

# Your rural faculty

Education. Training. Advocacy. Support



RACGP Rural

# About us

RACGP Rural is the dedicated rural and remote faculty of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) and Australia's largest representative body of rural general practitioners (GPs).

We provide education, training, advocacy and support for rural and remote GPs.



# What we do

- **Champion** the role of the rural GP and lead the discussion to address the challenges of rural general practice.
- **Work with key stakeholders**, state and national governments to enable meaningful and effective representation on key issues.
- **Maintain policy leadership** and provide a strong rural voice to secure a sustainable health system for the future.
- **Deliver the Rural Generalist Fellowship** to broaden the skills of rural GPs so they can deliver safe, accessible and comprehensive healthcare.
- **Deliver education activities** to develop your clinical skills and support lifelong learning.
- **Administer the Rural Procedural Grants Program** to provide financial assistance for procedural GPs in rural and remote areas to complete education activities.
- **Provide a range of guidelines**, policies and updates to assist medical students, interns, registrars and GPs.
- **Offer opportunities for members** to contribute to policy and advocacy work, projects, events, publications or on specialist committees.

**Over 22,000 members**  
including more than 10,000 GPs  
currently living and working  
in rural and remote Australia.



# Our building blocks

## Our vision

For rural and remote communities across Australia to have equitable access to high quality primary healthcare.

## Our aim

Help facilitate the creation of a sustainable, well-supported rural general practice workforce to competently and confidently address the needs of rural and remote communities.

## Our mission

We are committed to addressing rural disadvantage by focusing our efforts on strategies that lead to more equitable healthcare access.



Central to this is the capacity of, and equitable access to, general practice and its role in bringing lasting change in rural and remote communities.

We strive to ensure our members have access to appropriate training, education and professional development to address rural health needs.

We aim to provide strong policy leadership in the areas that matter most to our members, ensuring a strong rural voice to secure a sustainable rural health system for the future, with responsive government reforms and programs tailored to the unique challenges faced by GPs in supporting rural and remote communities.

Our strength lies in our membership. It is through close consultation with the profession that we are uniquely placed to provide valuable input to future rural and remote health initiatives.

## Membership

Membership of RACGP Rural is at no additional cost to RACGP members and is automatic for GPs practising in rural and remote Australia. Rural membership is in addition to your state faculty membership.

We encourage all RACGP members to join the faculty, and especially those who:

- are actively engaged in rural and remote health
- have sufficient past experience in rural and remote health
- have or wish to develop an interest/knowledge in rural and remote health.

New members can join online at [racgp.org.au/rural](https://racgp.org.au/rural) or contact RACGP Rural on 1800 636 764.

## Who is the faculty team?

RACGP Rural has a dedicated Council and Education Committee comprised of GPs and general practice educators from around Australia who are supported by a committed group of staff members.

The **Rural Council** is the faculty's key representative and advisory body for issues affecting rural and remote communities.

The **Rural Education Committee** provides direction to RACGP Rural regarding educational and vocational training issues relating to general practice.

# How we can help you

## Member support

- We advocate on behalf of medical students, interns, registrars and GPs
- We assist members in gaining skills, confidence and qualifications for rural general practice
- We prioritise inclusive engagement activities with networking opportunities for members
- We celebrate the achievements of rural GPs through our annual awards:
  - ▶ Brian Williams Award
  - ▶ Rural GP in Training of the Year of the Year Award
  - ▶ Medical Student Bursary Award
  - ▶ Community Project of the Year Award
- We provide support to members and stakeholders with specific rural enquiries
- We provide the opportunity for you to get involved with the Rural Faculty to contribute to projects, events and publications

## Policy and advocacy

- We provide policy advice to government on a range of issues impacting rural GPs
- We provide rural content for RACGP submissions and statements on implications for rural communities from broader health system reform

- We lead research relating to rural general practice training and advanced skills, workforce maldistribution and addressing the needs of rural GPs
- We present members with the opportunity to contribute to the development of policy through roundtables, forums, polls and direct liaison
- We facilitate information sharing, advocacy and strategic planning with our partner organisations

## Education and training

- We offer accessible education opportunities with a mix of online and face-to-face education – including workshops held outside of capital cities to reach our members
- We collaborate with other professional bodies on professional standards and training in rural general practice, eg Joint Consultative Committees
- We review and contribute to the RACGP's curriculum content and vocational training standards
- We provide access to Commonwealth Department of Health training grants through the Rural Procedural Grants Program
- We deliver the RACGP's Rural Generalist Fellowship – a flexible qualification to develop additional rural skills required to provide specialist medical services in Australia's rural and remote communities

# Want to know more?

Email us at [rural@racgp.org.au](mailto:rural@racgp.org.au) to sign up to our e-newsletter for updates on current news, programs, events and opportunities relating to the work the faculty undertakes at the RACGP.

RACGP Rural members also receive updates on issues impacting rural and remote GPs, invitations to upcoming events, opportunities to contribute to policy and advocacy work, projects, events and publications or participate in faculty activities, event representation or specialist committees.

Visit and explore the faculty website: [racgp.org.au/rural](http://racgp.org.au/rural)

Join the RACGP Rural Faculty Facebook Group to connect with your colleagues, share ideas and collaborate: [www.facebook.com/groups/racgprural](https://www.facebook.com/groups/racgprural)

## Want to be involved?

If you have ever wondered what you can do to help improve rural and remote health, RACGP Rural members like you have a wealth of knowledge, experience and skills that can be harnessed to build a better future.

RACGP Rural is always looking for expressions of interest from members who would like to get involved with the faculty through:

- mentoring or teaching
- promoting the benefits of rural general practice
- providing expertise on committees.

In return, you will have the opportunity to build on your existing skills, develop new skills, broaden your professional networks, add achievements to your resumé and make a tangible difference to rural and remote health. Email us at [rural@racgp.org.au](mailto:rural@racgp.org.au) to submit your expression of interest.

Contact RACGP Rural

Visit [racgp.org.au/rural](http://racgp.org.au/rural)

Call **1800 636 764**

Email [rural@racgp.org.au](mailto:rural@racgp.org.au)

See **Level 7, 410 Queen Street  
Brisbane QLD 4000**

Join us on Facebook

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**RACGP**

Royal Australian College  
of General Practitioners

Healthy Profession.  
Healthy Australia.