

Paediatric Rheumatology New and Continuing
Advanced Trainees Match
2026

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General Rules

There will be a unified appointment process for Advanced training in Paediatric Rheumatology (AT PR) in Australia.

In 2026, for 2027 positions, the Postgraduate Medical Council of Victoria (PMCV) will conduct the AT PR Match for 5 of the 6 funded core-training positions in Australia on behalf of the relevant services and their respective Departments of Health (DH).

Applications will be lodged via the PMCV website. Match lodgements open at **10:00AM** on **18th May 2026** and close at **05:00 PM 10th June 2026**.

For applicants who have not yet commenced Paediatric Rheumatology training, applying for the match does not guarantee an interview with the combined panel (see Shortlisting of Applicants section). All applicants who are appointed to positions in the match through the Unified Appointments Process will be accepted as Rheumatology Advanced Trainees for 1 year only. Further years of training will be applied for on a competitive basis through the same unified matching process in the following year.

Contact:

To ensure the selection process is fair and transparent, applicants should not contact or meet with members of the selection committee (heads of rheumatology departments or their delegates) in relation to their intention to apply for a training position at their site prior to the selection interview. Applicants may contact PMCV or the National Co-Ordinator of the Appointment Process for Paediatric Rheumatology Advanced Training if there are questions about the application process.

Details about the training programs at individual sites are available on the ARA website (<https://rheumatology.org.au/For-Healthcare-Professionals/Advanced-Training-Information-Training-Sites/Paediatric>).

If required, specific questions about the training programs at each site can be addressed prior to the interview via the nominated contact at each centre listed in the site training program description documents on the ARA website (who will not be taking part in the interview panel) or during the interview with Combined Panel for shortlisted candidates. Trainees will have an opportunity to change their preferences after the interview.

DESIGNATION: National Co-Ordinator of the AT PR match Dr Grainne Murray – Chair - elect, APRG (grainne.murray@sa.gov.au). Allocation & Placement Service - PMCV (allocations@pmcv.com.au).

How to apply

Applications for AT PR positions for sites participating in the Match must be completed using the PMCV Allocation and Placement Service (APS) portal, which can be accessed PMCV website. Applicants should not apply to the individual sites directly.

Positions are advertised in the AT jobs list for each institution offering a PR training position, the RACP website and on the PMCV webpage.

Applications open on the PMCV APS for the AT PR Match for new and continuing trainees at **10:00 AM 18th May 2026** and close at **5:00 PM 10th June 2026**.

Applicants should submit preferences only for those centres at which they are willing to work. A centre in a location to which an applicant would not be prepared to move for 1 training year does not need to be included on the applicant's preference list.

Applicants will be able to re-order or remove their existing hospital preferences until **5:00 PM 23rd June 2026**. No new site preferences can be added after **05:00 PM 10th June 2026**.

Applicants must nominate referees via the PMCV APS when applying for the Match. Referees will then automatically receive an email with a link to an online referee report form. Once a referee has completed the form it is saved against the relevant candidate's profile. Referee reports must be received by **5:00 PM 10th June 2026**, 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. Please note that members of the national interview panel cannot act as referees.

We recommend applicants to contact their referee before they nominate them, to ensure they consent to providing a reference, to ensure that they will be available to do so during the application period, and to confirm their contact details.

1. Rheumatology Advanced Training Institutions

All listed Health Services recruiting Advanced Paediatric Rheumatology Trainees must utilise the PMCV Paediatric Rheumatology Advanced Trainee Match and may not go outside the service for the appointment of Trainees. Each Health Service has a pre-determined limit on the number of Rheumatology Trainees it will take as an outcome of the match. Health services are responsible for determining and organising their Rheumatology training programs to meet current RACP curriculum requirements.

We expect that there will be 5 core rheumatology positions available in the AT PR Match in 2027 for trainees entering the program. The RACP requires that the two core years of training are completed at two different sites. The sites included in the national Paediatric Rheumatology AT match are:

- Queensland Children's Hospital (QLD - Core)
- The Royal Children's Hospital (VIC -Core)
- Women's and Children's Hospital (SA - Core)
- Perth Children's Hospital (WA – Core)
- Monash Children's Hospital (Vic - Core)

Please note that the Sydney Children's Hospital Network is **not** participating in the AT PR Match through the PMCV and trainees must apply to that site OUTSIDE of the AT PR Match.

It is the responsibility of trainees to be aware of the specific relevant employment conditions/enterprise bargaining agreement of the institutions to which they are applying, keeping in mind that this is likely to be different between states.

Candidates are required to list all positions in centres they would be prepared to work in order of preference in the match. It is a requirement of acceptance into the national paediatric rheumatology advanced trainee selection process that candidates agree to being matched to ANY of the centres offering a position for which they have nominated a preference. This applies to both candidates entering the program for their first year of training and to those already in the program who are participating in the match for their second and subsequent years of training. If candidates are matched to a position outside of the state in which they reside, they will be required to move to the state in which that position is located for the year. If the successful applicant declines a job offer from a hospital for which they submitted a preference and to which they were matched, they will be out of the match for that year and the next highest applicant who missed selection initially will be offered that position. Candidates who have already completed a core year at one centre will not be eligible for re-appointment at that centre, in line with the current paediatric rheumatology training curriculum.

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 Services offering a position 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 Service.

It is not permissible for candidates or Services to divulge their preferences / rankings to another party at any time.

All Services participating in this Match abide by the APS code of conduct as detailed on the PMCV website ([Code of Conduct – PMCV](#)) and may not go outside the service for the appointment of paediatric rheumatology advanced trainees.

2. Candidates Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for selection as a Paediatric Rheumatology Advanced Trainee undertaking clinical training with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) through the Specialty of Paediatric Rheumatology, an applicant must meet the requirements described below.

- Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP)
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.
- Residential qualification:
Although the RACP does not have specific residential requirements for trainee registration, Health Service(s) or institutions may have citizenship / residency requirements which need consideration in appointment decisions. International trainees in Paediatric Rheumatology must be residing, or eligible to reside in Australia and hold a valid working visa to be eligible for inclusion in the match.
- 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 Paediatric rheumatology Advanced Training, you can enter the match.

3. Match Process 2026

All participating Paediatric Rheumatology Services have agreed to adhere to the rules of the AT PR Match selection process, with none of these Services permitted to go outside the match for their funded training positions. The selection committee shall comprise of the Head of the Rheumatology Departments of the participating institutions (or their delegate) and other representatives as required for each Service. Each service is responsible for ranking its preference for applicants based on their application package and interview.

New applicants who are successful in the competitive selection process outlined below, AND advanced trainees entering their second or third year of training can enter the match. Existing trainees who have completed two core years of training and are seeking a non-core year may enter the match but preference will generally be given by core-training accredited sites in the Match to new candidates or those seeking their second core year during the selection process.

Selection Criteria for NEW applicants

Only applicants who meet the eligibility criteria above will be considered.

Key Skill Requirements/Competencies for eligible candidates:

1. Demonstrated suitable academic achievement and interest in paediatric rheumatology.
2. Demonstrated clinical competence, encompassing logical diagnostic reasoning, and sound medical knowledge.
3. Demonstrated interpersonal skills, including the ability to work as a team member and to relate successfully with other staff at all levels.
4. Demonstrated ability to communicate clearly and concisely in both spoken and written English, including formal and informal presentation of scientific, teaching, or clinical material.
5. Ability, interest, and willingness to participate in the teaching of rheumatology and in research.
6. An understanding of the concepts of a client focused service, and of the principles of quality management and continuous quality improvement.

Applications and referee reports from all eligible applicants will be evaluated based on the eligibility and selection criteria. A shortlist will be created and interviews will be offered to these candidates. Factors considered in the short-listing process include:

- Applicant's CV addresses the criteria detailed further in this document
- Past performance as indicated in referee reports

Shortlisting of Applicants

Applications from all **new** applicants to the paediatric rheumatology advanced training program are ranked independently by each of the members of the selection committee of sites to which the trainee has applied, resulting in an aggregate rank order from which a shortlist will be created. *Interviews will be offered only to shortlisted candidates.*

As the Combined AT PR Match does not automatically guarantee a second core year for those who successfully complete their first core year, the number of positions available for **new** applicants to Rheumatology Advanced Training is theoretically up to five. However, weighting is likely to be given to those who have successfully completed a core year of training by most Services so the number of places available to new applicants is likely to be less in practice and dependent on the number of paediatric rheumatology advanced trainees seeking a second core year of training in the match.

Application and Curriculum Vitae:

All CVs are independently assessed and scored by the selection committee members.

The domains against which a candidate's CV will be ranked include:

Educational achievements including medical degree, other degrees and postgraduate study

- Candidates should list all qualifications relevant to the medical field.
- Success in specialty examinations and awards or academic prizes should be included.

Rheumatology experience

- Candidates should include any rheumatology terms undertaken, and the length of time spent in a rheumatology setting.
- All rheumatology-related interest or experience should be included.

Publications and Presentations

- Candidates should reference all publications, audits, abstracts, posters and presentations in the field of rheumatology, as well as publications more generally. The category of publication or presentation should be clearly stated. Publications should be cited with full information in a standard format as accepted for references in a published paper.

Quality Assessment and Improvement Activities

- Involvement in activities such as audits designed to measure and improve the quality of processes or outcomes.

Teaching

- Candidates should detail any teaching they have undertaken.

Other endeavours

- Candidates should detail any activities that they excel in outside the field of rheumatology. This could include, but is not limited to: achievements in sporting activities, the business arena, performing arts and music, volunteer activities, awards, and positions on boards or committees.

Presentation of CV

- Ability to communicate clearly in written English

Referee reports:

Structured referee reports are requested from candidate-nominated referees, with five domains assessed on this modality:

- Clinical skills and knowledge base
- Professional and ethical behaviour
- Communication and interpersonal skills
- Teaching and learning
- Leadership and teamwork

For new applicants to Paediatric Rheumatology Advanced Training, at least one of the three referee reports should be from a current supervisor. Two referees should be from the last 2 years.

Referee reports are utilised in the short-listing process. In the selection process, they

may be used by individual Services to help determine the strengths and weaknesses of candidates.

Interview

After the shortlisting process is completed the National Coordinator of the Appointment Process for Paediatric Rheumatology Advanced Training will notify shortlisted candidates and organize interviews.

Interviews will be held on the afternoon of **22nd June 2026**.

A semi-structured interview will be held **ON-LINE** with the selection committee members representing each service offering a position in the match. The interview will take approximately 15-20 minutes.

It is the applicant's responsibility to make the appropriate arrangements to attend the interview.

Following completion of the interviews, applicants will be ranked *independently and in confidence* by the interview panel members representing each Service based on an overall judgement of candidate strength from their interview, CV and referees. These Service-specific rankings – determined solely by each service for its advertised position - will be entered into the Match.

Candidate Preference List (CPL):

Candidates will be able to add preferences for all positions in which they would be willing to work (i.e. they do NOT have to preference ALL centres in the match e.g. there may be some in which they would be unable to work for logistical reasons) to their Candidate Preference List (CPL) in the APS until **05:00 PM 10th June 2026**.

Candidates will be able to re-order or remove existing positions on their CPL until **05:00 PM 23rd June 2026**.

Health Services will have access to information only from candidates that apply to them via the PMCV APS.

Both candidates and 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 Service based on the interview process as outlined above.

Candidates must complete an application through the APS website prior to the closing date. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

4. Match Results

Successful applicants will be contacted by phone by the hospital Head of Service or delegate, after a valid match has been declared. **Applicants will have 48 hours to accept or decline an offer once it has been made. Failure to accept or decline an offer within 48 hours will be an automatic decline.** If the successful applicant declines a job offer at that hospital to which they were matched, **they will be out of the match for that year** and the next highest ranked applicant who missed selection initially will be offered that position.

Health Services and candidates will be able to access their match results via log in to the APS.

The PMCV will supply the National Coordinator of the Appointment Process for Paediatric Rheumatology Advanced Training, 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 in the Match.

Matched Applicants: Allocation results are available to candidates and Health Service administrators via the PMCV APS from **10:00 AM 26th June 2026**. Matched candidates will also 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 Service.

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 were shortlisted for interview (see Section 5 below)

Applicants may submit a request for feedback from the National Coordinator of the AT PR Match.

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.

Please note: Paediatric Rheumatology Advanced Trainee positions which become available during the year due to unforeseen circumstances (such as parental leave or resignation of a trainee) may occur outside the PMCV matching service

6. Application of Match Rules

These Match Rules apply only to the 2026 Paediatric Rheumatology New and

Continuing Advanced Trainees 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 Services which the candidate has nominated on their CPL and to the members of the relevant interview panel specifically for the purpose of the Central Appointments Process only.