

## Table of Contents

General Rules .....	2
1. Infectious Diseases Advanced Training Institutions .....	3
2. Candidates Eligibility.....	4
3. Match Process 2026.....	5
4. Match Results .....	8
5. Unmatched candidates .....	9
6. Application of Match Rules .....	9
7. Privacy and Confidentiality .....	9
8. Frequently Asked Questions .....	9

## General Rules

There is a central appointment process for Infectious Diseases Trainees in Victoria. As of 2018, application for and appointment of Infectious Diseases core-accredited advanced training positions in Victoria became governed by a centralised process and program.

Details of the program are:

- Trainees in the program are provided with 3 years of advanced training (a minimum of 24 months of core training), subject to satisfactory performance.
- New applicants to the Victorian program will only enter via a centralised interview comprising representatives from all Heads of Departments (HODs); this includes new first-year trainees as well as interstate applicants with previous core accredited training experience.

In 2026, for 2027 positions, the Postgraduate Medical Council of Victoria (PMCV) will conduct the Infectious Diseases Advanced Training Match for Victorian positions with the Co-ordinators of Infectious Diseases VIC/ Advanced Training on behalf of the Department of Health (DH).

All potential candidates must register via the PMCV website to participate in the match. Match resources can be found on the PMCV RACP Advanced Trainee Selection Matching (ATSM) Service website: <https://www.pmcv.com.au/2026-racp-atsm-matches1/> or for Infectious Diseases specifically: <https://www.pmcv.com.au/2026-infectious-diseases-vic-match/>

Please note: If you wish to be considered for a position outside Victoria, you will need to lodge a separate application with the relevant State or Territory.

### Contact:

**2026 Program Coordinators:** Dr. Nupur Bajaj and Dr. Sarah Sparham

For queries please contact: - [vicidtrainingprogram@gmail.com](mailto:vicidtrainingprogram@gmail.com)

Allocation and Placement Service - PMCV ([allocations@pmcv.com.au](mailto:allocations@pmcv.com.au))

## How to apply

New Advanced Trainee Applications open on the PMCV Allocation and Placement Service website at 09:00AM Monday 06 July 2026 and close at 5:00PM Thursday 30 July 2026.

Please note that referee reports must be received by the application closing date, ***so early application and nomination of referees is strongly advised. We encourage you to check online if their references have been lodged and gently remind them if not.***

Applicants will be able to re-order their existing hospital preferences until 9:00AM Monday 17 August 2026. No new preferences can be added after. After this deadline, applicants who need to adjust the order of their preferences may contact PMCV via email to request a reordering of their existing preferences until 11:59 PM Friday 28 August 2026.

# The Victorian Infectious Diseases Program:

The goal of the Victorian Infectious Diseases Program is to facilitate a more coherent & transparent system for:

1. Selection of new advanced trainees into Infectious Diseases
  - a. Reducing the disadvantage of entering training from a hospital that does not reserve a first-year job.
  - b. Ensuring all new applicants have the opportunity to be interviewed and meet all HODs.
2. Allocation of jobs in subsequent years to allow trainees to complete their training:
  - a. Reducing the potential for ATs to miss out on a job entirely due to the 'luck of the draw' and new trainees being appointed independently by hospitals in preference to existing trainees.
  - b. All HODs will have an equal say in candidates entering the program.
3. Facilitating open and honest discussions about trainees in difficulty (i.e. underperforming ATs) and allowing remediation steps to occur if suitable/appropriate:
  - a. For example,, possible allowance for an extra year of training if required and able to be accommodated within the program.
4. Enabling trainees from other specialties to achieve 6-12 months of Infectious Diseases training to supplement their experience, but not to the disadvantage of existing Advanced Trainees.
5. Allowing for interstate trainees to train in Victoria, but not to the disadvantage of existing Victorian Advanced Trainees.
6. Allowing individual hospital/trainee preferences to be accounted for in the allocation of jobs.
7. Guaranteeing access to 24 months core ID training only.

## 1. Infectious Diseases Advanced Training Institutions

All listed Health Services recruiting Advanced Infectious Diseases Trainees must utilise the PMCV Infectious Diseases Advanced Trainee Match and may not go outside the service for the appointment of Infectious Diseases Trainees. There are 31 Advanced Training positions across the health services in the 2027 Match. The participating hospitals include:

- Alfred Health
- Albury-Wodonga Health
- Austin Health
- Barwon Health
- Eastern Health (Box Hill Hospital)
- Melbourne Health
- Monash Health
- Northern Health
- Peninsula Health
- St Vincent's Hospital
- Western Health

Candidates must rank all positions in their preferred order.

**Details of the positions are found in the Health Service Directory (see Reading Materials under the Match).** The Advanced Training selection process is competitive and, therefore, merit-based. Both candidates and Health Services rank their preferences as part of the Match process. In accordance with the allocation and

placement procedures, the preferences of candidates are considered with reference to where a candidate is ranked by a Health Service.

**It is not permissible for candidates or Health Services to disclose their preferences/rankings to any other party at any time.**

All Health Services participating in this Match abide by the allocations and placement service code of conduct as detailed on our website <https://www.pmcv.com.au/2026-racp-atism-matches1/> and must utilise the PMCV Infectious Diseases Allocation and Placement Service and may not go outside the service for the appointment of Infectious Diseases registrars.

In 2026, the Victorian ID program will coordinate its information sessions via Zoom (rather than having multiple individual hospital information sessions) with participating hospitals attending to provide information about their institutions. We aim to centralise the information sessions over 2 evenings to facilitate access to all health services. There is no expectation that applicants meet HODs individually prior to interviews; however, if you wish to contact HODs, please use the contact details in the health service directory document.

### **Positions outside central matching**

Peter MacCallum Institute (VIC), Latrobe Regional Hospital (VIC), Royal Hobart Hospital (TAS), Alice Springs Hospital (NT) and the Médecins Sans Frontières positions are NOT part of the Victorian ID program for 2026/27.

The **Peter MacCallum Institute** is NOT part of the Victorian ID program for 2026/27. Applicants for this position should contact Prof Monica Slavin.

**Latrobe Regional Hospital (VIC)** is NOT included in the Victorian program for 2026/27, but is accredited for 12 months of core training. Applicants for this position should contact Dr. Zaal Meher-Homji.

**Royal Hobart Hospital (TAS)** is NOT included in the Victorian program for 2026/27. Applicants for this position should contact Dr Louise Cooley.

**The Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)** is NOT included in the Victorian program (see FAQ below) but remains a non-core position.

**Alice Springs Hospital (NT)** is NOT considered part of the Victorian Match for 2026/27. However, **2 positions** linked to **Barwon Health (6 months Alice Springs, 6 months Barwon)** are accredited for ID training.

If an *existing trainee* would like to be considered for an Alice Springs position, they are encouraged to discuss with A/Prof Dan O'Brien and Prof Eugene Athan. This position can be secured and finalised **before** the annual match, and the trainee can re-enter the match for subsequent positions the following year.

If an *entering/new trainee* is short-listed for ID Match interviews in 2026, they are also welcome to approach A/Prof Dan O'Brien to be considered for these positions. Candidates who are **short-listed for ID interviews**, but **who do not** receive a position within the Match, can consider an Alice Springs position with the guarantee of entering the Match the following year as long as progress is satisfactory.

Delineating Alice Springs as within the ID program but outside the annual Match aims to achieve a balance of providing this exciting clinical opportunity, if desired, to trainees, without mandating interstate positions for trainees.

## **2. Candidates Eligibility**

To be eligible to apply for selection as an Infectious Diseases Advanced Trainee undertaking clinical training

with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) through the Specialty of Infectious Diseases, an applicant must meet the requirements described below.

**AHPRA Registration:** Trainees applying to Infectious Diseases Advanced Training must hold General AHPRA registration.

#### **Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP)**

**Commencing with the program (applicants to the centralised interview):** the applicant must be registered with the RACP and, unless stipulated by the College to the contrary, have successfully completed all Basic Physician Training examination requirements. The continuing trainee match is for continuing trainees in Infectious Diseases only.

**Continuing within the program:** the continuing trainee match is exclusively for continuing trainees in Infectious Diseases who have previously been selected into the Victorian program and have satisfactorily completed the assigned positions and training (or have taken appropriate leave types or breaks from the program).

The RACP curricula for Infectious Diseases Advanced Trainees can be found here [Infectious Diseases | Curricula Renewal](#)

#### **Residential qualification:**

Although the RACP does not have any specific residential requirements for trainee registration, selection committees are aware that the employing Health Service(s) or institutions may have citizenship/residency requirements that need consideration in appointment decisions. **Overseas-trained specialists in Infectious Diseases must be residing in Australia and hold a valid working visa for their application to be considered by the employing institutions.** Australian and New Zealand citizens and applicants with permanent residency who are eligible for appointment will be offered positions before those with temporary visas.

If you meet the Eligibility Criteria for Infectious Diseases Advanced Training, you can enter the Match.

Please Note:

- Applications from overseas trained doctors without FULL AMC certification and AHPRA General Registration will not be considered.
- Applications from overseas-trained specialists who are not residing in Australia with a valid working visa will not be considered.
- Australian and New Zealand citizens and applicants with permanent residency who are eligible for appointment will be offered positions before those with temporary visas.

If there are any queries, please contact the Match coordinator ([vicidtrainingprogram@gmail.com](mailto:vicidtrainingprogram@gmail.com))

## **3. Match Process 2026**

All participating Health Services have agreed to participate in the Victorian state-wide selection process, with no Health Services permitted to go outside the match.

### **Interview**

#### **Central Interview**

Applications will be shortlisted to decide who will be invited to the Central Interview. This is for logistical considerations, as we will only have the capacity to interview up to 20 candidates on the day.

The Central Interview will be conducted via Zoom (or similar platform) teleconference and will include a HOD (or assigned representative) from each hospital participating in the match. Central interviews for prospective trainees will be held on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2026**. The interview will be a single panel interview for all candidates entering the Advanced Infectious Diseases Training in Victoria. The format will be of a group interview (all HODs/representatives) and 1 candidate.

The central interview will allow the HODs to determine if there is consensus that a candidate is suitable for ID advanced training in a 2027 Victorian position. All candidates will be ranked (individually by each HOD, then rankings collated by the match coordinators to determine the final rankings). The top-ranked candidates will be accepted into the Infectious Diseases Training program, subject to the number of available positions for new candidates. If consensus is not reached within the HOD group, then the candidate will not be ranked.

### **‘Speed-Dating’ Interview**

To facilitate the timely selection of preferences for hospitals, existing trainees will be invited to participate in a ‘speed-dating’ interview via Zoom teleconference (or similar online platform) **on Friday 07<sup>th</sup> August 2026**.

All trainees at the speed-dating will have an accredited job, and the purpose of this interview is to allow a hospital panel (including Microbiology for hospitals offering 6-month ID/6-month Microbiology positions) to interview all trainees and better allow for selection of preferences for the Electronic Match.

### **Admission onto the program:**

Available positions on the ID program will be filled by the top-ranked candidates in descending order until all vacant positions (after accounting for existing trainees) are filled. New candidates will not be required to take part in the ‘Speed Dating’ interview, as they would have completed the Central Interview.

Unsuccessful applicants will receive an email stating they were unsuccessful, but will not be informed of their ranking, as we believe this is an arbitrary measure and reflects the candidate’s application only within the context of that year’s applications and may not reflect their potential success in a future application. This will allow unsuccessful applicants to hopefully apply for other training positions for 2027.

In the unlikely event that a trainee withdraws late in the process, we will contact previously unsuccessful trainees to offer them a position, in the order of the original Central Interview rankings. Individual rankings will not be made available to candidates (successful or unsuccessful).

### **Selection criteria:**

Will be based upon, and are largely similar to, the RACP Selection into Advanced Training policy “Selection of candidates suitable for training”.

By accepting an individual onto the program, we are undertaking to provide 3 years of Infectious Diseases advanced training with at least 24 months of core training subject to satisfactory performance in work and training; hence, only candidates that all HODs agree can likely successfully complete this program satisfactorily will be deemed suitable (and subsequently ranked).

When it comes to ranking suitable candidates, each HOD will individually assess candidates based on their:

- Curriculum vitae including past experience, education, publications, presentations, current research
- Referee reports covering domains such as medical expertise, communication, ethics & professional behaviour, teaching & learning, leadership and teamwork
- Interview performance

N.B. There are no universal set criteria by which each HOD will weigh these individual elements, as they may differ in interpretation and relevance to each HOD. The Victorian ID program itself does not have any say, nor dictate to HODs, how they should select applicants.

## Process of the Electronic match:

'New' trainees who are accepted onto the program will be pooled with existing trainees for job selection via the electronic Match. Trainees will be able to re-order preferences until 9:00 AM 17 August 2026.

The electronic match will occur after this with results available on Thursday 03 September 2026 and forwarded to the Specialty Group Coordinator

The coordinators will review the match results to ensure there are no conflicts (e.g. trainee allocated to a hospital where they are not allowed to complete any further training for more than 12 months at Northern Health. The respective Heads of Department will then contact trainees to inform them of their positions. Results will also be available on the PMCV website on 03 September 2026.

## Médecins-Sans-Frontières position

The MSF non-core training position is NOT part of the Victorian ID program. Opportunities to work with MSF should be explored independently. Trainees who are not on the ID program but have undertaken a role in MSF will gain valuable experience that will be taken into consideration when applying via the Central Interview.

An ID advanced trainee who is already on the Victorian ID program is still able to undertake an MSF job 'mid-training', but they should inform the program coordinator ASAP to discuss this.

## Trainee obligations:

By accepting a job within the Victorian 'program', you are being provided 3 years of advanced training (with at least 24 core months of advanced training) – subject to satisfactory performance in work and training. In return, there is an understanding that:

1. Trainees will notify the program coordinator at least 2 weeks prior to the match if they intend to withdraw from the Match and do not intend to accept a job the following year e.g. applying for interstate positions
2. Trainees must rank every hospital & available job within the program
3. Trainees must accept the results of the match, i.e. accept the job allocated to them
4. A trainee should preferably not undertake 24 months of core training at the same institution. Ideally, a trainee should only stay at an institution for >12 months if:
  - They achieved 12 months of core training in their first year at that hospital, but apply for 6 months of Microbiology training in their second year
  - They undertake 6 months of core and 6 months of Microbiology training in their first year, and wish to undertake more core training at that institution
5. Prior core/non-core training undertaken outside the match (unless explicitly stated, e.g., Alice Springs/Barwon position) will not be accepted as entry into the program. These applicants will have to undergo the selection process as new trainees and compete for positions via the centralised interview. This includes an unmatched candidate who subsequently obtains a training position that has been vacated by a matched candidate for their matched year. If subsequently selected onto the program, they can apply for accreditation of previous positions, which is subject to approval by the RACP Training Program Committee (TPC) in Infectious Diseases.
6. Interstate applicants, regardless of previous training (core or non-core) and experience, will only compete for positions with new applicants, i.e. undergo the same selection as new trainees and compete for the "new" training positions available that year via the centralised interview.
7. To continue within the program, a trainee must fulfil the normal TPC criteria for advanced training (e.g. satisfactory annual reports from their supervisors; project requirements as per the TPC) and be deemed appropriate for ongoing training by the HOD group.

## Hospital obligations:

Hospitals with TPC approved ID training positions can choose to enter the Victorian ID Program. Hospitals do not have to join the program, but if they do, then they are bound by the program's rules. Failure to comply would result in loss of membership.

1. All accredited positions from participating hospitals that will be filled by an ID advanced trainee will be allocated within the program.
2. No job will be removed from the match or pre-determined without the express consensus of the group's HODs and will only be considered for exceptional situations
3. Each hospital will agree to accept the allocation of trainees as determined by the electronic match
4. Unsatisfactory progress by a trainee must be identified and addressed prior to the match. As per the RACP guidelines, appropriate discussions and measures must be provided to the trainee in difficulty to allow them to address their specific issues. Trainees in difficulty who are unlikely to satisfactorily complete their training requirements that year must be discussed with the program HODs at a predetermined meeting prior to the match.
5. The HODs group retains the ability, as a group, to remove an underperforming trainee from the Victorian program.
6. Each hospital must rank every trainee within the program for jobs at their hospital (unless that AT is ineligible for further training at that site, e.g. has already completed 12 months training at a site only accredited for 12 months).
7. If a trainee is successful in the match but does not commence their matched position due to an interruption of training for parental leave, medical leave or extended personal leave, their matched position will be held for them for entry the following year without needing to re-apply or re-interview, if the trainee and HOD agree. In all other situations, this will only be considered on a case-by-case basis by consensus of the program HODs.

## Candidate Preference List (CPL):

Candidates will be able to add all available positions to their Candidate Preference List (CPL) in the Allocation and Placement Service until 5:00PM Thursday 30 July 2026.

Candidates will be able to re-order existing positions on their CPL until 9:00AM 17 August 2026.

Health Services will have access to information only from candidates who apply to them via the PMCV allocation and placement service.

Both candidates and Health Services will rank their preferences prior to the match. In accordance with the allocation and placement process, the preference of candidates will be considered with reference to where a candidate is ranked by a Health Service.

Candidates must complete an application through the APS (Allocation and Placement Service) website prior to the closing date. Any incomplete application will not be considered.

## 4. Match Results

Successful applicants will be contacted by phone by the hospital HOD or delegate after a valid Match has been declared. If the successful applicant declines a job offer at that hospital, they will be out of the Match, and the next-highest applicant who initially missed selection will be offered that position.

Health Services and candidates will be able to access their match results via login to the Allocation and Placement Service.

The PMCV will supply the coordinator with the complete match results.

**IMPORTANT: Only one offer will be made to each successful candidate.**

**Applicants who decline that offer will NOT be offered any other position within the network.**

**Matched Applicants:** Computer Matching results are available at 10:00AM on Thursday 03 September 2026 to candidates and Health Service administrators via the PMCV Allocation and Placement Service website (login required). Matched candidates will receive an email from the PMCV advising them that they have been offered a position through the Match and should check the details on the PMCV website.

Letters of appointment are made to successful applicants by the relevant institution.

Overall ranking will not be available to candidates.

Applicants who are not offered a position in the initial round of offers may be contacted if positions become vacant or if new positions are created, if they scored sufficiently well to be considered suitable for employment in an Infectious Diseases Advanced Training position.

## 5. Unmatched candidates

Unmatched applicants will receive an email from the PMCV advising them that they have not been offered a position through the Match. Unmatched applicants will remain on a ranked list and will be notified should a position become available.

Unmatched applicants are advised to contact the coordinator for further information.

Please note: Infectious Diseases Advanced Registrar positions that become available during any year due to unforeseen circumstances (such as parental leave or resignation of a registrar already in the training program) may occur outside the PMCV Matching service.

## 6. Application of Match Rules

These Match Rules apply only to the 2026/27 Infectious Diseases Match.

## 7. Privacy and Confidentiality

All personal information submitted by candidates, including their application, CV, referee reports and current supervisor's reports will be accepted as private and confidential information.

In submitting that information, the candidate consents for their application, CV and referee reports to be made available to the Health Services which the candidate has nominated on their Candidate Preference List and to the members of the relevant interview panel specifically for the purpose of the Central Appointments Process only.

## 8. Frequently Asked Questions

**Does prior ID training undertaken outside the program provide any advantages going into the interview?**

Prior core/non-core ID training will be considered as part of that candidate's overall experience and CV. The nature of prior training will vary, and hence so will how favourably it will be looked upon (e.g., see FAQ regarding MSF job)

**Where do MSF job opportunities (& other similar overseas experiences) fit within the program?**

This role remains a non-core position and is not part of the Victorian ID program. It will likely be viewed positively by many HODs in terms of experience.

**What if a hospital doesn't think a candidate is suitable for entry into the program?**

There must be agreement among all HODs that each candidate is suitable for 3 years of advanced training to be ranked (i.e., no major issues regarding competence/attitude/clinical ability). This is not to say that all the HODs would rank them highly, but that there are no signs to suggest they could not complete 3 years ID training adequately and to an acceptable standard if given the opportunity.

**What if there are more jobs than acceptable applicants?**

For example, 12 available new positions but only 8 suitable applicants (new 1<sup>st</sup> years and interstate included) agreed upon by the HOD group. The remaining 4 jobs can be filled at a hospital's individual discretion after the Match, but these candidates are not on the program and will still need to apply the following year as a New Trainee to the central interview for future jobs. To date, this scenario has not occurred.

**Can a trainee interrupt their training for a year (or more)? E.g., maternity leave, core training interstate, non-core training (e.g. MSF), research opportunity**

Yes. Trainees accepted onto the program can pause their training for 12 months. They will automatically be included in the following year's Match. Please email the program co-ordinator if this applies to you.

**What happens if a trainee declines a position within the program after they are matched to it?**

The results of the Match are binding. If a trainee declines a job after they are matched to it, this will essentially result in that trainee being removed from the program. It is unlikely that the candidate will be accepted back onto the Victorian ID program in future years. Only in exceptional circumstances will a trainee be considered for re-admission back onto the Victorian program, and this will be on a case-by-case basis.

**What if a candidate is deemed suitable for the Victorian ID program but subsequently misses out on a position (e.g., they are ranked 5th and only 4 positions are available that year)?**

-Within the same Match year: hypothetically, if a program trainee withdraws from a position after the Match, we would approach other ranked candidates numerically down the rankings to fill this position  
-However, in future years, this applicant would have to reapply to the Victorian ID program and undergo the centralised interview process again.

**Is there a possibility that a Victorian ID program trainee will be matched to an interstate position (e.g., Alice Springs Hospital, Royal Hobart Hospital)?**

Currently, there are no interstate positions within the Match.

**Can trainees apply to share a 12-month matched position?**

Yes, two trainees can choose to apply to share a matched position, i.e. 6 months/6 months. This should be prearranged by the trainees themselves, and the Match coordinators should be informed of their intention to enter the Match together.

**Are part-time positions available, i.e. <1.0 Full-time equivalent?**

Part-time positions are not available within the Match, but candidates can discuss other potential positions outside of the Match with individual health services.