



Practice Incentives Program Rural Loading Incentive

The rural loading recognises the difficulties of providing care, often with little professional support, in rural and remote areas. The Practice Incentives Program (PIP) is higher for practices in more remote areas, in recognition of the added difficulties of providing medical care.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the PIP rural loading, the main practice must:

- Participate in the PIP; and
- Be located in RRMA 3-7.

The PIP rural loading is applied to PIP practice payments. Service Incentive Payments (SIPs) and payments made through the General Practice Immunisation Incentive (GPII) do not attract a rural loading.

The rural loading varies with the remoteness of the practice, and is based on the classification of the practice using the Rural, Remote and Metropolitan Areas (RRMA) Classification.

RRMA classifications can be found at <http://www.doctorconnect.gov.au/internet/otd/publicshing.nsf/Content/locator>

Applying

Practices registered for the PIP do not need to apply for this incentive. If the practice is not currently in the PIP, it can apply:

- Through HPOS;
- By completing the [Practice Incentives application form](#).

References

Practice Incentives Program Guidelines

<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/health-professionals/services/medicare/practice-incentives-program>

PIP rural loading for each RRMA category

RRMA category	Loading
Rural loading – RRMA 2	0 per cent
Rural loading – RRMA 3	15 per cent
Rural loading – RRMA 4	20 per cent
Rural loading – RRMA 5	40 per cent
Rural loading – RRMA 6	25 per cent
Rural loading – RRMA 7	50 per cent

More information

PIP Enquiry Line: 1800 222 032
Email: pip@humanservices.gov.au
Fax: 1300 587 696
Practice Incentives Program
Department of Human Services
GPO Box 2572
ADELAIDE SA 5001

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

See also

Practice Assist Fact Sheets and Resources:

- [After-hours Incentive](#)
- [Asthma Incentive](#)
- [Cervical Screening Incentive](#)
- [Diabetes Incentive](#)
- [eHealth Incentive](#)
- [GP Aged Care Incentive](#)
- [Indigenous Health Incentive](#)
- [Procedural GP Payment](#)
- [Quality Prescribing Initiative](#)
- [Teaching Payment](#)
- [Practice Nurse Incentive Program](#)
- [What is the Practice Incentives Program?](#)
- [Practice Incentives Program Overview](#)

