

Quick Start Guide: Unpacking the Specialist High-Level CPD Requirements for 2025

Completing specialist high-level CPD requirements (HLRs) is mandatory for some specialists. Specialist HLRs describe any educational activities, reviewing performance, or measuring outcomes activities that must be included in a specialist's CPD program. Below are the specialist HLRs approved by the Medical Board of Australia for 2025.

If you are a specialist holding multiple specialities, and if the HLR for the specialities are the same, you only need to complete the CPD activity requirement once. However, completion of the CPD activity needs to be recorded against both HLRs to ensure your compliance.



Specialty	HLR	Domain of Learning
Anaesthesia	A specialist anaesthetist must complete at least one: - emergency response activity per year - of the following activities per year to directly evaluate and reflect on their own clinical practice: • structured patient survey • peer review • multi-source feedback • clinical audit.	- Educational activity - Reviewing performance and/or - Measuring outcomes activity
Emergency Medicine	A specialist emergency medicine physician (including all fields or specialty practice) must complete three core procedural skills per year: • 1x core airway procedural skill • 1x core breathing procedural skill • 1x core circulation procedural skill. Complete one activity per year to reflect on and develop leadership skills that will contribute to: • workplace improvement • system-wide improvement and/or • effective interdisciplinary teamwork	- Educational activity
General Practice	A specialist general practitioner must complete a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) course every three years.	- Educational activity
Intensive Care Medicine	A specialist intensive care physician (including all fields or specialty practice) must complete an airway management of critically ill patients' activity ONCE every three years that is of a minimum three hours duration and involves an in-person practical workshop, preparatory and post activity components that specifically consider: • airways assessment • approaches to difficult airway and airway emergencies • teamwork and leadership in an airway crisis • familiarity with equipment • CICO algorithms (can't intubate, can't oxygenate) • management of tracheostomy emergencies • simulation activities that should include performing intubation on appropriate mannequins to expose participants to difficult airway scenarios and include team-based responses.	- Educational activity
Obstetrics and Gynaecology	A specialist obstetrician and gynaecologist must complete an in-person Basic Life Support (BLS) program every two years. While coursework can be completed online, the assessment must be completed in person.	- Educational activity
Pain Medicine	A specialist pain medicine physician must complete at least one: - emergency response activity per year - of the following activities per year to directly evaluate and reflect on their own clinical practice: • structured patient survey • peer review • multi-source feedback • clinical audit.	- Educational activity - Reviewing performance and/or - Measuring outcomes activity
Psychiatry	A specialist psychiatrist must complete a minimum of 10 hours of formal peer review per year.	- Reviewing performance
Radiology	A specialist radiologist must complete anaphylaxis training as part of basic or advanced life support training once every three years.	- Educational activity
Sport and Exercise Medicine	A specialist sport and exercise physician must complete: - WADA/Sport Integrity Australia anti-doping education every three years; and - ANY ONE of the following courses in every three-year period: • management of Sports Trauma course (MOST) • basic cardiac life support course (BCLS) • advanced cardiac life support course (ACLS) • AFL Emergency Care Course • immediate care in rugby course (Level 2/3 course).	- Educational activity
Surgery (except OMS)	A specialist surgeon (including all fields of specialty practice except OMS) must participate in the Australia and New Zealand Audit of Surgical Mortality (ANZASM) by completing all surgical case forms sent by ANZASM. If by 31 December of the CPD year you have not received a form, you will need to make a declaration on your AMA CPD Home Tracker to comply with the HLR.	- Reviewing performance and/or - Measuring outcomes activity

* Medical Board of Australia's (MBA) Registration Standard: Continuing professional development (the Standard)

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