



Australian Government

Department of Health

National Consistent Payments Framework Factsheet

The **National Consistent Payments (NCP) Framework** is a key part of the reforms to the Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) program.

The framework provides information on a range of targeted financial payments to supervisors, training practices, and registrars commencing from 1 February 2023.

The Australian Government through the Department of Health (the Department) facilitated a series of workshops in 2021. These workshops were carried out to consult and engage effectively with all stakeholders in the sector for the development of the NCP framework for the training participants - supervisors, training practices and registrars.

The fourth and final workshop for the NCP framework occurred on 14 October 2021. The Department considered the feedback received from all stakeholders and analysed the information provided throughout the consultation process to finalise the NCP framework.

The finalised NCP framework establishes tiered payment rates according to geographic remoteness (using the Modified Monash Model). This payments framework will ensure transparency and clarity on the purpose of payments provided to training participants while also incentivising training in rural and remote regions.

The final NCP framework developed with the significant stakeholder has been included in the grant opportunity guidelines for the College – Led AGPT program commencing from 2023.

Stakeholders in the sector which were consulted and engaged closely for the development of NCP framework and payments model include:

- National Rural Health Commissioner
- Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM)
- Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP)
- General Practice Supervisors Australia
- General Practice Registrars Australia
- Australian Medical Association
- Rural Doctors Association of Australia
- Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association
- AMA Council of Doctors-in-Training
- Regional Training Organisations

The NCP framework provides information regarding the level of payments to be received by registrars, supervisors and practices for training on the AGPT program. The framework also outlines the activities that supervisors and practices are expected to undertake as well as expenses that registrars can utilise payment funds for.

The framework also provides additional funding via a flexible pool of funds to support training. Flexible funding will be provided to supervisors, practices and registrars to assist with Continuing Professional Development for supervisors and other payments to deliver quality training especially in those areas that are facing the difficulty in attracting and retaining general practitioners.

This NCP framework will be used by the two colleges, RACGP and ACRRM and will be implemented for payments using the Modified Monash Model (MMM) geographic classification covering the MM1 to MM7 locations across Australia. Payments have been tiered according to MM regions to provide greater support to GP training in rural and remote areas.

FUNDING ADMINISTRATION/PAYMENT SYSTEM

Services Australia will administer payments arrangements on behalf of the Department. The Australian Government announced in December 2021 additional funding to develop a payment system through Services Australia.

The release of payments as outlined in the model will be validated through training data provided by the GP colleges.

Payments will be made to the registrars in advance, at the commencement of each training term. These payments will be activated at the placement site with a Declaration document signed by registrars.

In-Practice teaching payments will be made to the supervisors monthly in arrears either to the training practice or directly to supervisors based on individual practice models, and in consultation with the individual practices. These monthly payments to supervisors will be validated by the colleges to ensure quality teaching activity.

Practice subsidy payments will be made to the training practices quarterly at the beginning of the training term. These payments will be made to training practices only in first two training terms for hosting registrars.

KEY TIMINGS AND NEXT STEPS

The Department has commenced work with Services Australia regarding the build of a payment system. The development of a system will include collaboration with the ACRRM and the RACGP and will be implemented for the commencement of the Colleges managing the program.

Once further information is available regarding the payment system, the Department and Service Australia will provide information to registrars, training practices and supervisors.

This information will include guidelines for payments and administrative requirements for the establishment of payment details with Services Australia.

The framework will be reviewed as part of the proposed review process for college-led training that is proposed to take place in mid-2024.

All questions and queries regarding the NCP framework and payments model under the AGPT program should be directed to the Department of Health at:

AGPTTransition@health.gov.au