



Australian Government

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

Medicare Plus for Other Medical Practitioners (MOMPS) Program Guidelines

Effective 1 July 2026

Important Notice:

From 1 January 2019, the MedicarePlus for Other Medical Practitioners Program (MOMPs Program) ceased accepting applications to join the program.

The MOMPs program closed on 31 December 2023.

Medical practitioners participating in the MOMPs program had until 31 December 2023 to complete 20 active quarters to continue to access specialist general practitioner (GP) Medicare rebates after that date.

Medical practitioners who successfully completed the requirements of the MOMPs Program by 31 December 2023, retain access to specialist GP Medicare rebates providing they maintain program requirements.

These Guidelines have effect from 1 July 2026.

Introduction

The MOMPs program commenced on 1 February 2004 and provides access to specialist GP items in the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) for services provided by doctors registered in Australia prior to 1 November 1996 and who provide services in an area of workforce shortage.

After medical practitioners provided services in an area of workforce shortage for 20 active quarters (5 years), their services continue to attract specialist GP Medicare rebates in the MBS regardless of where they are subsequently located.

The MOMPs program is administered by Services Australia on behalf of the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (department), and in accordance with these Guidelines. All decisions under the program are made by senior and executive officers in the department who are authorised by the Minister (Authorised Persons).

Eligibility

To be eligible for this program a medical practitioner must:

- have been participant in the MOMPs program and completed their 20 active quarters by 31 December 2023
- have been registered as a medical practitioner with a State or Territory Medical Registration Board before 1 November 1996,
- hold current registration with the Medical Board of Australia (MBA)
- be eligible to claim Medicare benefits and not hold specialist registration in general practice with the MBA.

Continuing Professional Development Requirements

Medical practitioners participating in the MOMP program are required to satisfy the MBA's, continuing professional development registration standard.

Please contact the MBA for further information regarding the continuing professional development registration standard.

Completion of 5 Years' Service

Five Years in an Area of Workforce Shortage

Under the MOMP program, a medical practitioner who was registered under the program to practise in an area of workforce shortage for a total of 20 active quarters (5 years) and who met the Medicare billing requirement can continue to attract specialist GP Medicare rebates regardless of their future place of practice.

Defining an Active Quarter

An active quarter was a defined quarter of the year where Medicare billing equaled at least \$10,000.

Level of Service Required

Medical practitioners were required to complete 20 active quarters of service under the program in an area of workforce shortage before they could apply for unrestricted access to specialist GP Medicare rebates.

There was no requirement for these quarters to be completed consecutively; however, they must have been completed before the MOMP program closed on 31 December 2023.

Any medical practitioner who did not complete 20 active quarters by 31 December 2023 was removed from the program.

Authorised Person's Discretion

The Authorised Person for the MOMP program will have full discretion to make decisions on all matters relating to the administration of the program, including but not limited to approval of locations and medical practitioners.

Change of Details

Program participants are required to notify Services Australia within 14 days if they cease accessing Medicare benefits through the MOMP Program.

Program Contact Details

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

To obtain further information regarding the program, contact: OMPs@health.gov.au

Service Australia

Program participants can contact Services Australia about their provider number at:
provider.registration@servicesaustralia.gov.au