



# What is the Remote Vocational Training Scheme?

## The RVTS pathway

The Remote Vocational Training Scheme (RVTS) offers general practice registrars an alternative pathway to Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) and/or the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM).

RVTS is an independent, Commonwealth-funded program with its own application process and intake quota.

The program has two streams of trainees:

- The 'original' remote RVTS program for doctors working in remote and rural Australia; and
- The RVTS extension for doctors working in an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service (ACCHS).

RVTS brings educational opportunities to general practitioners working in areas where accessing mainstream training is impractical or impossible.

Training is provided via distance education and remote supervision, allowing RVTS registrars to practise in some of Australia's most remote locations while training for Fellowship.

## The experience

RVTS pioneered distance education and remote supervision for general practice registrars in late 1999. Registrars are able to enjoy the same level of supervision and support as their city counterparts, no matter how remote they are.

RVTS registrars can be found practising in a variety of roles, including as Royal Flying Doctors, District Medical Officers, in Aboriginal Medical

Services and in private practice. Around 80 per cent of registrars are currently international medical graduates.

RVTS registrars remain in the one location for the duration of their training, so the program is both community and family friendly. RVTS has benefitted over 205 rural communities since its inception.

## The training

The RVTS program is designed to accommodate the circumstances of remote practice and provide the best possible educational experience. Training is provided via distance education and supervision is facilitated remotely. Program delivery is flexible and designed to meet a participant's individual needs. Education is delivered via:

- **Live weekly webinars:**  
Registrars participate in weekly, 60-90-minute education sessions via webinar.
- **Face-to-face workshops:**  
Registrars meet twice a year at a central location for an intensive, five-day education workshop that covers topics best learnt face-to-face. There are opportunities for networking and socialising and families can travel with registrars.
- **Clinical teaching visits:**  
An RVTS supervisor, medical educator or experienced rural practitioner visits the registrar to sit in on consultations and provide feedback.
- **Remote supervision:**  
Each registrar is allocated a supervisor who acts as a mentor providing educational advice.

Whilst all care has been taken in preparing this document, this information is a guide only and subject to change without notice.

Practice Assist is an initiative of



WA Primary Health Alliance is supported by funding from the Australian Government under the PHN Program.

Rural Health West is funded by the Australian Government and the WA Country Health Service.

## Registrar handbook

The RVTS Registrar Handbook provides a range of information about the RVTS training program including:

- Access to Medicare
- Grants and subsidies
- Part-time training
- Moving training location
- Completion of training
- Recognition of prior learning (RPL)
- Useful resources

## Eligibility criteria

### Location – Remote Stream

- The practice location must be in Modified Monash Model MMM 4,5,6, or 7 (see the [DoctorConnect Locator Map](#)); and
- The position provides continuing comprehensive whole-patient medical care to individuals, families and their communities.

### Location – AMS Stream

- The practice location must be an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service; and
- The position provides continuing comprehensive whole-patient medical care to individuals, families and their communities.

### Medical registration and residency – both streams

- The doctor must have General Registration or Limited Registration for Area of Need with the Medical Board of Australia (eligibility dates apply for doctors with Limited Registration); and
- The doctor must be working in an eligible location at the time of applying, and remain in that location throughout their training; and
- Applications are accepted from Australia citizens, permanent residents and temporary residents.

### Doctors with limited registration

- The doctor must have been granted limited registration on or after February 2016 (date changes yearly); and
- The doctor must have successfully completed the Australian Medical Council (AMC) part one exam; and
- The doctor must have a minimum of two years of previous general practice experience as assessed by the RACGP; and

- The doctor must have a minimum of two years of registration time remaining at the commencement of training; and
- The doctor must be at Level 3 or 4 supervision. Levels 1 and 2 are not eligible.

## More information

To be informed when applications open, contact RVTS to register your interest or keep up to date and subscribe to the e-newsletter.

### Remote Vocational Training Scheme Ltd

Telephone: 02 6057 3400

Website: [www.rvts.org.au](http://www.rvts.org.au)

## See also

Practice Assist Check List:

- GP Start-Up Pack

Practice Assist Fact Sheets:

- What is an Area of Need?
- Section 19AB of the Health Insurance Act 1973