



**AOA**  
AUSTRALIAN  
ORTHOPAEDIC  
ASSOCIATION

## AOA 2017 Cohort Progression FAQs

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This document applies to trainees who commenced on the AOA Training Program in 2017 only.

This document is intended to assist trainees in the 2017 cohort with understanding their progression from SET 1 and 2, to the AOA 21 Training Program.

### **What do I have to do to move into Core Orthopaedics in 2019?**

Trainees will need to complete the training requirements of SET 1 & 2 as outlined in the [SET Policy: 2017 Cohort Progression Requirements](#) in order to progress to Core Orthopaedics.

Trainees who do not complete the requirements will transition into Introduction to Orthopaedics.

You can use the [Progression Checklist](#) to track your completion of the requirements.

### **Will my training be extended because I am doing SET 1 & 2 before moving to AOA 21? AOA 21 Trainees only have to do a year of Intro.**

Following SET 1 & 2, you will need to spend a minimum of 2 years in Core Orthopaedics and 1 year in Transition to Practice. We expect that trainees who progress through training without needing any additional support will still be able to complete the training program in 5 years.

During your SET 2 year, you can begin working towards the requirements of Core Orthopaedics. During Core, trainees must complete 11 [Orthopaedic Modules](#) based on the topics of the applied medical and surgical expertise section of the curriculum.

By the end of Core Orthopaedics trainees must have a minimum of one WBA in their portfolio that indicates 4 or 5 on the global scale for a predetermined list of procedures. The specific requirements are detailed in the AOA 21 Training Handbook [here](#).

Trainees are encouraged to begin working towards collecting these WBAs. Once in Core, you will be able to assign WBAs completed in SET 1 & 2 to the Orthopaedic Module requirements as evidence of competence.

Trainees will also need to demonstrate competence in Level 1 surgical skills for each module.

### **What about the Fellowship Exam?**

The Fellowship Exam is a requirement of Core Orthopaedics.

In order to be eligible to apply to sit the Fellowship Exam you will need to have completed the EMST course and 6 of the 11 [Orthopaedic Modules](#) including: Trauma, Shoulder, Knee and Hip.

You will be able to sit the Fellowship exam once you have completed 18 months in Core Orthopaedics, which would be equivalent to sitting the exam in the latter half of SET 4.

### **What about the Research Requirement?**

You will be completing the new [AOA 21 Research Requirement](#).

Before the end of SET 2 you need to select from the following three pathways and submit the relevant proposal to the Research Co-ordinators Committee:

- [Project Pathway](#)
- [Coursework Pathway](#)
- PhD Pathway – written expression of interest

You may also apply for [Recognition of Prior Research](#), provided your Research Experience was within the last 5 years.

You will have until the end of Transition to Practice to complete your Research Requirement. Research is no longer a pre-requisite to sit the Fellowship Exam.

### **Can I get started on the training program requirement of Core now?**

Yes, you can.

Trainees may complete the EMST prior to commencing Core Orthopaedics.

You can also begin working towards completing the 11 [Orthopaedic Modules](#) based on the topics of the applied medical and surgical expertise section of the curriculum.

By the end of Core Orthopaedics trainees must have a minimum of one WBA in their portfolio that indicates 4 or 5 on the global scale for a predetermined list of procedures. The specific requirements are detailed in the AOA 21 Training Handbook [here](#).

Trainees are encouraged to begin working towards collecting these WBAs. Once in Core, you will be able to assign WBAs completed in SET 1 & 2 to the Orthopaedic Module requirements as evidence of competence.

Trainees will also need to demonstrate competence in Level 1 surgical skills for each module.

### **What happens if I have not completed SET 2?**

Trainees who do not complete the requirements of SET 2 will transition into Introduction to Orthopaedics for a maximum of 1 year.

These trainees will then need to complete the outstanding SET 2 requirements as well as the mandatory Introduction to Orthopaedics SSAs as follows:

A score of three on the global scale, for the following procedures:

- Internal fixation of a distal radial fracture
- Internal fixation of a proximal femoral fracture
- Internal fixation radial and ulna shaft fracture
- Internal fixation of a Weber C or bi-malleolar fracture
- Tension band wiring of the olecranon or patella
- Hemiarthroplasty of a hip
- Intramedullary nailing of a femoral or tibial shaft fracture
- External fixation of a fracture or dislocation

**What if I haven't passed the OPBS?**

You may make a maximum of four attempts at the OPBS. If you have not passed the OPBS by the end of SET 2 and still have attempts remaining, you will transition into Introduction to Orthopaedics.

You will have until the second available sitting in the third year of training to complete the OPBS.

**How will I know if I am progressing into Core?**

We will be in touch shortly to let you know if you are on track to progress to Core in 2019.

Your progress will be formally reviewed from the end of the third 3-month training period in 2018 and you will be advised of your progression following that.

*If you have any questions about these requirements please contact your Regional Manager or email [training@aoa.org.au](mailto:training@aoa.org.au)*