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# MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

## AMC approves RACGP Specialist Pathway

The RACGP is pleased to announce that the Australian Medical Council (AMC) has formally approved the RACGP Specialist Pathway for those doctors who do not have current Australian medical registration but who have recognised general practice qualifications from overseas.

“This is great news for international medical graduates who want to work in Australia. It’s also great news for rural Australia, where these doctors will make a positive contribution to the health care of their communities,” said Dr Chris Mitchell, RACGP President.

The following three categories are now eligible to enter the RACGP Specialist Pathway: ‘fully comparable doctors’ (category 1), ‘partially comparable doctors’ (category 2 + 3). Eligibility criteria for the categories can be obtained from the RACGP website at [www.racgp.org.au/overseastraineddoctors](http://www.racgp.org.au/overseastraineddoctors).

The first step is for interested applicants to apply through the AMC. The AMC is responsible for assessing English language requirements and provides primary and secondary medical degree verification of general practice qualifications, which are recognised as a point of entry into the Specialist Pathway. For further information on AMC prerequisites see [www.racgp.org.au/imj](http://www.racgp.org.au/imj) or the AMC website [www.amc.org.au](http://www.amc.org.au).

Any overseas trained doctors who do not meet the eligibility criteria to enter the RACGP Specialist Pathway and those with existing medical registration can continue to complete the existing college assessment segments via the Australian General Practice Training Program, the Remote Vocational Training Scheme or the RACGP Practice Eligible Route.

Under the current Practice Eligible Route, a candidate must have four years full time approved Australian equivalent general practice experience of which at least one year full time general practice experience must have been gained in an Australian general practice setting to be eligible to sit the RACGP Fellowship exams.

For further information regarding this route please click on the following link [www.racgp.org.au/assessmenthandbook](http://www.racgp.org.au/assessmenthandbook) and read *Background: Assessment for the fellowship of RACGP and Eligibility for Assessment*.

The next enrolment intake period will commence on 26 October 2009 and close on 11 December 2009.

Please visit [www.racgp.org.au/exam](http://www.racgp.org.au/exam) regularly for ongoing updated information regarding enrolments.

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### About the RACGP

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) sets and maintains the standards for quality clinical practice, education and training, and research in Australian general practice, and represents Australia’s urban and rural general practitioners.

Visit [www.racgp.org.au](http://www.racgp.org.au).