

Temporary Visa Holders

Subclasses 457, 482, 485, 491, 494, 820

This information sheet is intended to inform Foreign Graduates of an Accredited Medical School (FGAMS), who reside on either the 457, 482, 485, 491, 494, 820 visa subclasses, of their eligibility to apply for the Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) Program.

Eligibility for the AGPT Program in 2022

Prospective applicants who hold one of the accepted temporary visa subclasses are eligible to apply for the AGPT Program if they:

- Currently hold one of the accepted temporary Australian visas;
- Obtained their primary medical qualification within Australia or New Zealand (Bachelor of Medicine/Surgery, Doctor of Medicine or equivalent);
- Hold, or expect to hold, general medical registration by the commencement of the 2022 training year;
- Provide a letter of support from each of the Regional Training Organisations (RTOs) within their preferred training regions confirming support for their training within the restrictions of their visas. Letters of support must be provided to the GP College by close of applications;

AND; either:

- Provide a Statutory Declaration at the time of application stating they intent to obtain Australian permanent residency, or Australian or New Zealand citizenship prior to the completion of their AGPT training;

OR

- Provide evidence of an active Australian permanent residency application.

FGAMS temporary visa holding applicants who are successful in obtaining a training place in the AGPT Program commencing in 2022, must agree to obtain permanent residency of Australia by the completion of their training. If permanent residency is not obtained, the relevant RTO may withhold a certificate of completion and may also withdraw an applicant prior to the completion of their training in the AGPT Program.

Applicants must forward documentation confirming their permanent residency to their RTO prior to the completion of their training.

Frequently Asked Questions

I am an overseas-trained doctor (OTD) holding a temporary visa, am I eligible to apply for the AGPT Program?

No. To be eligible to apply for the AGPT Program, doctors who obtained their primary medical qualification outside Australia or New Zealand must hold permanent residency or citizenship of Australia/New Zealand by the close of applications.

What is a letter of support? Why do I need it?

As an FGAMS holding one of the accepted temporary visa subclasses, you are required to obtain confirmation from the RTO/s within your preferred training regions of their capacity to support you within the restrictions of your visa while in the AGPT Program. In order for an RTO to support you, they must first confirm that there is an accredited general practice within their region that is willing and able to sponsor your employment and training for the duration of the AGPT Program. A letter of support is a letter from the RTO/s confirming this.

Please note: Obtaining a letter of support is at the discretion of the RTO. For more information on the requirements for letters of support, please contact the RTO in your preferred training region. A list of the RTO contacts can be found at:

<https://www.racgp.org.au/education/registrars/fellowship-pathways/australian-general-practice-training-program-agpt/agpt/rto-s-and-doh-resources>.

Can the Department of Health or individual RTOs sponsor my temporary visa?

No. Only a general practice or a hospital as an employer can sponsor applicants holding one of the accepted temporary visas. The Department of Health and individual RTOs are not able to employ you.

The RTO/s within your preferred training regions may be able to assist you in locating a general practice that is willing to sponsor you. We would encourage temporary visa holders to contact RTOs who have indicated they may be able to support these visa subclasses, to discuss your individual situation.

Does the RTO/s in my preferred training region require a letter from my hospital stating they are willing to support my application to the AGPT Program?

The first year of the AGPT Program is usually hospital-based. RTOs will only require a letter from your hospital (stating the hospital supports your AGPT application) if you intend to begin AGPT within a hospital setting. This letter is required because the hospital will remain your sponsor until you have completed the hospital-based training. Please notify your current hospital sponsor of your intention to apply for the AGPT Program.

Can I contact any RTO/s for a letter of support?

Not all RTOs are able to provide letters of support to temporary visa holding applicants.

It is recommended you contact your preferred RTO to discuss whether they are able to support your training on the AGPT Program.

How will the RTO/s decide if they can support my training?

Participating RTOs have their own individual processes in determining if they can support temporary visa holding applicants.

Generally, they will decide if they can support your training once you have contacted them and discussed your individual situation.

What if the RTO/s in my preferred training region(s) cannot support temporary visa holders and cannot provide me with a letter of support?

If you are one of the temporary visa subclass applicants and want to secure a letter of support, you will have to change your preferred training if the first preferred region cannot support you.

I am one of the temporary visa holders who completed my primary medical qualification in Australia/New Zealand. My permanent residency application is due to be finalised after applications close. Am I still required to provide letters of support?

Yes. Permanent residency application can be a lengthy process. Please supply letters of support as well as proof of your active Australian permanent residency visa with your AGPT application.

I am one of the temporary visa holders who has an accredited general practice willing to sponsor my training in the AGPT Program. However, they are in an MMM 1 location. Can this practice sponsor me?

Only doctors holding a valid Section 19AB exemption can be considered for training in an MMM 1 location. All placements must be in an accredited training practice, please contact your preferred RTO to discuss your options.

For further information on obtaining an exemption to Section 19AB, email 19AB@health.gov.au and detail your individual circumstances.

Please provide any supporting documentation and state your intention of applying for entry into the AGPT Program in 2022.

Where can I find further information on the AGPT Program and how to apply?

For further information on the eligibility requirements for the AGPT Program and how to apply, please visit:

www.health.gov.au/agpt-program or contact the relevant College(s):

Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM)

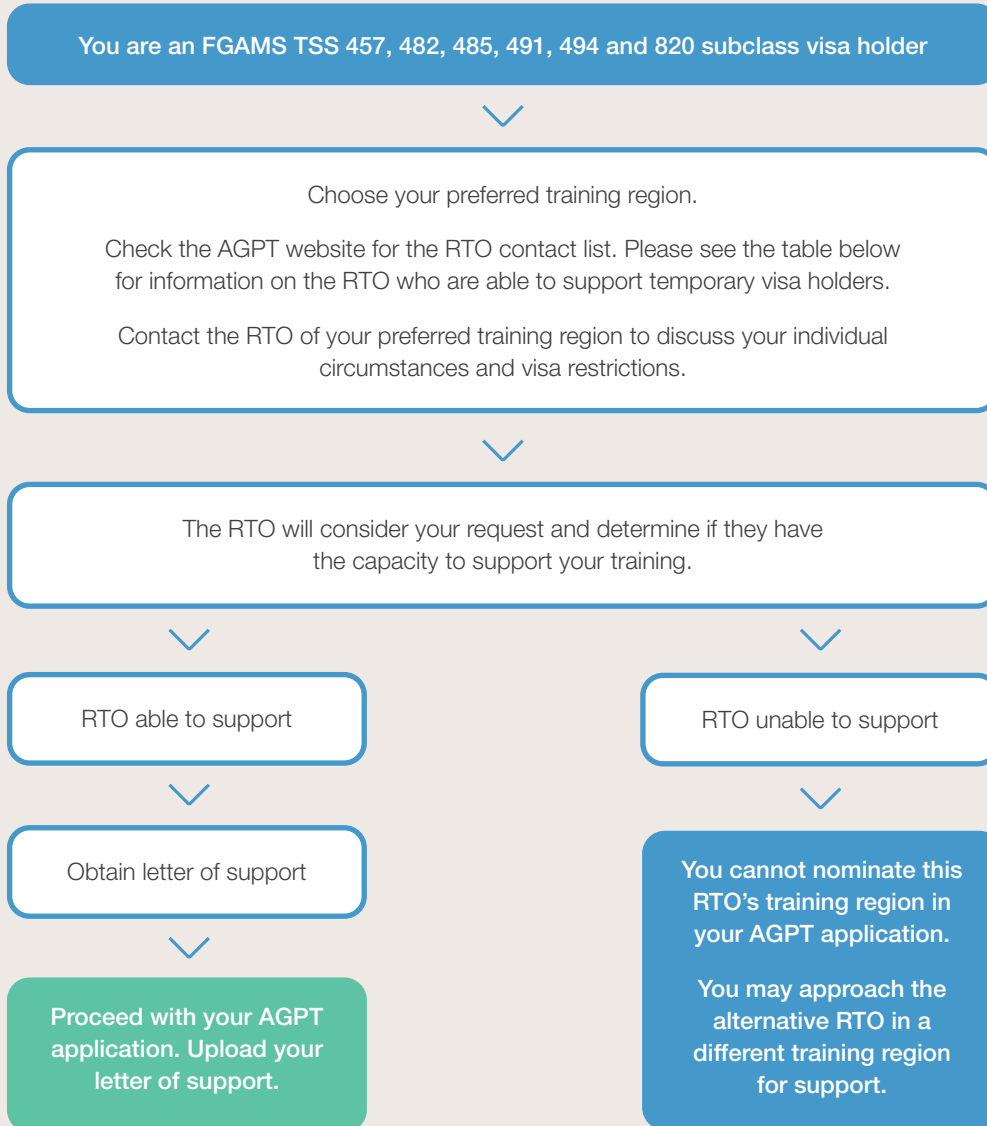
- Telephone: 1800 223 226
- Email: agpt@acrrm.org.au
- Website: acrrm.org.au

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP)

- Telephone: 1800 472 247 (international: +61 (03) 8699 0300)
- Email: agpteligibility@racgp.org.au
- Website: racgp.org.au

TSS 457, 482, 485, 491, 494 and 820 Temporary Visa Subclass Flowchart

The following flowchart is to assist these temporary visa holders who are Foreign Graduates of an Accredited Medical School (FGAMS), in preparing to apply for entry into the 2022 AGPT Program.



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RTO	State	457	482	485	491	494	820
EVGPT	Vic	No	No	No	No	No	No
GP Synergy	NSW	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
GPEX	SA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
GPTQ	QLD	No	No	No	No	No	No
GPTT	Tas	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
JCU	QLD	No	No	No	No	No	No
MCCC	Vic	No	No	No	No	No	No
NTGPE	NT	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
WAGPET	WA	No	No	No	No	No	Yes