

1. Policy Statement

- 1.1. Registrars are supported to further develop skills in an area of special interest or to strengthen their existing knowledge by undertaking skills training (extended and advanced skills) with EV GP Training (EV).

2. Application and Scope

- 2.1. Registrars are required to train in accordance with EV, the Department of Health (the Department) policies and procedures and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) and Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) standards.
- 2.2. This procedure applies to all registrars enrolled in the Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) Program.
- 2.3. This procedure is effective from 1 January 2017.

3. Principles

- 3.1. To be eligible for vocational recognition as a GP, registrars must have completed the training obligations within the specified timeframes set by EV GP Training, the Department of Health and the relevant College(s) as outlined in the [ED-Org-8.9 Training Obligations](#) procedure.
- 3.2. Skills training includes:
 - 3.3. RACGP - Extended Skills posts (ESP) and Advanced Rural Skills Training (ARST),
 - 3.4. ACRRM - Primary Rural and Remote Training (PRRT) and Advanced Specialised Training (AST)
- 3.5. The majority of skills training posts are accredited by EV GP Training and include a documented teaching and learning plan as outlined in [ED-Org-8.20 Training Facility and Supervisor Accreditation](#) procedure.
- 3.6. Other skills training posts are accredited by third-party arrangements such as the Joint Consultative Committee on Anaesthetics (JCCA), the Diploma of Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetrics and Gynaecologists (DRANZCOG) and the Australian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM).
- 3.7. Skills training posts will have a nominated and suitably qualified lead supervisor for each registrar.
- 3.8. Where rural pathway registrars plan to undertake skills training (excluding general practice) in a metropolitan location (RA-1), EV may approve the post on the following basis:
 - 3.8.1. The training is on a temporary basis and registrars are expected to return to the rural pathway on completion;
 - 3.8.2. All options for placements within the rural pathway have been exhausted; and
 - 3.8.3. The training is in accordance with the [ED-Org-8.9 Training Obligations](#) and [ED-Org-8.16 AGPT Program Transfer](#) procedures.
- 3.9. There is a fair and transparent process in relation to allocating registrars to skills training posts.
- 3.10. To maximize the range of skills training available to registrars, EV facilitates accreditation of appropriate posts and placements for registrars.
- 3.11. Registrars must refer to the RACGP and/or ACRRM standards available at www.racgp.org.au/education/./training-standards/ and www.acrrm.org.au/./teaching-posts

4. Procedure

- 4.1. [Extended Skills and Primary Rural and Remote Training](#)
 - 4.1.1. Registrars are given the opportunity to extend the depth and breadth of their training by learning skills that are relevant in primary medical care. This enables registrars to further their knowledge and/or skills in an area of interest or weakness.
 - 4.1.2. ESP/PRRT posts are up to a maximum of six-month full time equivalent (FTE) placements in one discipline.

- 4.1.3. These posts can be undertaken in a range of accredited training facilities including:
 - 4.1.3.1. Hospital based posts such as obstetrics and gynaecology
 - 4.1.3.2. Community based posts such as aged care, Aboriginal Medical Services (AMS) including Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHSs)
 - 4.1.3.3. Academic posts
 - 4.1.3.4. Medical education
 - 4.1.3.5. General practice posts
- 4.1.4. Registrars must have completed a certain amount of time in training before eligible to commence skills training:
 - 4.1.4.1. For RACGP registrars undertaking an ESP:
 - 4.1.4.1.1. 12 months (FTE) of hospital training after the intern year or recognition of prior learning (RPL); and
 - 4.1.4.1.2. 6 to 12 months (FTE) of general practice placement for all community, academic, medical education, overseas and Aboriginal health posts;
 - 4.1.4.1.3. 18 months (FTE) of general practice placement for general practice posts;
 - 4.1.4.1.4. No more than 12 months (FTE) in total of training time can be in special training environments.
 - 4.1.4.2. For ACRRM registrars undertaking PRRT:
 - 4.1.4.2.1. 12 months (FTE) of core clinical training or (RPL); and
 - 4.1.4.2.2. Skills training can be undertaken at any stage during PRRT.
 - 4.1.4.2.3. EV may require a registrar to complete sufficient PRRT time prior to commencing certain skills training placements.
 - 4.1.4.2.4. Registrars must cover the broad range of learning experiences as outlined in the ACRRM [Fellowship Training Handbook](#)
- 4.1.5. ESP/PRRT undertaken in general practice must have clear learning objectives with the aim of extending the registrar's skill set in an area of interest beyond the core skill set required for general practice.
- 4.1.6. For ESP/PRRT undertaken in other settings, registrars must be able to add specific skills to their general practice experience. These posts may require prior approval of at least 3 months in advance by EV.
- 4.1.7. RPL can be claimed for skills training as outlined in the [ED-Org-8.4 Recognition of Prior Learning](#) procedure.
- 4.1.8. Registrars must have an agreed learning plan before the commencement of the post. The registrar is expected to attend any educational meetings that are available and also to have access to a supervisor as required. There is also an expectation that feedback will be available throughout the term.
- 4.1.9. A supervisor feedback report must be submitted to EV before the end of the placement either electronically or using the relevant feedback form provided to the registrar.
- 4.1.10. Registrars must complete the formative assessments as specified by the relevant College and EV.
- 4.1.11. ESP/PRRT are detailed on the EV [website](#) and are promoted to registrars throughout their training, specifically during re-enrolment.
- 4.1.12. Registrars can apply for ESP/PRRT (excluding general practice) either directly to the training facility or as advised by EV. Registrars applying for general practice posts are included in the practice match process as outlined in [ED-Org-8.6 Matching Applicants to Practices](#)

4.2. Advanced Skills Training

- 4.2.1. Advanced skills training aims to broaden skills and capacity beyond the standard scope of GP training, particularly for Australia's rural and remote communities.
- 4.2.2. Advanced skills training involves undertaking a fourth year in one of the disciplines specified by the respective Colleges and may be undertaken at any time after completion of PGY2 year.
- 4.2.3. For RACGP registrars undertaking an Advanced Rural Skills Training:
- 4.2.3.1. Optional fourth year undertaken any time after completion of hospital training with the exception of Small Town Rural GP which is undertaken after completion of FRACGP;
- 4.2.3.2. Completion of one or two disciplines over 12 months (FTE);
- 4.2.3.3. May be eligible to apply for RPL exemption for up to 52 weeks;
- 4.2.3.4. Must be enrolled in the Fellowship in Advanced Rural General Practice (FARGP) to undertake an ARST;
- 4.2.3.5. Financial membership of RACGP is mandatory.
- 4.2.3.6. Further information on FARGP and ARST curriculum is available at the [RACGP website](#)
- 4.2.4. For ACRRM registrars undertaking an Advanced Specialised Training:
- 4.2.4.1. Mandatory fourth year may be undertaken any time after completion of core clinical training;
- 4.2.4.2. Completion of 12 months (FTE) in one discipline is required except for surgery which requires 24 months;
- 4.2.4.3. There may be eligibility to apply for RPL for up to 52 weeks (104 weeks for surgery);
- 4.2.4.4. Financial membership of ACRRM is mandatory.
- 4.2.4.5. Further information on AST curriculum is available at the [ACRRM website](#)
- 4.2.5. Registrars must complete the formative and summative assessments as specified by the relevant College advanced skills curriculum and EV.
- 4.2.6. Advanced skills training posts are detailed on the EV [website](#) and are promoted to registrars throughout their training.
- 4.2.7. Registrars can apply for advanced skills training either directly to the training facility or as advised by EV.

5. Additional Information

5.1. ED-SD-8.0 Education and training definitions

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