Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care

Bulk Billing Practice Incentive Program Frequently Asked Questions for practices and providers

Contents

About the Bulk Billing Practice Incentive Program (the Program)	3
What is the Bulk Billing Practice Incentive Program?	3
How does this Program relate to the broader changes to Bulk Billing Incentives in Genera Practice?	
What is the difference between this Program and the Practice Incentives Program (PIP)?	. 3
Does my practice have to join the Bulk Billing Practice Incentive Program?	3
Can I still claim bulk billing incentive items if my practice doesn't join the Program?	3
I work at two practices – do both have to participate in the Program?	4
Is my practice locked into the Program? What if my practice wants to stop participating?	4
Benefits and Incentives	5
How will participation in the Program benefit my practice?	5
How often will incentive payments be made?	5
How will the incentive payment be paid and who will receive it, practices or GPs?	5
How will the incentive payment be calculated?	5
Do all GPs in the practice have to meet the bulk billing requirements for the practice to qualify for the Program incentive payment?	6
How can I check my claiming data at any time?	6
Eligibility and Requirements	7
What are the practice eligibility requirements?	7
What do practices need to do to advertise Program participation?	7
Do all patients also need to be registered for MyMedicare?	7
Does my practice need to be accredited to participate in the Program?	7
Are there any payroll tax implications for participating in the Program?	8
I am a sole provider, can I register in the Program?	8
Are Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations and Aboriginal Medical Service eligible to participate in the Program?	
Registration and participation	9
How and when can I register for the Bulk Billing Practice Incentive Program?	9
If I'm already registered in MyMedicare do I need to register again?	9
Operational details	.10
Do I need to track my practice's bulk billing and provide this information in order to receive a payment?	
Can I nominate which bank account the incentive payment will be paid into?	.10
What are eligible services?	.10

About the Bulk Billing Practice Incentive Program (the Program)

What is the Bulk Billing Practice Incentive Program?

From 1 November 2025, the Bulk Billing Practice Incentive Program (the Program) will support General Practices across the country to bulk bill every patient.

Practices that participate in the Program will receive an additional 12.5% loading payment on every \$1 of MBS benefit paid from <u>eligible services</u>, split between the GP and the practice.

Participating practices will be eligible for this incentive payment if the practice bulk bills every eligible service for every patient. This incentive payment will be made in addition to MBS Benefits paid (including bulk billing incentives).

How does this Program relate to the broader changes to Bulk Billing Incentives in General Practice?

There are two parts to the upcoming changes to Bulk Billing Incentives in General Practice, from 1 November 2025:

- 1. **Expanding eligibility for bulk billing incentives**. GPs will be able to claim bulk billing incentive items when they bulk bill any Medicare-eligible patient.
- 2. Bulk Billing Practice Incentive Program (the Program).

Incentive payments through the Program will be paid in addition to the expanded bulk billing incentives.

What is the difference between this Program and the Practice Incentives Program (PIP)?

This Program is linked to MyMedicare, the Practice Incentives Program (PIP) is not.

Incentive payments under this Program will be made through MyMedicare.

Does my practice have to join the Bulk Billing Practice Incentive Program?

No. The Program is voluntary. Practices can choose to opt-in or opt-out at any time.

Can I still claim bulk billing incentive items if my practice doesn't join the Program?

Yes. GPs will be able to claim bulk billing incentive items for any patient they bulk bill.

I work at two practices – do both have to participate in the Program?

No. The Program is voluntary for practices. GPs will only be required to bulk bill all of their patients at participating practices.

Is my practice locked into the Program? What if my practice wants to stop participating?

The Program is voluntary. Practices can choose to opt-in or opt-out at any time.

Benefits and Incentives

How will participation in the Program benefit my practice?

The Program will provide an additional quarterly incentive payment, to the value of 12.5% of MBS benefits for <u>eligible services</u>, to practices that bulk bill every <u>eligible service</u> for every patient. The payment will be split between the GP and the practice.

This not only benefits participants financially but supports accessible healthcare for all Australians.

Take advantage of this opportunity to improve patient satisfaction and increase your practice's visibility with branded signage.

Contribute to a healthier community by ensuring all patients have access to fully bulk billed services.

How often will incentive payments be made?

Incentive payments will be made quarterly in arrears. Payments will commence in the first quarter of 2026. Further information regarding quarterly payments will be made available later this year.

How will the incentive payment be paid and who will receive it, practices or GPs?

The incentive payment will be split between practices and GPs.

The payment split will be determined in consultation with the sector prior to the Program's launch on 1 November 2025.

Bulk billing incentive benefits will continue to be paid directly to the GP.

How will the incentive payment be calculated?

The incentive payment will be calculated based on the MBS benefits earned from <u>eligible</u> <u>services</u>. Specifically:

- **Incentive payment**: The incentive payment is calculated at 12.5% of the MBS benefits for <u>eligible services</u> that are bulk billed, during the quarter. This incentive payment will be paid on top of MBS benefits and the bulk billing incentive.
- **Eligibility Threshold**: A practice must bulk bill 100% of <u>eligible services</u> to be eligible for the incentive payment.
- **Distribution**: The incentive payment is split between the GP and the practice. The payment split will be determined in consultation with the sector prior to the Program's launch on 1 November 2025.

Do all GPs in the practice have to meet the bulk billing requirements for the practice to qualify for the Program incentive payment?

Yes. All GPs at a participating practice must bulk bill all <u>eligible services</u> for all patients to be eligible for the incentive.

How can I check my claiming data at any time?

Practice managers can check their total billings for <u>eligible services</u> at any time using their own internal accounting records.

Eligibility and Requirements

What are the practice eligibility requirements?

To participate in the Program, a practice will need to:

- Bulk bill all eligible services for all eligible patients
- Advertise their participation in the Program (see below)
- Be registered with MyMedicare. New practices registering in the program will be exempt from MyMedicare accreditation requirements.

What do practices need to do to advertise Program participation?

Participating practices will be expected to advertise as fully bulk billing on Healthdirect's National Health Services Directory and will be supported with marketing materials to identify their participation in the Program.

More information on how to advertise with Healthdirect's National Health Service Directory and how to order marketing materials will be provided to participating practices later this year.

Do all patients also need to be registered for MyMedicare?

No, patients do not need to be registered for MyMedicare for the practice to participate in the Program. However, it's a good opportunity to discuss MyMedicare registration with your patients to see if registration is right for them.

Does my practice need to be accredited to participate in the Program?

Practices already registered in MyMedicare must meet the existing MyMedicare accreditation requirements. There is an accreditation exemption is currently available until 31 December 2026 for non-accredited practices (including sole providers) who deliver general practice services entirely through mobile and outreach models.

Practices that are not already registered in MyMedicare will have the MyMedicare accreditation requirements waived if they wish to register with MyMedicare and participate the Program.

Further information regarding MyMedicare accreditation requirements and exemptions will be released later this year.

Are there any payroll tax implications for participating in the Program?

Payroll tax is the responsibility of state and territory governments.

General practices are private businesses with diverse operating structures and employment models. It is the responsibility of the owner, or the individual in the case of a contractual arrangement, to seek the appropriate expert advice reflective of their unique business arrangement. Specific arrangements vary between States and Territories, as payroll tax is not a Commonwealth issue.

I am a sole provider, can I register in the Program?

Yes. Sole providers are eligible to register in MyMedicare and the Program.

If a sole provider is already registered with MyMedicare, they are eligible for an accreditation exemption to 31 December 2026.

If a sole provider is not already registered with MyMedicare, but would like to register and join the Program, the MyMedicare accreditation requirements will be waived.

Further information regarding MyMedicare accreditation requirements and exemptions will be released later this year.

Are Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations and Aboriginal Medical Services eligible to participate in the Program?

Yes. Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs) and Aboriginal Medical Services (AMS) can participate in MyMedicare and the Program if they provide Medicare-funded services. New practices registering in the Program will be exempt from MyMedicare accreditation requirements. Further details on the accreditation exemption will be provided later this year.

Registration and participation

How and when can I register for the Bulk Billing Practice Incentive Program?

Practices will need to:

- 1. register to participate in MyMedicare
- 2. register to participate in the Program via MyMedicare.

Registration for the Program will be available from 1 November 2025.

Accredited practices can prepare in advance, by registering for MyMedicare now. Instructions on how to register are available on the <u>Services Australia Health Professional</u> <u>Education Resources website</u>.

Further details and instructions on how to register in the Program will be provided later this year.

If I'm already registered in MyMedicare do I need to register again?

Practices who are already registered in MyMedicare will not need to register for the MyMedicare program again. However, practices will need to register for the Program via MyMedicare from 1 November 2025.

Operational details

Do I need to track my practice's bulk billing and provide this information in order to receive a payment?

No. Payment assessments will be automated. Services Australia will assess your practice's bulk billing at the end of each quarter to ensure all <u>eligible services</u> were bulk billed in the previous quarter.

Can I nominate which bank account the incentive payment will be paid into?

Yes. The incentive payments will be made to the providers' and practices' nominated bank accounts in the MyMedicare Organisation Register and individual Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) accounts.

What are eligible services?

A full list of the Program's eligible services can be found here.