



AOA

AUSTRALIAN  
ORTHOPAEDIC  
ASSOCIATION

## Application Guidelines

### Paediatric Rotation at Shriners Hospital for Children 2025

### Portland, Oregon USA

#### Background

The Australian Orthopaedic Association (AOA) is proud to offer trainees the opportunity to undertake a rotation at the Shriners Hospital for Children in Portland, Oregon, USA.

Shriners Hospital was accredited by the AOA in 2005 to provide two AOA training posts in Paediatric Orthopaedics. In 2021, a third training post was accredited.

Therefore, each year six AOA trainees will be selected to undertake a 6-month rotation in Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgery at Shriners.

#### Purpose

The purpose of the Shriners rotation is twofold; to provide otherwise unavailable exposure to paediatric orthopaedic surgery, and, to allow trainees with a special interest in paediatrics to gain additional experience in this area. Further, AOA trainees will benefit from this rotation as it provides a unique, structured learning experience in the area of paediatric orthopaedic surgery. During the rotation AOA trainees will act as an observer under the direct supervision of the Shriners' attending physicians in all areas of clinical care in paediatric orthopaedics.

AOA trainees will be exposed to and experience a broad spectrum of paediatric orthopaedics, with special emphasis on Cerebral Palsy, Spina Bifida, Neuromuscular disorders, Dysplasia and Metaplasia of bone and joint, in addition to many other paediatric orthopaedic conditions. There is also an opportunity for trainees to participate in a number of research programs, including clinical review, basic science and molecular biology.

Furthermore, trainees will participate in other clinical education and didactic activities relating to paediatric orthopaedic services.

Further information regarding the orthopaedic staff and care specialties at the hospital can be found at: -

<https://www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org/portland>

#### Application Process

- Applications are invited from trainees who will have completed their first 12 months of Introduction to **Orthopaedics** at the time of their Shriners rotation.
- Applicants must complete and submit the enclosed **AOA Expression of Interest Form**. The trainee is asked to outline reasons why they are interested in



**AOA**  
AUSTRALIAN  
ORTHOPAEDIC  
ASSOCIATION

undertaking a paediatric rotation at the Shriners Hospital and provide information on any other paediatric experience they may have had.

- Along with the AOA Expression of Interest Form, applicants must also obtain a **letter of support** from the Chair of their Regional Training Committee:

Region	RTC Chair	Contact
QLD	John Radovanovic	<a href="mailto:jradov@hotmail.com">jradov@hotmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:david.parker@aoa.org.au">david.parker@aoa.org.au</a>
NSW Newcastle	John Estens	<a href="mailto:drjohnestens@gmail.com">drjohnestens@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:jessica.matavao@aoa.org.au">jessica.matavao@aoa.org.au</a> <a href="mailto:kathleen.armarta@aoa.org.au">kathleen.armarta@aoa.org.au</a>
NSW Northside	Ben Gooden	<a href="mailto:benjamingooden@gmail.com">benjamingooden@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:Jessica.matavao@aoa.org.au">Jessica.matavao@aoa.org.au</a> <a href="mailto:Kathleen.armarta@aoa.org.au">Kathleen.armarta@aoa.org.au</a>
NSW Southside	Jai Sungaran	<a href="mailto:sungaran@optusnet.com.au">sungaran@optusnet.com.au</a> <a href="mailto:jessica.matavao@aoa.org.au">jessica.matavao@aoa.org.au</a> <a href="mailto:kathleen.armarta@aoa.org.au">kathleen.armarta@aoa.org.au</a>
VIC/TAS	Sam Joseph	<a href="mailto:sam.jsph1@gmail.com">sam.jsph1@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:leanne.doyle@aoa.org.au">leanne.doyle@aoa.org.au</a> <a href="mailto:mihika.hegde@aoa.org.au">mihika.hegde@aoa.org.au</a>
SA/NT	Paul Allcock	<a href="mailto:paul.allcock@sa.gov.au">paul.allcock@sa.gov.au</a> <a href="mailto:melissa.dobson@aoa.org.au">melissa.dobson@aoa.org.au</a>
WA	Greg Hogan	<a href="mailto:gphogan@iinet.net.au">gphogan@iinet.net.au</a> <a href="mailto:julia.holloway@aoa.org.au">julia.holloway@aoa.org.au</a>

- The Expression of Interest Form and Letter of Support should be emailed to the AOA Training Inbox **by 9am AEDT on Monday 15 January 2024** via email: [training@aoa.org.au](mailto:training@aoa.org.au)  
Applications will NOT be accepted after this date and time.
- The AOA Federal Training Committee (FTC) considers applications on an annual basis during its February meeting. In assessing each application, the FTC will give preference to those trainees who have not yet undertaken, and are otherwise unlikely to have the opportunity to undertake, a paediatric term during training. Please note that applications considered in February are for rotations commencing in February or August the following year.
- Only complete applications, that is, those with both an Expression of Interest Form and Letter of Support, will be tendered to the FTC for their consideration. Applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application in March 2024.



**AOA**  
AUSTRALIAN  
ORTHOPAEDIC  
ASSOCIATION

- Trainees who are successful in gaining a Shriners Post will be put in direct contact with the Shriners Department, who will provide a comprehensive information pack. Shriners staff offer assistance and guidance on requisite paperwork and make arrangements for accommodation, and so on.

If it is not possible to fill all six positions at Shriners Hospital at the February Federal Training Committee meeting, a second round of applications will be considered when the Committee meets in July. Trainees will be advised in good time of the closing date for second round applications.

Should you have any questions or require further information please contact the training team:

- Ms Eloise Patrick, AOA Education & Training Officer on 02 8071 8000  
or [eloise.patrick@aoa.org.au](mailto:eloise.patrick@aoa.org.au)