



National Consistent Payments Framework

Questions, Enquiries and Answers – Registrars



Specific key questions – NCP Framework – College-led AGPT program commencing from 2023 to 2025 **Answers**

When is implementation of the new NCP framework taking effect?

The payment arrangements under the College-Led AGPT program take effect from Semester 1, 2023.

Regional Training Organisations (RTOs) will continue to make payments under the existing arrangements until the end of semester 2, 2022, when the RTOs cease to provide payments for the AGPT program.

How can I get my registrar payment before the start of my semester 1 training term starting in January 2023, noting the Services Australia payment system only becomes operation on 1 February 2023?

The Department, Services Australia and the colleges (RACGP and ACRRM) are working closely together to ensure all eligible participants will be paid at the start of semester 1, including for training terms commencing in January 2023.

Eligible participants starting their training term in semester 1 in January 2023 will not miss out on receiving support as a result of the transition to the NCP framework.

Further information will be provided closer to the beginning of the training term.

What are the benefits of these newly developed payment arrangements to general practice training in Australia, especially where there are ongoing shortages in regional, rural and remote areas?

The benefits of the NCP Framework for the AGPT include:

- transparency and consistency of payments to supervisors, practices and registrars for training; and
- increased clarity of financial support for training undertaken in rural and remote areas, through an introduction of a tiered rural loading, including the use of additional discretionary flexible funds to support registrars who are training in rural and remote areas.

What are the changes to the payments that will be made registrars?

Payments are currently administered by RTOs and vary from region to region.

The following key changes will be made:

- Payments to the registrars will be made in advance, and at the commencement of each training term.

Specific key questions – NCP Framework – College-led AGPT program commencing from 2023 to 2025 **Answers**

- All payments will be tiered according to the Modified Monash Model (MMM) location classification. No registrar payments are available for training in MM1 locations.

What does it mean for me as a current registrar on the program?

Current registrars will continue to access the same arrangements that they are currently accessing until the end of the 2022 training year.

The NCP framework comes into effect for the first training term in 2023.

I am a current registrar on the AGPT program. When will these changes come into effect?

The NCP Framework comes into effect from Semester 1, 2023 with the commencement of College-Led AGPT program. For all registrars, this will mean a change in the level of funding that has been provided.

Registrars can access new payment levels from the beginning of the 2023 training year, with increased visibility of their total entitlements for training in a particular region.

How much do I get paid?

Information on the support payments available to eligible registrars under the NCP framework and payments model is provided on [the Department of Health and Aged Care website](#).

The NCP framework provides block practice payments per a training term (in lieu of existing payments provided by RTOs).

Further support funding may be available through the flexible funding pool for each college.

Were stakeholders engaged with the Department in the implementation of the NCP Framework?

The Department has undertaken consultations with stakeholders in the development of the framework.

Consultations commenced in June 2021 and the model was finalised in November

Specific key questions – NCP Framework – College-led AGPT program commencing from 2023 to 2025 **Answers**

2021. Stakeholders involved in the consultation process were:

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

Do registrars in MM1-MM7 currently receive these payments under the AGPT?

RTOs currently manage current payments to registrars. Payments to registrars vary across regions in Australia.

To address this issue, the Department has developed the NCP framework, based on payments data and information received from the current RTOs across Australia.

The framework provides payments for registrars undertaking training in rural and regional (MM2-7) locations, in recognition of the increased costs for registrars training in these regions.

How is Services Australia going to administer these payments?

The Department is working closely with Services Australia to develop a suitable payment system to administer these payments.

All eligible participants of the college led AGPT program will need to register for payment. Further information regarding this process will be provided.

RACGP and ACRRM will be responsible for the validation process through training data to be provided to Services Australia to trigger payments.

Specific key questions – NCP Framework – College-led AGPT program commencing from 2023 to 2025 **Answers**

Contact details of the RACGP and the ACRRM for information on access to payments are provided below:

RACGP

Email: transition@racgp.org.au

Tel: 1800 472 247

ACRRM

Email: training@acrrm.org.au

Tel: 1800 223 226

Were there arrangements / agreements put in place to include the RACGP and ACRRM in the administration of payments process?

Given the transition to the college-led training, the two colleges, RACGP and ACRRM, are fully engaged and working collaboratively with the Department on this payment reform.

When moving from a regional MM2 location to a more remote location, will a registrar receive a higher payment level?

Yes. The payments available to the registrars training in each region are highlighted in the NCP framework.

The Department, RACGP and ACRRM will develop and finalise the NCP framework Guidelines to address the operational issues which may arise regarding the access to these payments, including any other relocation issues across MM locations.

Contact details of the RACGP and the ACRRM for information on access to payments are provided below:

RACGP

Email: transition@racgp.org.au

Tel: 1800 472 247

ACRRM

Email: training@acrrm.org.au

Tel: 1800 223 226

Specific key questions – NCP Framework – College-led AGPT program commencing from 2023 to 2025 **Answers**

How can registrars access these payments? Do they need to contact Services Australia to access payments?

The Department is working closely with Services Australia to develop a suitable payment system to administer these payments.

All eligible participants of the College- Led AGPT program will need to register on PRODA with Services Australia to access payments starting from Semester 1, 2023.

Please follow the links below for information on how to register to access these support payments:

Further information on how to register online for a Provider Digital Access (PRODA) account:

- [PRODA \(Provider Digital Access\) - Services Australia](#)
- [Getting started with PRODA - PRODAM01 \(servicesaustralia.gov.au\)](#)
- [PRODAM03 - How to register for an individual account \(servicesaustralia.gov.au\)](#)

Note:

Registrars will need to register for Individual PRODA accounts only and link to HPOS.

If you have already had an active account with Services Australia, you do not need to re-register to access the support payments.

Registrars will not need to link to the Organisation Register.

If you require assistance with PRODA, you can contact PRODA Support on 1800 700 199 (option 1) 8am to 5pm AEST or email: proda@servicesaustralia.gov.au

Will these payment rates apply to registrars on other training programs such as the Practice Experience Program, the Independent Pathway and the Rural Generalist Training Scheme?

No. These payments will only apply to all participants in the College-Led AGPT program commencing from Semester 1, 2023.

Specific key questions – NCP Framework – College-led AGPT program commencing from 2023 to 2025 **Answers**

My RTO currently provides a different level of funds for me to undertake training in a rural and remote placement. How will this be covered?

Payments provided to registrars under the NCP framework acknowledge the additional costs of training in regional, rural and remote areas.

Payments can be used to support relocation, rent, travel and accommodation for education and training activities, self-directed learning support, wellbeing and psychological support, or learning materials.

The two colleges, the RACGP and the ACRRM, will also provide additional support to registrars via the [flexible payment pool](#).

Guidance on any further funding available will be provided through the colleges.

Do I need to keep receipts to claim my registrar payment?

Payment provided to registrars will be provided at the commencement of their training term.

Details for the access to payments is yet to be finalised however it is envisaged that the process will be streamlined. Registrars will be required to undertake an initial registration with Services Australia. The RACGP and the ACRRM will be responsible for enabling Services Australia payments (as outlined in the framework) by providing training data.

The RACGP and the ACRRM will work together with the Department to develop the NCP framework Guidelines to support the process for payments.

Guidance will be developed by the GP colleges to clearly indicate whether the use of receipts to claim the registrars' payments is required, for additional support provided by the colleges.

What happens if RACGP/ACRRM utilise all their allocated flexible funding allocation, will I miss out on my subsidy?

All eligible AGPT participants, including registrars, will receive financial support under the NCP framework. Eligible

Specific key questions – NCP Framework – College-led AGPT program commencing from 2023 to 2025

participants will not miss out on support payments, irrespective of whether allocated funding from the flexible pool is available or not.

The payments outlined in the framework will be paid directly by Services Australia and will not be affected by the utilisation of funds available to the colleges under the flexible funding pool.

These payment levels are above/below my current level of support provided by my Regional Training Organisation, how do I express my concerns or obtain clarity?

The Department, the RACGP and the ACRRM, continue to work closely to ensure that any issues and concerns about payments framework are considered.

All issues and concerns should be directed to the Department of Health and Aged Care at AGPTTransition@health.gov.au
