

# RURAL EMERGENCY SKILLS PROGRAM APPLICANT GUIDELINES



## 1 Purpose

RDWA's Rural Emergency Skills Program (RESP) provides emergency skills training to eligible rural GPs, RGs and GP registrars to support them to maintain their hospital credentialling. Credentialling by the relevant regional Local Health Network (LHN) is essential for participating in the emergency, obstetric or anaesthetic on-call rosters at the local public hospital.

Completion of RESP will also contribute towards a doctor's continuing professional development (CPD), assisting them to meet the Medical Board's CPD requirements.

## 2 Scope

RESP is funded by SA's regional LHNs to ensure high quality rural emergency skills training is accessible at no cost to eligible rural GPs, RGs and GP registrars. The training is delivered by LearnEM at their training facility in Hindmarsh. Travel and accommodation subsidy is available for rural GPs / RGs who live in a rural SA location and travel to Hindmarsh for the two-day workshop component of the relevant course.

There are four RESP courses:

- RESP Critical Care
- RESP Paediatrics
- For GP/RG Obstetricians – RESP Obstetrics (plus an optional funded FSEP delivered by RANZCOG);
- For GP/RG Anaesthetists – RESP Anaesthetics.

Each course is offered at least twice a calendar year to provide accessible options.

Eligible rural GPs, RGs and GP registrars can apply for a place on one or more of the RESP courses offered in the year. Outcomes of training competency are reported to the Rural Support Service (RSS) as required by the regional LHNs.

RESP Critical Care, Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Anaesthetics courses are accredited by the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners.

Detailed learning outcomes are available on [RDWA website](#).

## 3 Eligibility

RESP courses are available to rural GPs, RGs and rural GP registrars working in rural private practice who are actively participating in the emergency services roster for the local public hospital.

'Actively participating' means having a consistent and ongoing contribution (or a written agreement to do so in the future) to a regional LHN's hospital to provide after-hours accident and emergency; obstetrics on-call and/or anaesthetics on-call services.

Rural GPs, RGs and GP registrars who work exclusively for SA Health generally have their CPD training met through their employment conditions, and are not usually eligible to attend RESP.

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The situation for individual GPs/RGs might not fit the eligibility conditions fully. RDWA encourages you to discuss your circumstances with RDWA if you are unsure. Contact details are listed at the end of these Guidelines.

In addition to the general eligibility requirements, RESP Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Anaesthetics Courses have additional conditions.

## **RESP Paediatrics**

Applicants for RESP Paediatrics course must have successfully completed a RESP Critical Care course previously.

### **3.1 RESP Obstetrics and Foetal Surveillance Education Program (FSEP)**

Rural GPs, RGs or GP registrars who are actively participating in the local public hospital on-call obstetrics roster can apply for RESP Obstetrics and/or the FSEP.

### **3.2 FSEP**

Rural GPs, RGs and GP registrars who are providing shared care/antenatal care can apply for the FSEP workshop as a standalone course.

### **3.3 RESP Anaesthetics**

Rural GPs, RGs and GP registrars who are actively participating in the local hospital on-call anaesthetics roster can apply for a place on a RESP Anaesthetics course.

RESP Anaesthetics curriculum extends the RESP Critical Care curriculum, so it is not expected that eligible doctors would also apply for a RESP Critical Care course.

## **4 How to apply**

Application rounds for courses are opened throughout the year. Rural GPs, RGs and GP registrars will be notified by direct email (via the distribution list maintained by RDWA) and by the weekly RDWA News when applications are open.

To apply, complete the Application online form available, selecting the course(s) you are interested in attending and providing the information requested to enable your application to be assessed.

## **5 Assessment and notification**

Information you provide on your completed application form will be assessed against these Guidelines and if necessary, RDWA may ask you to provide further information.

You will be advised of the outcome of your application in writing.

Where there is a higher number of applications for courses than available places, RDWA will assess all applications and give priority to eligible rural GPs, RGs and GP registrars who:

- are required to demonstrate competency and course completion to maintain or gain initial credentialling;
- are living in a rural SA location (MMM2-7);
- have not participated in a RESP course within the last two years (that is, 2022 or 2023).

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On being deemed eligible, you will be offered a place on the selected RESP course or if full, you will be offered a place on the next available course.

In accepting your place on the offered course, you will be asked to acknowledge that you will meet all requirements of the course, including:

- Completing the required on-line learning modules before attending the workshop;
- Attending the full two-day clinical workshop and assessment at Hindmarsh in Adelaide; and
- Completing the post workshop requirements.

If you do not complete all requirements of the course, RDWA will invoice you the cost of the Course, this may include late notification to RDWA that you will not be attending the workshop component.

If for any reason you cannot commence the course, please contact the RDWA as soon as possible to discuss options.

## 6 More information

Dates for courses are listed on [RDWA website](#) once applications are open..

You can subscribe to RDWA News [here](#).

If you have any questions about RESP, please call Kellie Burrough, Manager GP/RG Retention on 08 8234 8277, or email Kellie on [RESP@ruraldoc.com.au](mailto:RESP@ruraldoc.com.au) or call 08 8234 8277.

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