

RURAL RESIDENT PRIVATE SPECIALIST CPD SUBSIDY

APPLICANT GUIDELINES



1 Description

RDWA's Rural Private Specialist CPD (Continuing Professional Development) Subsidy (the Subsidy) provides financial support to resident rural private specialists (not GP or RG specialists) for costs associated with attending accredited professional development activities to meet the Medical Board of Australia's CPD Registration Standards.

The SA regional Local Health Networks fund a range of supports for GPs' access to professional and personal development for GPs. This Subsidy specifically relates to Regional LHNs interest is facilitating access for non-GP/RG private Specialists who are not employed by regional LHNs.

The Subsidy provides for reimbursement of personal expenses incurred by eligible specialists when travelling to undertake Australian-based accredited CPD activities.

The Subsidy is not a cash payment and cannot be made if expenses in attending CPD activities are covered through employment/contractual arrangements, other schemes or programs.

Maximum funds available are \$5,000 per financial year per eligible specialist. The available Subsidy funds are limited, and total funds may be exhausted before the end of the financial year.

RGs and GPs should refer to the Health Workforce Scholarship Program and the Rural RG/GP CPD Travel Subsidy.

2 Eligible Specialists

You can apply for the Subsidy if you are a medical practitioner with specialist recognition in Australia and you:

- undertake the majority of your work as a private specialist (not for GP or RG Specialists) in a SA rural location (MM2-7); and
- reside in a SA rural location (MM2-7).

South Australian rural locations are defined by the Modified Monash Model (MM2-7). To check your location, use the [Health Workforce Locator tool](#).

3 Eligible CPD Activity

Eligible CPD activities must be delivered in Australia and accredited by the Specialist's College.

Attendance at overseas courses and conferences is not an eligible activity for the Subsidy.

4 Eligible Expenses

- Course or conference registration fees (excluding conference tours and meals)
- Travel expenses incurred in attending the CPD activity. Travel must be by the most direct route, by private vehicle or economy air travel. Eligible expenses that can be claimed are:
 - Economy airfares;
 - Taxi transfer costs;
 - Private vehicle kilometres subsidised at the relevant ATO rate;
 - Parking costs subsidised to a maximum of \$30 per day.

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- Accommodation is subsidised up to \$212 per night based on actual costs incurred in commercial accommodation associated with the travel for the night/s of the eligible CPD activity and up to one additional night if required to meet the event start or finish times.

Costs associated with hire cars, meals and other incidentals are not eligible expenses.

5 Process

5.1 Application

Eligible specialists apply for the subsidy by completing the online Application form.

Applicants are required to provide:

- The town in which you practice
- The town in which you live;
- Details of the accredited professional development activity;
- A copy of the certificate of completion/attendance for the accredited activity, showing the activity has been accredited by your specialist college;
- Whether you have claimed or intend to claim any of the expenses under any other program or scheme;
- Copies of tax invoices/receipts for costs incurred in your name.

Applicants will be asked to complete a declaration and an information and privacy consent.

Receipts or tax invoices issued in the Applicant's name are the only accepted forms of evidence. Copies of items on bank statements or extracts from bank accounts will not be accepted as evidence of proof of costs incurred.

Applications must be submitted no later than 31 January 2025 for activity between July and December 2024, and by 7 July 2025 for activity completed between January and June 2025.

5.2 Assessment and notification

Applications will be assessed against the Applicant Guidelines and the eligibility criteria. RDWA may contact you for more information when assessing your application.

Completing an application does not guarantee a subsidy will be paid and the granting of a subsidy will be considered pending Subsidy funds available.

Applicants will be advised of the assessment outcome by email.

5.3 Payment

Payment for an approved subsidy will be made by electronic funds transfer to the bank account nominated by the Applicant. A remittance advice will be sent by the RDWA once payment has been made.

6 Independent Advice

RDWA recommends Applicants consider the impact of receiving a financial support payment and seek their own advice regarding their financial circumstances before applying for a subsidy.

7 Contact

Helen O'Malley, Director RG/GP Support Services at GPServices@ruraldoc.com.au or phone 8234 8277.