become involved in the RANZCP's Faculties, Sections or Special Interest Groups
- Discounts on a variety of goods and services through the College's *Member Advantage* program

Affiliate Members, like other members of the RANZCP, are bound by the College's Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics.

Affiliate Members may not use the post-nominals 'FRANZCP', or state or imply that they are a Fellow of the College in any capacity whatsoever. However they may refer to themselves as 'Affiliate Member, RANZCP'.

Specialised support services

The RANZCP has developed specialised support services aimed at overseas trained psychiatrists, particularly those who are aspiring towards gaining Fellowship. These include the separate Exemption Candidate Exam plus exam preparation workshops; access to funding for professional development; a mentoring program; online modules; and an exemption candidate newsletter and comprehensive web site. In addition, workshops and discussion sessions for overseas trained psychiatrists have been held throughout 2007.

The OTP committee

The RANZCP's General Council approved the establishment of an OTP committee in 2006, and this committee will act as the main representative body of Affiliate Members. The OTP committee reports directly to General Council, promoting the interests of overseas trained psychiatrists practicing in Australia and New Zealand.

Representatives from each Australian state and territory and from New Zealand, elected by Affiliate Members, make up the OTP committee. In addition, General Council appoints two of its own councillors to serve on the committee. All Affiliate Members will have the chance to nominate themselves for the OTP committee.

Affiliate Membership eligibility and application process

To be eligible to apply for Affiliate Membership, you must:

- Hold a specialist qualification in psychiatry that allows you to practice as a psychiatrist in the country where you trained; AND
- Be currently employed as a specialist psychiatrist in Australia OR be registered with the RANZCP as an exemption candidate.

To apply to become an Affiliate Member, you must complete the 'RANZCP Affiliate Membership Application Form' and submit it to the RANZCP head office in Melbourne. Your application must be proposed and seconded by Fellows or Affiliate Members of the RANZCP (although at least one must be a Fellow), and must be accompanied by your current CV and supporting documentation confirming your current employment as a specialist and/or status as an exemption candidate. Certified copies of your psychiatric qualifications must also be submitted with your application.

Your application will then be forwarded for consideration to the RANZCP's General Council.

Affiliate Membership Fees

Affiliate Membership fees are payable each year upon receipt of an invoice from the RANZCP head office. Fees are set each year by General Council.

For further information

Telephone: 1800 337 448 (toll-free within Australia)
Email: otp@ranzcp.org



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