



Workplace Based Assessment: Information for Candidates

What is it, what are the requirements and what is your role?

Workplace Based Assessment (WBA): Is an alternative to the Australian Medical Council (AMC) clinical examination. The WBA program in Western Australia (WA) is 12 months in duration and assesses a candidate's clinical skills and knowledge at the level expected of an Australian medical graduate at the end of Postgraduate Year 1 (PGY1), or internship, level. The WBA is an assessment program, not a bridging or a training course. Successful completion of the WBA program results in the candidate being awarded the AMC Certificate.

WBA will include: Assessments across six different clinical areas. It will consist of a combination of direct and indirect assessment methods. Please note that it is your responsibility to ensure that you obtain enough experience across the six clinical areas in which you will be assessed. WBA staff, supervisors and assessors will advise, support and facilitate your path through the disciplines, but are not responsible for ensuring that you cover all required areas. Completing the WBA Learning and Assessment Plan will assist in planning for clinical experience.

WBA assessment requirements: It is also your responsibility to ensure that all required assessments are completed, as outlined in the Candidate Guide. Advice and assistance will be provided, but it is the responsibility of each individual candidate to ensure the requirements for successful completion of the program have been met. A suggested assessment schedule is available to assist in planning assessments over the 12-month program.

Preparation for assessment: As well as undertaking clinical experience to develop your skills, your role should include pre-reading to expand your knowledge base in preparation for assessments. Candidates who do not prepare adequately may not meet eligibility criteria to achieve the AMC Certificate at the completion of the program. Previous candidates have indicated that preparation may require up to 10 hours each week of study outside of work hours, to meet assessment requirements.

Minimum requirements and process timeframes

WBA program requirements: The WBA program is designed to meet the requirements of the AMC to ensure eligibility for the AMC Certificate. Successful completion of all assessments is required to be considered for the AMC Certificate. **You should proactively make arrangements with your assessors and supervisors to ensure you will meet the target dates.**

AMC results panel meeting: The AMC Results Panel Meeting is usually scheduled for early December and all assessments must be completed and loaded to the AMC portal 4 weeks prior (i.e. early November). Assessments must be provided to your WBA Administrative Officer within a week after completion to allow them to check and upload the documents into the portal within two weeks of the assessment encounter. Please also note:

- Requests for inclusion in earlier AMC WBA Results Panel Meetings will not be considered. The date for WA candidates has been set by the AMC
- Late submission of assessments will not be accepted. If the deadline is missed, nomination will be delayed until the next available AMC WBA Results Panel
- Candidates with outstanding Evidence of Primary Source Verification or Eligibility Flags will be viewed as provisional candidates and will not be eligible for assessment by the AMC until all Flags are cleared

- Candidates will not be able to commence the WBA program if they are enrolled for the AMC Clinical Examination. Candidates will need to contact the AMC, provide a copy of their signed WBA confirmation notice, and request withdrawal from the AMC exam

Medical Board of Australia / AHPRA registration process: Participation in the WBA program does not guarantee general registration; candidates must meet all Medical Board of Australia ('the Board') requirements prior to being granted general registration. In addition to the AMC Certificate (which is gained by successful completion of the WBA program) you must satisfactorily complete:

- 12 months (minimum of 47 weeks) full-time equivalent experience in supervised clinical practice in Australia
- Rotations in Medicine (10 weeks), Surgery (10 weeks) and Emergency Medicine (8 weeks) which meet the Board's [Intern Outcome Statements](#) and [Guidelines for Terms](#)
- Additional requirements and exemptions as listed in the [Registration Standard: Granting General Registration to Medical Practitioners Who Hold an AMC Certificate](#)

Important note: It is not the responsibility of the employing hospital to provide these rotations. You must discuss with hospital WBA Program Director whether or not the employing hospital is able to provide these rotations whilst undertaking the WBA program.

The AMC Certificate will be issued to successful WBA candidates following the WBA Results Panel. AMC will issue the AMC Certificate and will liaise directly with candidates.

Resources

The WA Country Health Service (WACHS) WBA [intranet](#) (only accessible from a WA Health computer) and [website](#) pages contain information and resources on the WBA program in WA, including orientation and learning resources developed specifically for the WA WBA program.

[WBA Online](#) is an AMC developed website that includes learning modules and background information about the WBA program.

The [Postgraduate Medical Council of WA \(PMCWA\) website](#) also has resources for junior doctors and international medical graduates.

Transition process

It is important to note that as part of the WBA program you have an employment contract with the health service offering the program. While the assessment component of the program may have been completed, you are still required to meet your contractual obligations to your employer.

Planning your future career requires consideration of AMC and AHPRA timeframes and timely communication with your supervisor and line manager.

Questions

Any questions should be directed to your hospital WBA Administrative Officer.