

Portfolio:	Office of the CEO	Ref. No.	POL-1049
Department:	President & Council Support		
Title:	Companion of the College		

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs the awarding of a Companion of the College Award. It covers the application and selection criteria as well as the value, frequency and conditions of the Award.

2. KEYWORDS

Awards Committee, Awards, Companion of the College Award, Annual Scientific Congress

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Background

- 3.1.1. Established in 2000, the Companion of the College is an honour created to recognise the contributions of a person to the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) and to the community.
- 3.1.2. The purpose of the Companion of the College Award is to recognise significant work of eminent individuals in any field, but particularly to acknowledge substantial contributions to surgery in Australia or Aotearoa New Zealand.
- 3.1.3. The award may be presented to distinguished persons, scientists and other notable persons.

3.2. Presentation and Frequency

- 3.2.1. Persons bestowed with the award will normally be admitted as a Companion at the Annual Scientific Congress (ASC).
- 3.2.2. Nominations are called for on an annual basis. However, a Companion of the College will only be awarded from time to time as appropriate. If there is not a nominee who meets the criteria in that particular year, then a Companion of the College will not be awarded in that year.

3.3. Criteria for Award

A nominee for the Award must meet the following criteria:

- Promotion of the academic purposes of RACS or facilitation of those purposes in any particular activity of RACS.
- Fostering the links between RACS and other institutions within and outside Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.
- Other activities identified by Council on the recommendation of the Awards Committee as significant in the development or promotion of surgical education and/or surgery.

3.4. Nominations

- 3.4.1. The Companion of the College Award is a Singular Award. A nomination can be accepted for discussion at any Awards Committee meeting but will usually only be approved and presented to Council for final approval at the October Awards Committee meeting.
- 3.4.2. A nomination for Companion of the College Award (Singular Award) shall be made in confidence in writing by at least two Fellows of RACS to the Chairman of the Awards Committee and shall contain biographical details of the nominee and information on appointments, membership of learned societies (and office held), and a list of publications or a CV. Each nomination requires the nominator to substantiate the recommendation with a demonstrable reason for the award addressing the criteria. Nominations

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without this additional background information will be returned to the nominator for further documentation

- 3.4.3. After approval by the Awards Committee, the name of the recommended nominee will be presented to Council for final approval. Approval by three quarters of Councillors present and voting at the Council meeting must be received

3.5. The Award

The award is in the form of a certificate.

3.6. Financial implications for recipient of a RACS Award

As this award is normally presented at the ASC it is important to note that:

- 3.6.1. Travel and accommodation are not provided by RACS and costs will not be paid or reimbursed by RACS.
- 3.6.2. If being presented at the ASC registration and banquet costs for the recipient and partner will be paid by RACS for the ASC at which the presentation is made.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

PRC-1005_Awards Committee awards

Approver: Awards Committee

Authoriser: Council