

Practice Management Workforce Incentive Program (WIP)

The Workforce Incentive Program (WIP) provides targeted financial incentives to encourage medical practitioners to deliver eligible primary healthcare services in regional, rural or remote areas that have difficulty attracting and retaining medical practitioners.

The WIP also provides financial incentives to help general practices engage the services of nurses, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Health Practitioners and eligible allied health professionals, including pharmacists (non-dispensing) and nurse practitioners.

From early 2020, general practices and doctors participating in the Practice Nurse Incentive Program (PNIP) and the General Practice Rural Incentives Program (GPRIP) were automatically transitioned to the WIP.

The Modified Monash (MM) classification is being used to ensure metropolitan areas can't access incentives intended for rural and remote Australia.

The two WIP funding streams

The WIP rationalises major workforce distribution incentive payments into two streams and funds the continued growth of the general practice, nursing and eligible allied health workforce in primary care.

The WIP – Doctor Stream

Under the WIP – Doctor Stream, payments are made directly to medical practitioners, similar to the arrangements for the General Practice Rural Incentives Program (GPRIP).

Medical practitioners located in MM 3-7 can receive an annual payment of between \$4,500 and \$60,000, depending on the location.

The calculation of payment is based on services provided within eligible locations and the length of time a doctor has been on the program.

The WIP – Practice Stream

Under the WIP – Practice Stream, payments are made directly to general practices, similar to the arrangements for the Practice Nurse Incentive Program (PNIP).

The WIP – Practice Stream includes:

- quarterly incentive payments to engage eligible health professionals
- a rural loading of up to 50%
- an annual loading for practices providing general practitioner services to Veterans' Affairs (DVA) Gold Card holders.

The amount of incentive payments a practice receives depends on the:

- practice size
- type of eligible health professionals
- average hours eligible health professionals work each week
- type of practice and its location.

Eligible practices in all locations can receive incentive payments of up to \$125,000 per year.

Applying to join the WIP – Practice Stream

If your practice would like to join the WIP – Practice Stream, you can apply:

- online via [HPOS](#)
- by completing and submitting the [Practice Incentives application form](#).

Further information

To find out more about the Workforce Incentive Program (WIP), visit the [Department of Health website](#), call 1800 222 032 or email wippractice@servicesaustralia.gov.au

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

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