

## Far North Queensland (FNQ) Rural Training Rotation Pathway

Applicants who select Queensland as their primary or secondary preference will have the opportunity to indicate an interest in being considered for the Far North Queensland (FNQ) rural training rotation pathway.

Indicating an interest in the FNQ rural rotation will not impact the success of an application. It should only be selected if the applicant is willing to commit to an extended training experience in a rural or regional setting.

The highest-ranked successful applicant who has 'opted in' for the FNQ rural rotation will be offered a FNQ rural rotation post. A post outside this pathway will not be available.

Like any other training post, successful applicants are required to accept or decline the FNQ rural rotation post. If a successful applicant declines the offered training post, they will not be considered further in the Selection process. By accepting an offer to participate in the FNQ training pathway, the applicant agrees to stay on the pathway for the duration of their training.

The FNQ training rotation pathway provides an opportunity for Orthopaedic Trainees to experience extended training in a rural or regional setting. The aim of spending a significant proportion of training time in regional centres is not only to provide a strong base of Orthopaedic skills and knowledge but also an opportunity to experience the lifestyle in a rural setting. Hopefully, this pathway will encourage trainees to consider settling in regional centres once their training is complete. This in turn may help to address the imbalance that currently exists in workforce numbers between regional and urban centres in Queensland.

The FNQ training rotation will involve a QLD trainee spending **up to 80%** of their training time in rural Queensland. The rural training under the FNQ training pathway will be spread across regional or rural accredited training sites including Townsville, Mackay, Cairns and Rockhampton Hospitals.

### The benefits of participating in the FNQ training pathway:

1. Each trainee participating in the FNQ training pathway will have an individually tailored pathway through the participating training sites based on their clinical experience and stage of training. They will not only receive teaching and training in accordance with AOA21 training requirements but will also be exposed to the practice of Orthopaedics in the rural setting. The emphasis will be on gaining clinical and surgical experience which will be broad-based, encompassing both trauma and elective conditions.
2. The participating sites cover most of the Orthopaedic Subspecialties which will help trainees establish a strong foundation in surgical skills, and additional skills development will be provided by metropolitan rotations.
3. Trainees in the FNQ training pathway will be fully supported with regard to attending conferences, courses, and AORA meetings. The participating sites will ensure leave entitlements, such as study, exam, paternal, and maternal leave, are made available to the selected trainees.
4. The regional training centres participating in the FNQ training pathway are committed to providing the needed support to each trainee's relocation. All requirements stipulated in the *AOA Accreditation Standards for Hospitals and Training Positions* with regard to trainee relocation and resettlement will be duly honoured. A Liaison Staff at each site will be the point of contact responsible for organising the relocation, settlement, and any other necessary items required to efficiently conduct the process.

For more information, please contact the Selection Team at [selection@aoa.org.au](mailto:selection@aoa.org.au)