



Addendum – Rural Procedural Grants Program

Updated June 2022

Addendum to 2021 Rural Procedural Grants Program Guidelines

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department issued a number of temporary arrangements for the Rural Procedural Grants Program to provide additional flexibility and support to rural procedural GPs so that they can continue to access subsidised CPD activities during the period of social restriction. These arrangements will be available until 31 December 2022.

Please note that from 1 January 2021, new program guidelines came into force for this program. The new guidelines include revised eligibility criteria that limit access to the program to GPs who are vocationally registered or enrolled on a Fellowship pathway practising in MM3 to 7 regions.

Temporary support for GPs to access online CPD activities

The revised arrangements are as follows:

- 1) Allow current RPGP participants to claim for a limited number of procedural/emergency medicine CPD activities delivered online, at a rate of \$1,000 per day. Courses must be approved by the GP Colleges as CPD activities and include an interactive component and/or assessment. All other eligibility criteria still apply.
- 2) Payment of claims for online CPD activities can be made to the relevant GP College from 1 July 2020. These claims can be for eligible online CPD undertaken by eligible GPs from the commencement of movement restrictions due to COVID-19.
- 3) As of 1 July 2020, GPs who are registered in the Emergency Medicine component can claim an additional 3 days of emergency mental health CPD per financial year. Online training in emergency mental health will be eligible for a \$1,000 per day grant up to \$3,000 and is not payable for activities prior to 1 July 2020.



Summary of temporary arrangements

RPGP Component	Amount claimable	Period of temporary arrangement	After the cessation of temporary arrangement
<p>Component 1 – Procedural GPs Practising in Surgery, Anaesthetics and/or Obstetrics</p> <p>This component is designed to assist eligible GPs with the cost of attending CPD activities to maintain and/or enhance their procedural skills in surgery, anaesthetics and/or obstetrics.</p>	<p>A grant of \$2,000 per day for a maximum of 10 days per financial year is available. GPs are eligible to access the payment multiple times per financial year up to this maximum.</p>	<p>CPD activities delivered online will be eligible between July 2020 and 31 December 2022 at \$1,000 per day, for a maximum of 10 days.</p> <p>Online courses should have a minimum of four hours of course time delivery to count as a day.</p> <p>Colleges to approve all online CPD activities.</p> <p>Online activities claimed count toward the total \$20,000 cap each financial year.</p>	<p>Online training is no longer eligible.</p> <p>Grant of \$2,000 per day applies during this period to activities meeting the eligibility criteria in 2021 guidelines.</p> <p>Participants can claim up to a total of \$20,000 per financial year.</p>

RPGP Component	Amount claimable	Period of temporary arrangement	After the cessation of temporary arrangement
Component 2 – GPs Practising Emergency Medicine <p>This component is designed to assist eligible GPs with the cost of attending CPD activities to maintain and/or enhance their emergency medicine skills.</p>	Emergency Medicine <p>A grant of \$2,000 per day for a maximum of 3 days per financial year is available. GPs are eligible to access the payment multiple times per financial year up to this maximum.</p>	<p>CPD activities delivered online will be eligible between July 2020 and 31 December 2022 at \$1,000 per day, for a maximum of 3 days.</p> <p>Online courses should have a minimum of four hours of course time delivery to count as a day.</p> <p>Colleges to approve all online CPD activities.</p> <p>Online activities claimed count toward the total \$6,000 cap each financial year.</p>	<p>Online training is no longer eligible.</p> <p>Grant of \$2,000 per day applies during this period to activities meeting the eligibility criteria in updated program guidelines.</p> <p>Participants can claim up to a total of \$6,000 per financial year.</p>
	Emergency Mental Health Services <p>A grant of \$2,000 per day for an additional 3 days per financial year to support CPD in emergency mental health, if the GP who is registered in the Emergency Medicine component and is also responsible for providing care in respect of emergency mental health services/crisis intervention in patients presenting with acute mental health issues.</p>	<p>Emergency Mental Health grant is available from 1 July 2020 – Maximum \$6,000.</p> <p>CPD activities delivered online will be eligible between July 2020 and 31 December 2022 at \$1,000 per day, for a maximum of 3 days.</p> <p>Online courses should have a minimum of four hours of course time delivery to count as a day.</p> <p>Colleges to approve all online CPD activities.</p> <p>Online activities claimed count toward the total \$6,000 cap each financial year.</p>	<p>Online training is no longer eligible.</p> <p>Grant of \$2,000 per day applies during this period to activities meeting the eligibility criteria in updated program guidelines.</p> <p>Participants can claim up to \$6,000 per financial year, totalling \$12,000 for Component 2.</p>