

Flexible Funds Policy Changes

Changes effective from 2026.2

Registrar financial support for Additional Rural Skills training (ARST) and incentivised placements

(to be read in conjunction with the 2026.1 [Flexible funds Policy](#) and [Incentivised placement guidelines](#)). Updated versions of both the policy and guidelines will be published before the start of 2026.2

As the process is moving from a reimbursement model to an automatic payment model, Registrars are advised to seek independent taxation advice to check the impact of any payments on their tax liability.

It is the responsibility of Registrars to seek independent taxation advice and check the impact on tax liability.

The table below shows the proposed changes to the flexible funds policy in 2026.2

2026.1 current flexible funds incentive payments	2026.2 changes to flexible funds incentive payments
For Registrars who reside within the same GP Catchment (or an adjoining GP Catchment), for a minimum of 3 nights in a calendar week, or within 80kms of the placement or are working in an identified Unique Training Location, where residing in the GP Catchment is not suitable	For Registrars who reside within the same GP Catchment (or an adjoining GP Catchment), for a minimum of 2 nights in a calendar week, or within 80kms of the placement or are working in an identified Unique Training Location where residing in the GP Catchment is not suitable
No minimum full time equivalent (FTE) requirement for registrars	For registrars to be eligible for an automatic payment they must meet the minimum RACGP part-time training requirements per the Training Program Requirements Policy , working a minimum of 14.5 hours per week over at least 2 days.
Reimbursement model for incentive payments based on claims submitted by registrars	Automatic payments to be made to registrars for incentive payments as per the schedule below

2026.2 Placement incentive payment schedule

	Payment Week 5	Payment week 14	Total payable	Notes
Band 1	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	Whole amount paid at week 5.
Band 2	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$10,000	50% paid at week 5 and 50% at week 14
Band 3	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$20,000	50% paid at week 5 and 50% at week 14
Band 4	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$30,000	50% paid at week 5 and 50% at week 14

Registrar financial support for additional rural skills training

(to be read in conjunction with the [Flexible funds Policy](#) and ARST guidelines)

2026.1 current ARST support payments	2026.2 change to ARST support payments
Reimbursement model for ARST support payments based on claims submitted by registrars	Automatic payments for ARST support payments to be made to registrars as per the schedule below

ARST Support Payment and Timing

ARST Discipline	Support payment	Payment timing
All (except anaesthesia)	\$6,000	Upon completion of 12 weeks of ARST term
Anaesthesia	\$3,280*	Upon completion of 12 weeks of ARST term

*Payment for registrars undertaking an Anaesthesia ARST is reduced as the RACGP pays the enrolment fee on behalf of the registrars to the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA)