



ACRRM's Australian General Practice Training selection process

What is AGPT?

Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) is an Australian Government funded training program for medical graduates interested in a career in general practice.

Registrars train towards a Fellowship of the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (FACRRM). The program is delivered by nine regional training organisations across Australia.

Am I eligible to apply for AGPT?

Doctors can apply as early as their intern year to start training in the following year.

Please visit the www.agpt.com.au for detailed eligibility criteria.

www.acrrm.org.au

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What is the selection process?

- Step 1: Applications open 10am 10 April 2017 and are submitted via the ACRRM website. AGPT applications close 10 am 8 May 2017.
- Step 2: ACRRM applications can be started as soon as the link is available on the ACRRM website and must be completed by 10am on 10 July 2017.
- Step 3: ACRRM applications can be started as soon as the link is available on the ACRRM website and must be completed by 10am on 10 July 2017.
- Step 4: Eligible candidates pay the ACRRM application fee by 10am on 10 July 2017.
- Step 5: Results for suitable ACRRM candidates uploaded to the Department of Health database and notification sent to RTOs by 21 July 2017.
- Step 6: RTOs advise candidates of interview time and place allocation from 24 to 28 July 2017.
- Step 7: First round candidates are interviewed by ACRRM selection team, with RTO of first preference from 5 to 25 August 2017.
- Step 8: First round offers are sent and acceptances returned within 7 days by 5 September 2017.
- Step 9: Second round candidates interviewed as required from 8 - 22 September 2017.
- Step 10: Second round offers sent and acceptances returned within 7 days by 2 October 2017.
- Step 11: Apply for ACRRM membership by 31 October 2017.

Why train with ACRRM?

Fellowship of ACRRM training is more than standard general practice training. Throughout training and assessment, the focus and experience is based on a rural and remote practice context.

This develops your confidence and competence towards practising independently and ensures the challenges of rural and remote practice are fulfilling, not daunting.

Fellowship of ACRRM enables you to follow different career pathways, from solo practice in small communities to leadership roles in larger hospitals; from retrieval and expeditionary medicine to Aboriginal health services or urban general practice.

Achieving a FACRRM verifies that you are qualified to practise anywhere in Australia as a general practitioner – independently and safely.

Can I lodge an application with ACRRM and another recognised college at the same time?

Yes. However you will be required to apply separately to each College and participate in each College's selection processes.

Do I need to complete all core clinical training terms prior to applying?

No. Gaps can be remediated during training.

How are candidates selected?

Candidates are selected on merit. ACRRM accepts graduates based on the following criteria:

1. Demonstrated commitment to a career as a specialist general practitioner working in a rural or remote Australia.
2. Demonstrated capacity and motivation to acquire abilities, skills and knowledge in the ACRRM domains of practice.
3. Demonstrated connection with rural communities.
4. Demonstrated commitment to meeting the needs of rural and remote communities through an extended scope of practice.
5. Possession of the personal characteristics associated with a successful career in rural or remote practice.

As part of the selection process, candidates are required to pay a \$700 (inc. GST) non-refundable application fee.

What if I cannot attend the selection interview in person?

At ACRRM, we use a selection interview process to select candidates for the AGPT Program. If you are unable to attend your interview in person, you should contact the College at agpt@acrrm.org.au.

In exceptional circumstances, it may be possible to attend the interview in another location. However, no provision is currently available for this option.

Can I choose the location for my AGPT training?

Upon application, you are required to nominate a minimum of one Regional Training Organisation (RTO) and may nominate up to four RTO preferences. By nominating a preference, you must be willing to train in that location for the duration of your training.

Further information on training regions can be found at www.agpt.com.au.

What if I miss out on my first preference location?

If your first preference region is oversubscribed and you have made additional preference choices, you may be offered a position in another region.

Do I have to undertake all training in rural and remote locations?

No. Whilst most registrars will spend a significant amount of training in rural areas, the focus is on gaining the skills and knowledge required in rural and remote settings.

Some of these skills can be developed in urban and rural facilities. However, having a good understanding of the context of rural medicine is also essential. Therefore, all registrars must spend a minimum of 12 months of their training living and practising in a rural or remote setting.

For further information, see the [Fellowship Training Handbook](#).

ACRRM has a unique curriculum set of training and assessments which reflect the broader and deeper requirements of the rural and remote context.

This ensures that you are acquiring the right mix of knowledge, skills and attributes to work safely and competently in unsupervised general practice in all settings in Australia.

Can I change training regions at any time during my training?

You must remain in your selected training region for the duration of your training. Please refer to the [AGPT transfer policy](#) for further information.

What training will I be required to undertake?

You'll be required to complete four years of training. The core components of training are:

- 12 months core clinical training including six mandatory 10-week rotations in emergency medicine, general medicine, general surgery, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, and anaesthetics
- 24 months primary rural and remote training
 - Six months hospital/emergency
 - Six months community primary care
 - 12 months rural and remote practice
- 12 months advanced specialised training (AST).

All training must be completed in ACRRM accredited posts. In instances where you can't complete all six core clinical training terms, we offer alternative ways to remediate these skills while you complete other training components.

Do you accept Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)?

Once you have started training, you can apply for RPL through your RTO. There is a maximum of 24 months that can be awarded. Only 12 months can be allocated to your Primary Rural and Remote Training time.

It is recommended that you apply for RPL early in your training to ensure that both your RTO and ACRRM are able to determine your training requirements and assessment eligibility.

What Fellowship assessments will I be required to undertake?

The assessment process is designed by experienced rural doctors and leading academics.

Assessments are undertaken progressively throughout the key stages of your training, rather than one big exam at the end.

Assessments include:

- Multi Choice Question exam (MCQ)
- Case Based Discussion assessment (CBD)
- Multi Source Feedback (MSF)
- Structure Assessment using Multiple Patient Scenarios (StAMPS)
- Relevant AST assessment (either StAMPS or project depending on AST selected).

Once I have my Fellowship, where can I work?

With a Fellowship of ACRRM (FACRRM), you are eligible to apply for specialist registration as a General Practitioner with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) as well as vocational recognition with Medicare. A FACRRM qualification allows you to practise anywhere in Australia as a Specialist Generalist Practitioner. ACRRM also has reciprocal arrangements in place with both Canada and New Zealand.

Who can I contact if I have more questions?

The ACRRM Vocational Training Team is available Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm on 1800 223 226 or agpt@acrmm.org.au.

Where can I find more information?

You can find more information from our Fellowship Training Handbook available at www.acrmm.org.au.

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