



## Academic Integrity in Training Policy

<b>Area of College</b>	Education, Learning & Assessment
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<b>References/Legislation</b>	
<b>Associated RACP Documents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• College By-Law: Reconsideration, Review and Appeals Process</li><li>• Progression through Training Policy</li><li>• Trainee in Difficulty Support Policy</li></ul>
<b>Applicability</b>	All RACP training programs

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The College is committed to upholding academic integrity in its training programs.

## 2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set out what academic integrity means in the context of RACP training. The policy defines the principles that underpin the RACP approach to academic integrity and the roles and responsibilities of the relevant parties.

## 3. SCOPE

This policy applies to RACP Members and candidates participating in RACP training, selection and assessment processes.

## 4. PRINCIPLES OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The International Centre for Academic Integrity has determined key principles of academic integrity. The College has adapted these principles to guide its Members in their College-related academic endeavours (education and research activities) and to help cultivate a culture of integrity.

### 4.1. Honesty

The College is committed to scholarly enterprise and advancing knowledge through honesty in learning, teaching and research. The College expects its trainees to act honestly in their academic work, including assessments and research, and in their academic interactions with members of the College, including supervisors and assessors.

### 4.2. Trust

The College recognises the importance of cultivating an academic community based on mutual trust. The College relies upon a climate of trust to engender collaboration, to share ideas freely, and to ensure that Members of the College and those outside the College community can trust in the value and meaning of the College's training, research, and the qualifications it issues. College membership and society trust the College as an education provider to guard the integrity of the medical profession by ensuring its trainees conduct themselves with academic integrity in their training. The College in turn trusts its trainees to act honestly in their academic endeavours.

### 4.3. Fairness

The College provides clear and transparent standards, procedures, and assessment mechanisms to promote equality of opportunity and support fairness in the treatment and interaction between its members. The College's policies and procedures adhere to the principles of procedural fairness and support the presumption of innocence. The College will provide consistent and just responses to breaches of academic integrity.

### 4.4. Respect

To be respected as an education institution, the College must uphold high standards of ethical conduct in learning, teaching and research. The College relies on a climate of mutual

respect to advance knowledge and learning. Respect for the College involves avoiding unfair academic advantages and recognising others' work. Personal respect comes from an active commitment to learning and honest engagement in the educational program.

### **4.5. Responsibility**

Members of the College accept the responsibility to individually and collectively uphold the principles of academic integrity. Members are expected to familiarise themselves with College policy and expectations and uphold the standards of academic integrity in accordance with these expectations. This includes supporting practices that promote academic integrity, preventing academic misconduct where possible, and reporting discovered incidents of academic misconduct to the College. The College in turn has an obligation to respond to reported incidents of academic misconduct, and to apply its policies and procedures consistently and in accordance with procedural fairness.

## **5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **5.1. Trainees**

Trainees are expected to comply with the principles of this policy. Trainees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of academic reports in their possession. It is the responsibility of each trainee to declare that they have complied with the Policy on the appropriate College documentation.

### **5.2. Supervisors and Training Program Directors**

Supervisors and Training Program Directors have a responsibility to uphold the College's standards of academic integrity and are required to bring all suspected cases of academic misconduct to the attention of College staff.

### **5.3. Decision making College Body**

The role of the decision-making College Body is to review and consider the information which has been gathered regarding alleged incidents of academic misconduct, and to determine an outcome for those found to have engaged in academic misconduct.

### **5.4. College Support Staff**

Suspected academic misconduct is reported to College Staff, who are responsible for contacting the appropriate College Body and supporting the administration of the process.

## **6. RECONSIDERATION, REVIEW AND APPEALS**

See the College By-Law: Reconsideration Review and Appeals Process By-Law for rights and procedures.

## **7. REVIEW OF POLICY**

This policy will be reviewed every three years or as required in the event of legislative changes or requirements. The policy may also be changed as a result of other amendments.

Staff and members of the College may provide feedback about this document by emailing [RACPPolicy@racp.edu.au](mailto:RACPPolicy@racp.edu.au).

## 8. DEFINITIONS

Term	Means
Academic Integrity	Adherence to the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility during the course of all training program activities <sup>1</sup> .
Academic Misconduct	Academic misconduct is a breach of academic integrity. This includes, but is not limited to, obtaining unfair advantage, distribution of restricted material, collaboration in an individual assignment, falsification, plagiarism and misrepresentation.
Board	The Board of Directors of the College.
College	The Royal Australasian College of Physicians, ACN 000 039 047, an incorporated body limited by guarantee.
College Body	As defined in the College By Law: Governance of College Bodies, in cases of alleged academic misconduct this would ordinarily be the relevant committee overseeing trainee progression and/or assessment.
Fellow, Trainee, and Member	have the same meaning as in the College Constitution.
RACP Training Program	Refers to any of the education programs of the RACP's Divisions, Faculties and Chapters. Academic integrity is required and expected in all training program activities, including but not limited to applications to training programs, examinations, learning experiences, assessment tasks and processes, admission to membership of the College, and reporting or recording of any information to the College.

## 9. HISTORY

Revision	Effective Date	Summary of Changes
1.0	01.01.2010	New Policy
2.0	01.01.2017	Full revision
2.1	02.12.2022	Administrative update and transfer to new policy template

<sup>1</sup> International Centre for Academic Integrity, [www.academicintegrity.org](http://www.academicintegrity.org)