



COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy Member Subscriptions

Version: 1.0
Approved by: Board of Directors
Date of approval: 14 May 2020

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose and Scope

RANZCR recognises that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant economic impact across Australia and New Zealand, and consequently some members are experiencing circumstances that may affect their ability to pay their RANZCR membership fees.

This policy outlines the payment options available to those members experiencing genuine financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The policy applies only in relation to membership subscription fees for the 2020-21 financial year (or another time period as determined by the Board), and does not, unless specifically stated, supersede the *RANZCR Fees Policy*.

2. DEFINITIONS

In this policy document:

Break in Practice means a period of time where a Fellow or Educational Affiliate member may need to take a break in practice for a number of reasons, including loss of employment due to COVID-19.

Educational Affiliate means a person specified in the Register as an Educational Affiliate of the College.

Fellow means a member who has been admitted to Fellowship of the College in accordance with the Articles and whose membership of the College has not terminated for any reason.

Financial Hardship means a significant loss of personal or family income due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Member means a member of the College. Fellows, Students and Educational Affiliates are members.

Student Member means a person who has been granted student membership in accordance with the Articles of Association. Student Members are also referred to as trainees.

3. FELLOW AND EDUCATIONAL AFFILIATE MEMBERS

3.1 Pro rata fees

Fellows and Educational Affiliates who have lost work as a result of COVID-19 may be eligible for a reduced rate of fees.

3.1.1 Reduction of hours

As per the *RANZCR Fees Policy*, Fellows and Educational Affiliates whose working hours have reduced to 20 hours or less per week as a result of COVID-19 are classified as *Part Time* and are entitled to a reduced membership subscription fee for the 2020-21 financial year.

To apply, members are required to submit a request in writing to members@ranzcr.edu.au, providing evidence of their part time status such as an employer letter.

Members who return to full time practice during the course of the 2020-21 financial year are required to inform the College in writing to members@ranzcr.edu.au.

See section 5.2.1 of the *RANZCR Fees Policy* for further information.

3.1.2 Loss of employment

Fellows and Educational Affiliates whose employment has been terminated as a result of COVID-19 may be entitled to a reduced membership subscription fee for the 2020-21 financial year under the *Break in Practice* fee category.

According to Section 5.1.1 of the *RANZCR Fees Policy*, the minimum time period required to qualify for a Break in Practice is six months. However, for members who are applying for Break in Practice due to loss of employment as a direct result of COVID-19, a reduced minimum time period of three months will apply.

To apply, members are required to submit a request in writing to members@ranzcr.edu.au, providing evidence of their loss of employment such as an employer letter, or if the member is self-employed, a statutory declaration.

Members who return to practice during the course of the 2020-21 financial year are required to inform the College in writing to members@ranzcr.edu.au.

3.2 Flexible payment options

For the 2020-21 financial year, Fellows and Educational Affiliates who are experiencing genuine financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic may apply for an extension of the due date for payment of their membership subscription fees from 31 July to 30 September. To apply, members are required to complete and sign the COVID-19 Financial Hardship Application Form (see Appendix 1) and submit to members@ranzcr.edu.au. Requests will be considered on a case by case basis.

4. STUDENT MEMBERS

4.1 Pro rata fees

Student members who have lost work as a result of COVID-19 may be eligible for a reduced rate of fees, as per the *RANZCR Fees Policy* (sections 5.1.2 *Interrupted Training Time* and 5.2.2 *Part Time Training*).

4.2 Flexible payment options

For the 2020-21 financial year, students who are experiencing genuine financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic may apply for an extension of the due date for payment of their membership subscription fees from 31 July to 30 September.

To apply, students are required to complete a Consideration of Special Circumstances Application Form under the category of Compassionate grounds – Financial Hardship (section 2.2.5 of the *Consideration of Special Circumstances Policy*) and submit to radtaa@ranzcr.edu.au for clinical radiology or ronctaa@ranzcr.edu.au for radiation oncology. Requests will be considered on a case by case basis.

5. RELATED DOCUMENTS

- RANZCR Fees Policy
- Consideration of Special Circumstances Policy

6. APPENDICES

Appendix 1: [COVID-19 Financial Hardship Application Form \(for Fellows and Educational Affiliates\)](#)