



# GENERAL PRACTICE TRAINING

## Australian College of Rural & Remote Medicine (ACRRM) The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP)

The [Australian General Practice Training Program \(AGPT\)](#) is the leading training program for medical graduates wishing to specialise in General Practice. AGPT is one of two entry points into the RACGP's Vocational Training Pathway that lead to Fellowship, the other entry point being the [Remote Vocational Training Scheme \(RVTS\)](#). AGPT is one of three entry points into the ACRRM Vocational Training Pathway that lead to Fellowship, the other entry points being the RVTS and the Independent Pathway (IP). This Reference Guide relates to the AGPT entry point.

While general practice is a recognised medical specialty, not all medical practitioners working as General Practitioners in Australia hold a specialist general practice qualification. Trainees will need to apply for a training place to gain fellowship with their preferred College/s, [Australian College of Rural & Remote Medicine](#) and/or [The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners](#). The two end points of the AGPT Program are the Fellowship of the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (FACRRM) and the Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (FRACGP).

Fellowship is a 4-year full time (or part-time equivalent) training pathway with ACRRM; and a 3-year full time (or part-time equivalent) training pathway with RACGP as outlined below:

### **RACGP Pathway to Fellowship:**

Vocational training towards RACGP Fellowship is comprised of the following:

Hospital Training	12 months (full time equivalent)	- The minimum requirement for entry to general practice training is one year of training in an Australian or New Zealand hospital.*
General Practice Placements	18 months (full time equivalent)	- Training must be undertaken in an accredited general practice training post under an accredited supervisor - Training must be undertaken in at least two different general practices.
Extended Skills Training	6 months (full time equivalent)	- Maximum 6 months (full time) approved Extended Skills Training.

Enrolling in the Fellowship in Advanced Rural General Practice (FARGP) will enable you to complete an additional 12 months of Advanced Rural Skills Training (ARST) via an optional 4<sup>th</sup> year.

## Regional Training Hub Southern Queensland

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### Useful contacts and links

Regional Training Organisations:

General Practice Training Queensland: [gpta@gpta.qld.edu.au](mailto:gpta@gpta.qld.edu.au)

James Cook University General Practice Training: [jcugp.southwest@jcu.edu.au](mailto:jcugp.southwest@jcu.edu.au)

Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service: Medical Education Unit

[DDHHS-MEU@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:DDHHS-MEU@health.qld.gov.au)

Medi-Nav: <https://medinav.health.qld.gov.au>

Australian College of Rural & Remote Medicine (ACRRM): <https://www.acrrm.org.au/>

ACRRM Fellowship Training Program Handbook: <https://www.acrrm.org.au/resources/training/handbooks-guides>

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP): <https://www.racgp.org.au/>

RACGP Vocational Training Pathway – Requirements for Fellowship Policy: <https://www.racgp.org.au/education/registrars/fellowship-pathways/policy-framework/policies/vocational-training-requirements-for-fellowship>

National Medical Workforce Factsheet: <https://hwd.health.gov.au/webapi/customer/documents/factsheets/2016/General%20practice.pdf>



\*Please note that completion of mandatory hospital rotations are required prior to entry into general practice terms but do not need to be completed prior to application and entry into the RACGP training program. The mandatory hospital rotations include those required for general medical registration (General Medicine, General Surgery and Emergency Medicine) as well as:

- [Paediatrics requirement](#)

- 3 additional rotations of choice relevant to general practice (e.g. Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Psychiatry, etc)

#### **ACRRM Pathway to Fellowship:**

Core Generalist Training (CGT)	36 months (full time equivalent)	<p>CGT may be started at PGY2 or above and is completed in accredited training posts which include the hospital and regional, rural and remote settings.</p> <p>Minimum requirements include: Hospital rotations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10 weeks Obstetrics &amp; Gynecology (PGY1+)*</li> <li>- 10 weeks Paediatrics (PGY1+)*</li> <li>- 10 weeks Anaesthetics (PGY1+)*</li> </ul> <p><i>*As these terms are sometimes hard to obtain in regional settings, there are alternatives to meeting these requirements. Please consult the Fellowship Training Program Handbook and discuss with your local Regional Training Organisation.</i></p> <p>Community/Rural and Remote Practice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 6 months Primary Care (PGY2+)</li> <li>- 3 months Secondary Care (PGY2+)</li> <li>- 3 months Emergency Care (PGY2+)</li> <li>- 12 months in Rural and Remote Practice (living and working in a rural or remote community)</li> </ul>
Advanced Specialised Training (AST)	12 months (full time equivalent)	<p>Advanced Specialised Training requires a minimum of 12 months training (from PGY3+) in one of the following disciplines specified by the College:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health</li> <li>- Academic Practice</li> <li>- Adult Internal Medicine</li> <li>- Anaesthetics</li> <li>- Emergency Medicine</li> <li>- Mental Health</li> <li>- Obstetrics and Gynaecology</li> <li>- Paediatrics</li> <li>- Palliative Care</li> <li>- Population Health</li> <li>- Remote Medicine; or</li> <li>- Surgery</li> </ul>

#### Entry requirements/pre-requisites

- General Medical Registration with the Medical Board of Australia.

- Be a citizen of Australia or a permanent resident of Australia.

For further information on eligibility guidelines, refer to the **Australian General Practice Training** Website at <http://www.agpt.com.au/>

## Application and selection process – how to apply

Trainees have the choice of two College training pathways. Trainees may choose to train with ACRRM or with RACGP; OR trainees may choose to train with both Colleges. Trainees can apply to undertake Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) through these College anytime from PGY1.

Regional Training Organisations (RTOs) contracted by the Department of Health, deliver the College's education and training program, based on the College standards and requirements, within a specific geographic region to registrars on the AGPT pathway. In Queensland, there are two Regional Training Organisations: For North Western Queensland –James Cook University General Practice Training (JCU GP Training) <https://www.jcugp.edu.au/> and for South Eastern Queensland - General Practice Training Queensland (GPTQ) <https://www.gptq.qld.edu.au/>.

Applications for entry to the AGPT Program usually open in late March and close in late April for entry in the following year. Applicants will need to submit an online application through their preferred College/s including supporting documents, referee details and training region preferences.

## Program requirements

Training requirements summary:

RACGP: <https://www.racgp.org.au/education/registrars/fellowship-pathways/policy-framework/policies/vocational-training-requirements-for-fellowship>

RACGP Pathway to Fellowship diagram: <https://www.racgp.org.au/FSDEDEV/media/documents/Education/Students/A%20career%20in%20general%20practice/Pathway-to-Fellowship.pdf>

ACRRM: <https://www.acrrm.org.au/PrimaryCurriculum/Default.htm>

## Regional training opportunities in Southern Queensland

There are currently 152.5 registrar positions in Southern Queensland area\*.

**\*Position data valid as at June 2019.**

The following table provides an outline of the RACGP training pathway and which rotations the Southern Queensland area is accredited to deliver:

	Hospital Time	GPT1	GPT2	GPT3	Extended Skills	Advanced Rural Skills Training (Optional for FARGP)									
	12 months	6 months	6 months	6 months	6 months	12 months									
	18 months community primary care					Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health	Anaesthetics	Emergency Medicine	Internal Medicine	Mental Health	Obstetrics & Gynaecology	Paediatrics	Surgery	Population Health	Palliative Care
South West Queensland		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓									
Darling Downs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	*

\*Palliative Care Advanced Skill Training not approved by RACGP (ARST) or ACRRM (AST), however it can be completed as a special interest area.

\*Registrars can also complete an Academic AST/ARST in Toowoomba.

The following table provides an outline of the ACRRM training pathway and which rotations the Southern Queensland area is accredited to deliver:

	Core Clinical Training Time	Primary Rural & Remote Training 1	Primary Rural & Remote Training 2	Primary Rural & Remote Training 3	Primary Rural & Remote Training 4	Advanced Specialised Training							
	12 months	6 months	6 months	6 months	6 months	12 months							
	6 months community primary care, 6 months hospital and emergency, 12 months rural and remote					Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health	Anaesthetics	Emergency Medicine	Internal Medicine	Mental Health	Obstetrics & Gynaecology	Paediatrics	Surgery
South West Queensland		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
Darling Downs	✓ (Toowoomba Hospital)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Trainees can complete their entire General Practice Training pathways within the Southern Queensland region.

There are two Regional Training Organisations (RTO) that coordinate the General Practice training in the Southern Queensland Region.

For information on GP training in Darling Downs, please visit the GPTQ website: <https://www.gpto.qld.edu.au/our-training-region/darling-downs-and-west-moreton-district/>.

For information on accredited GP practices in the South West Queensland region, please visit the JCU GP Training website: <https://www.jcugp.edu.au/south-west/>

### Disclaimer

The University of Queensland Regional Training Hubs have taken all reasonable steps to ensure that the information contained in this document is both accurate and current. Information in this Guide is accurate as at August 2021. Pathways provided are examples only and may be dependent on availability of positions, allocation processes and individual progression through the training program. While care has been taken to provide accurate information in this Guide, it is the responsibility of prospective candidates for training pathways and positions to check and confirm specific details with relevant Colleges and health authorities directly.