



Workforce Incentive Program (WIP) – Doctor Stream overview

The Workforce Incentive Program (WIP) Doctor Stream gives doctors financial incentives to practise in regional, rural and remote areas. The program aims to improve access to doctors in these areas and promote careers in rural medicine. The Doctor Stream replaced the General Practice Rural Incentives Program (GPRIP) in early 2020.

Eligibility requirements

To be eligible for the Doctor Stream, participants must:

1. provide a minimum amount of eligible primary care services in MM 3 to 7 locations and/or undertake eligible GP training under an approved training pathway
2. meet the required number of active quarters for payment
3. have an eligible current Medicare provider number
4. have provided current bank account details to Services Australia specifically for the Doctor Stream.

All participants should ensure that their preferred mailing **address** and **bank details** provided to Services Australia are up to date at all times.

See the [WIP guidelines](#) for full details of eligibility requirements.

Maximum annual incentive payment amounts

Location (MM)	Year Level 1	Year Level 2	Year Level 3	Year Level 4	Year Level 5+
MM 3	\$0	\$4,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$12,000
MM 4	\$0	\$8,000	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$18,000
MM 5	\$0	\$12,000	\$17,000	\$17,000	\$23,000
MM 6	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$35,000
MM 7	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$60,000



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Active quarters

Number of active quarters required for payment:

- **New** participants in **MM 3 to 5** locations – 8 active quarters within a 16-quarter period.
- **New** participants in **MM 6 to 7** locations – 4 active quarters within an 8-quarter period.
- **Continuing** participants in **MM 3 to 7** locations – 4 active quarters within an 8-quarter period.

An active quarter is a payment quarter in which a doctor has met the minimum activity threshold of either:

- \$6,000 of eligible primary care services billed under the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) for the Central Payment System (refer to section 3 of the guidelines)
- 21 sessions under the Flexible Payment System (refer to section 4 of the guidelines).

Central Payment System (CPS)

Eligible primary care services are clinical services from the following sections of the MBS:

- Category 1: Professional attendances
- Category 2: Diagnostic procedures and investigations
- Category 3: Therapeutic procedures
- Category 7: Cleft lip and cleft palate services.

Telehealth services within these categories are generally included.

New participants: Services Australia will send a letter requesting bank details, which must be provided within 60 days. Once provided, the payment will be processed.

Continuing participants: Services Australia will process payments automatically to your nominated bank account and send a payment advice.

Flexible Payment System (FPS)

Doctors who provide eligible non-billed primary care services may be eligible for payment under the FPS.

Eligible primary care services under the FPS are those which are equivalent to those listed under the CPS. These services must be in relation to direct clinical engagement with a patient(s).

Types of employment eligible for payment under the FPS are listed in the guidelines.

Top-up payments may also be available for doctors who provide a mix of billed and non-billed services.

To receive a payment under the FPS you must complete an application form and submit to the relevant Rural Workforce Agency (RWA). Refer to Part B, Section 4 of the guidelines for more information.

NOTE: Please refer to the [Workforce Incentive Program guidelines](#) for detailed requirements to receive payments under the Doctor Stream. It is the responsibility of eligible doctors to ensure they are operating under the current version of the **WIP guidelines**.

Please visit www.health.gov.au/workforceincentiveprogram for more information, including the current version of the [WIP guidelines](#).



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Contact information

Services Australia – for payment assessment and calculation enquiries:

Website: [Services Australia](#)

Phone: 1800 010 550

Department of Health – for eligibility enquiries:

Website: [Department of Health](#)

Email: WIP@health.gov.au

Rural Workforce Agencies – for FPS enquiries and to submit applications:

NT – Northern Territory Primary Health Network

Email: gprip@ntphn.org.au

Phone: (08) 8982 1032

SA – Rural Doctors Workforce Agency South Australia

Email: WIP@ruraldoc.com.au

Phone: (08) 8234 8277

WA – Rural Health West

Email: wipds@ruralhealthwest.com.au

Phone: (08) 6389 4500

TAS – HRPlus Tasmania

Email: admin@hrplustas.com.au

Phone: (03) 6332 8600

NSW – New South Wales Rural Doctors Network

Email: gpgrants@nswrdn.com.au

Phone: (02) 4924 8000

QLD – Health Workforce Queensland

Email: wipds@healthworkforce.com.au

Phone: (07) 3105 7853

VIC – Rural Workforce Agency Victoria

Email: grants@rwav.com.au

Phone: (03) 9349 7800