



1. Purpose & Scope

This policy provides guidelines for former trainees who have voluntarily withdrawn or have been dismissed from the PFET Program in Transplantation Surgery, and who are seeking permission to reapply.

2. Definitions

Listed here are all key terms and acronyms used in the policy, and their definitions.

Acronym – Key Word	Definition
GSA	General Surgeons Australia
PFET	Post-Fellowship Education & Training
TTC	Transplant Training Committee
Board	GSA Board of Directors

3. Policy

3.1 Eligibility to Apply for Consideration

- 3.1.1 All Fellows who have been dismissed from the PFET Program in Transplantation Surgery and are within the provisions listed in 3.1.3 must be granted permission by the President of GSA to make further applications for post-Fellowship training (see 3.2 for the application process).
- 3.1.2 For the purposes of this policy, a former trainee is regarded as being in good standing if at the time of withdrawal:
- they were not on probation; or
 - they had not been assessed as unsatisfactory in most recent scheduled performance assessments or reviews; or
 - their performance did not give rise to the possible initiation of a performance review, period of probation, misconduct, or dismissal process.
- 3.1.3 Permission to reapply to the PFET Program in Transplantation Surgery will be granted to trainees in the following categories, who at the time of exiting the program were in good standing. Permission to reapply may be subject to conditions.
- Trainees who have voluntarily withdrawn from the PFET Program in Transplantation Surgery; or
 - Trainees who have been dismissed from the PFET Program in Transplantation Surgery for failure to pay outstanding monies; or
 - Trainees who did not secure employment in a Transplant post approved for training by the TTC within twelve (12) months from the date of offer of training, and who were consequently withdrawn from the PFET Program in Transplantation Surgery.
- 3.1.4 Former trainees who have exited a surgical training program for the following reasons are not eligible to reapply to surgical training:

- a. Dismissal for:
 - Failure to satisfy employment requirements
 - Unsatisfactory performance
 - Misconduct or serious misconduct
 - Failure to comply with GSA direction
 - Failure to successfully complete any or all element/s of the PFET Program in Transplantation Surgery within specified timeframes.
- b. Withdrawal when not in good standing.

3.2 Application Process

- 3.2.1 Former trainees seeking permission to reapply may do so by writing to the President of GSA. Applications must be received no later than the 1st working day of December to be considered for permission to apply in the next year of selection.
- 3.2.2 Applicants who are required to reapply must:
 - a. Provide a statement giving the reasons for leaving the PFET Program in Transplantation Surgery, and provide information as to why these reasons no longer apply.
 - b. Provide information relating to factors which may warrant special consideration.
 - c. Include a letter of good standing from the Chair of the TTC.

3.3 Consideration of Applications

- 3.3.1 The information provided by the former trainee, together with a summary of documentation relating to the prior period of post-Fellowship training, will be forwarded to the President.
- 3.3.2 The President will make a determination on whether the trainee may apply for the PFET Program in Transplantation Surgery.

In making a determination the President will consider the reasons that resulted in the withdrawal or dismissal, and may seek further information including details of any unsatisfactory performance. The President may also consult with the Chair of the TTC.
- 3.3.3 The President will communicate in writing the decision on the application. Where permission is granted the letter will indicate any conditions that are attached to the decision, including payment of monies outstanding (if dismissed for non-payment of fees).

3.4 Recognition of Prior Learning

- 3.4.1 If the applicant has been granted permission to apply and is successful in their application, recognition of prior learning may be considered by the TTC, in accordance with the PFET Program in Transplantation Surgery Regulations.

4. Documents

1. GSA PFET Transplant Dismissal from Training Policy
2. GSA PFET Transplant Training Fees Policy
3. PFET Program in Transplantation Surgery Selection Regulations

5. Implementation

The policy will be available on the GSA website.