Frequently asked questions



July 2025

What is the Medical Training Survey about?

The Medical Training Survey (MTS) is a voluntary, anonymous survey that gathers feedback from doctors in training about the quality and experience of medical training in Australia. It was created with doctors in training, to improve training. 2025 results will build on data from past years, creating longitudinal insights across specialties and jurisdictions. Employers and educators are using results to improve training. Doctors in training are using the results to shape their training choices.

What's coming in 2025?

Questions in the 2025 MTS are in line with past years. This year specialist trainees are asked about the phase of training they are in. As usual, we've reviewed questions, tried to make it easier to navigate and reduced duplication.

We're keeping the MTS as consistent as possible to enable comparisons over time.

How are doctors in training using the MTS results?

The MTS results are being used to shape the future of medical training! Doctors in training are using the data to look at trends in medical training, plan which specialty they want to pursue, see what training opportunities and support is available at different sites and publish in academic journals. Use your voice, and your data. Read about how MTS data are being used to improve medical training and workplace culture at MedicalTrainingSurvey.gov.au.

Who can do the survey?

All doctors in training in Australia can do the survey. This includes interns, hospital medical officers, resident medical officers, non-accredited trainees, postgraduate trainees, principal house officers, registrars, specialist trainees and international medical graduates. Career medical officers who intend to undertake further postgraduate training in medicine can do the MTS.

Why do the survey – what's in it for me?

To help shape the future of medical training! Use your voice and build the data that is being used across the system to improve training and workplace culture. Read more at MedicalTrainingSurvey.gov.au.

When does the survey open?

The survey runs from August to early October each year.

Why is it running again in 2025?

The MTS is annual, to enable comparisons over time and support continuous improvement.

How do you know who to send the survey to?

When you renew your medical registration, we ask you to tell us if you're a doctor in training. If you identify as a doctor in training, we'll send you either a unique link to the survey in the registration renewal process, or invite you (interns and international medical graduates (IMGs)) by email to participate.

Who will administer the survey?

The MTS is run independently. EY Sweeney will administer the survey in 2025, on behalf of the Medical Board of Australia and Ahpra. EY Sweeney will analyse the information and produce reports. The Medical Board of Australia and Ahpra do not receive any information that identifies individuals.

How were the survey questions developed?

A team of expert advisers, including doctors in training, employers and educators involved in medical training in Australia, helped develop the survey. You can find a copy of the 2025 questions on the MedicalTrainingSurvey.gov.au website.

Who is involved in the Medical Training Survey?

Experts in medical education and training in Australia – including doctors in training - are working with us. Two groups guide this work:

- a Steering Committee to manage the hands-on work to develop and deliver the survey, and
- a <u>Consultative Forum</u> to make sure the survey is strengthened by input from doctors in training and other experts including specialist colleges, employers and jurisdictions, the Australian Medical Council and the Australian Medical Association.

Who can access the survey results?

You can access the results of all past MTS on the Results section of the website. Results are public and accessible:

- 1. National and static reports can be downloaded click on the 'Report and results' tab with reports accessible by trainee cohort, state and territory, specialist medial college.
- 2. High-level snapshot compare state/territory responses with the national response across the years or select 'Filter data' to look at a high-level snapshot across trainee cohort, postgraduate year, specialist medical college, region, gender or hospital. This is located under the 'Dashboard' tab.
- 3. Create your own report you can create your own tailored report by using the advanced filters and/or comparison tool by clicking on the 'Create your own report' tab. You can view your tailored report onscreen or have it emailed to you as a PDF or Excel file.

Stakeholders are already using the results. Trainees are using the MTS data on training sites and specialties to inform their training choices. Employers are using results to identify and address areas for improvement. Educators are using MTS results to better support trainees and improve processes. The Australian Medical Association, Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association and other professional groups are using results to advocate for better conditions. Researchers are analysing results in papers and journals.

What principles guided the development of the Medical Training Survey?

We've settled on these guiding principles for the MTS.

Quality improvement

The MTS is a quality improvement tool, to strengthen medical training in Australia.

Safe and confidential

Medical trainees can safely and confidentially participate in the MTS. Participants' data is de-identified in all results reporting and only de-identified data is shared with the Medical Board of Australia and Ahpra.

Focused on training

The MTS is focused on postgraduate medical training.

Reflection and feedback

The MTS encourages trainees to reflect on their medical training and teaching and provide feedback - safely - to support continuous improvement. Reflective practice is a cornerstone of good medical practice and of the Board's Professional Performance Framework.

Access

The MTS is relevant to medical training and not onerous to complete. It is accessible online and easy to use, to encourage participation.

Reporting and using results

The results of the MTS are published and accessible. An online data-dashboard lets you create your own tailored report. Specialty and jurisdiction specific reports from MTS data are generated as far as possible, while assuring trainee confidentiality. Stakeholders apply survey results to improve medical training.

Participation

The MTS evolves each year, reflecting feedback from doctors in training. It aims to reduce the need for other surveys about the same issues.

Specific questions from doctors in training

How do I complete the survey?

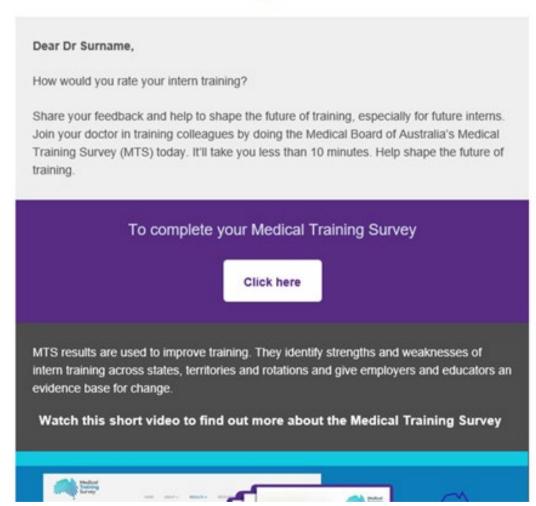
You can do the survey online on your phone, tablet, or PC/laptop when you renew your registration. Interns and IMGs do it in August /September, through a link emailed to them.

Interns and IMGs

Interns and IMGs receive their unique survey link in an email invitation from the Medical Board of Australia.

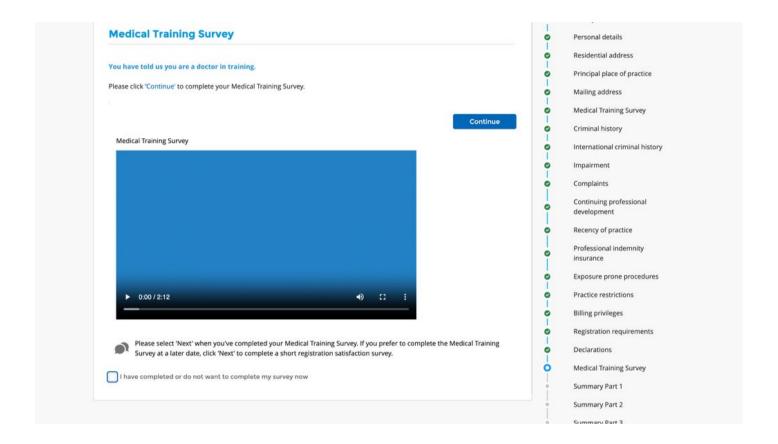
Look out for an email from the Medical Board of Australia that looks like this!





All other doctors

Prevocational and unaccredited trainees and specialist trainees can do the survey when they renew their medical registration. The survey link pops up before you finish renewing your registration (after payment, before the 'Thankyou' webpage).



You can also access your link in your confirmation of registration email.

What happens if I drop out of the survey?

If you lose internet connection or close the survey window, you can go back and finish it by clicking your unique survey link, sent in an email from the Medical Board of Australia.

Interns and IMGs can find this unique survey link in the original email invitation from the Medical Board of Australia.

Other doctors in training who renewed online will find their unique survey link in their confirmation of registration email from Ahpra.

Can I save and exit the survey if I can't complete it in one sitting?

Yes. You can 'save and exit' the survey. If you do, you will be asked if you would like to receive an email with your unique survey link. You can enter your preferred email address and EY Sweeney will send you a unique survey link. When you click on this link in your email, it will take you back to the last survey question you were looking at.

Will reminder emails be sent out?

Yes. We will be sending reminders to everyone who is eligible and hasn't completed the survey. We try to not annoy you with too many reminders but keep your option to do the survey open.

Can I re-do the survey after I've submitted?

No. Once you have submitted your survey you don't have to do any more.

Will I be identified if there are less than 10 trainees at my site/post/ location?

No! It's safe and confidential to do the MTS, especially when there are small numbers of trainees at your site. Results will build over years and only be reported when there are more than 10 responses. Every answer will help create an important picture of the quality of training at your post.