

# Deferral and Delayed Commencement of Internship Policy

## Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline of the expectation of medical graduates in relation to deferral or delayed commencement of Internship in Victoria.

## Definitions

Deferral of internship - This policy applies to Australian citizens or permanent residents and New Zealand citizens graduating from a Victorian University eligible for Medical Internship in Victoria.

Delaying commencement of internship – This policy applies to all candidates that have an offer of internship but due to extenuating circumstances are unable to commence their internship at the agreed time.

## Key Outcomes

Deferral of Internship - Eligible medical graduates for Internship that do not adhere to this policy may lose their priority status in obtaining a Victorian Internship.

## Procedure

### Deferral of Internship.

Deferral of an intern year should be considered carefully. The intern year should be seen as a consolidation of the learning and skills acquired during the medical degree and is best undertaken immediately following the completion of relevant studies.

### Deferral of Internship – Initial application (12 months)

An eligible candidate who wishes to defer their internship for one year are required to notify the PMCV by:

- Submitting completed online deferral of internship application form by the specified date outlined in the Intern Match Key Dates.

PMCV will notify the eligible candidates once their application has been approved.

Once approved for deferral of internship candidates who have applied to the PMCV Intern Match must withdraw their application from the Match. The PMCV will ensure all deferred applications have been withdrawn from the PMCV Intern Match.

All eligible candidates that have successfully deferred their internship will maintain their priority status and will be guaranteed an offer of Internship in Victoria in the subsequent year.

Following the deferral year, it is the responsibility of the medical graduate to re-apply to enter the PMCV Intern Match.

### Deferral of Internship – Greater than 12 months

An eligible candidate who wishes to defer their internship for greater than 12 months is required to:

1. Submit completed online deferral of internship application form by the specified date outlined in the Intern Match Key Dates.
2. Applications will be reviewed by the PMCV Medical Director, who will discuss the deferment with the candidate. This may result in a panel being established to assess deferral applications greater than 12 months.

PMCV cannot guarantee a candidate deferring for greater than 12 months will maintain their priority status and therefore a guaranteed offer of internship in Victoria.

Following the deferral year/s, it is the responsibility of the medical graduate to re-apply to enter the PMCV Intern Match.

### Delaying commencement of Internship

A medical graduate may be eligible to delay commencement of an internship after acceptance of an offer. If they will be unable to commence their internship position in the year immediately after graduation, they must demonstrate that the offer of internship was made, and that extenuating circumstances will prevent their commencement of internship.

Applying for delay in commencement:

1. The candidate must contact the relevant Victorian Health Service or Intern Training Program, to advise they are unable to commence Internship.  
The decision to hold a position for the candidate for late commencement or the following year is at the discretion of the Victorian Health Service or Intern Training Program.
2. PMCV should be notified of any delay in commencing Internship at the earliest opportunity.
3. For delays of 12 months, if the Intern Match is still open the health service may re-enter the match.

## Version Control

*Version approved along with date of next review.*

Version	Amendments by	Changes	Date
1	Melanie Vellios		18/01/2024

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Approved by	<b>Julie Hatty</b>
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