



What role do Rural Workforce Agencies play in the new arrangements for the Bonded Medical Program?

Rural Workforce Agencies (RWAs) are funded by the Department of Health to identify the rural health workforce needs in their State or the Northern Territory, to increase access to essential primary health care services, and to support the workforce's capability and sustainability.

Within the broad scope of their services for the rural medical and primary health care workforce, RWAs are able to identify opportunities for Bonded Medical Program participants through each phase or stage of the program and including all medical specialities. This support can include:

- assisting with providing participants options and recruitment support for placement into rural roles that meet their Return of Service Obligations (RoSO)
- providing information about professional development and support to enable participants to be part of a broader rural medical professional network
- provide participants with information about accessing rural medical experiences during undergraduate and early career years
- for participants working in eligible positions, access to grants.

For medical students considering a career in rural health, RWAs also provide a range of events as part of their future workforce activities to provide positive exposure to rural medical careers. The Network of Rural Workforce Agencies administers the National Rural Health Student's Network, which is funded to foster and support students' interests in rural careers during their medical undergraduate years.

What information will the Department of Health share with the RWA's?

New participants entering the Bonded Medical Program from 1 January 2020 and existing participants who choose to opt in to the new arrangements from 1 January 2020 will have some personal information shared with RWA's. This will enable RWAs to offer and provide support to all participants under the new arrangements.

Personal information shared may include:

- name and contact email address
- year of commencement and name of scheme
- state/territory of study or work
- phase or stage in the program

RWA locations and contact information

Please contact your local RWA to find out more about how your RWA can support you.

NSW	NSW Rural Doctors Network Website: https://www.nswrdn.com.au/ Email: students@nswrdn.com.au
Victoria	Rural Workforce Agency Victoria Website: https://www.rwav.com.au/ Email: rwav@rwav.com.au
QLD	Health Workforce Queensland Website: https://www.healthworkforce.com.au/ Email: Futureworkforce@healthworkforce.com.au
Western Australia	Rural Health West Website: http://www.ruralhealthwest.com.au/ Email: info@ruralhealthwest.com.au
South Australia	Rural Doctors Workforce Agency Website: https://www.ruraldoc.com.au/ Email: recruitment@ruraldoc.com.au
Tasmania	HR Plus Website: https://www.hrplustas.com.au/ Email: recruitment@hrplustas.com.au
Northern Territory	Northern Territory PHN Website: https://www.ntphn.org.au/health-professionals Email: ntphn@ntphn.org.au
National	National Rural Health Student Network Website: https://www.nrhsn.org.au/ Email: info@nrhsn.org.au

Further information

For more information on the new arrangements for the Bonded Medical Program please see the Department of Health website: <http://www.health.gov.au/new-arrangements-bonded-medical-program>.

