

Australian General Practice Training Programme

Fact Sheet for New and Existing Registrars

The Australian General Practice Training Programme (AGPTP) is a training program recognised by the Department of Health (Health) and allows participant GP Registrars to access Medicare benefits while they work towards Fellowship of either the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (FRACGP) or the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (FACRRM). Regional Training Organisations (RTOs) are responsible for administering the programme. Please refer to the AGPTP Handbook (Page 17):

http://www.gpet.com.au/ArticleDocuments/186/2016%20AGPT%20Handbook_web.pdf.aspx for a list of RTOs.

The following will assist GP Registrars and specialist GPs with applying for a Medicare Provider Number (MPN). Overseas trained doctors or foreign graduates of an accredited medical school may be subject to S19AB of the *Health Insurance Act 1973* (the HIA). For more information on this requirement please refer to the AGPT Handbook (page 6) or visit <http://www.doctorconnect.gov.au/>

Medicare Provider Number Application Process

You require an MPN and written confirmation you can access Medicare benefits prior to performing the following functions while undertaking your training placement:

- Submitting a Medicare claim for your services or have claims made on your behalf by your employer or patients;
- referring your patients to other specialists through the Medicare system; and
- requesting services on behalf of your patients.

It is **YOUR** responsibility to apply for a provider number when applying for your initial training application placement form.

This is my first time applying for a Medicare Provider number

If you do not have a MPN you will need to complete the first page of the AGPTP placement form and submit it to your RTO. You will also need to complete an 'Application for an Initial Medicare Provider Number'. After you have completed this process, all subsequent renewals of your training programme will depend on whether you are subject to S19AB or not.

I already have a Medicare Provider number

If you currently have a MPN or have been issued one in the past, you will need to complete both pages of the AGPTP placement form and submit this to your RTO.

I am an OTD who is subject to S19AB

Each semester you will need to complete both pages of the AGPTP application form to both renew your training programme and be issued with a new MPN.

I am not subject to S19AB

You will only need to complete both pages of the AGPTP application form at the initial stage of your application process or when you change practice locations.

Making a Correct MPN Application

	Subject to S19AB	Not subject to S19AB
Initial (no previous MPN before joining AGPTP)	Complete page 1 of the AGPTP placement form and submit to your RTO For a Medicare provider number, click on this link, complete form and submit to Medicare. http://www.humanservices.gov.au/health-professionals/forms/hw019 Remember to check your eligibility for the General Pathway by contacting 19AB@health.gov.au	Complete page 1 of the AGPTP placement form and submit to your RTO For a Medicare provider number, click on this link, complete form and submit to Medicare. http://www.humanservices.gov.au/health-professionals/forms/hw019
Renewal	Complete both pages of the AGPTP placement form for each new semester and submit to your RTO	Complete page 1 of AGPTP placement form and page 2 if relocating to a new practice. submit to your RTO
After successful completion of programme	Keep your Medicare provider number status valid by clicking this link and submitting directly to Medicare: http://www.humanservices.gov.au/health-professionals/forms/hw062	Keep your Medicare provider number status valid by clicking this link and submitting directly to Medicare: http://www.humanservices.gov.au/health-professionals/forms/hw062

Separation from the AGPTP

Your MPN, granted during the course of the AGPTP, is only valid for your training placement. You must make a new provider number application if you stay at the location of your placement when you complete your general practice training. Remember when you make an application you must not claim a Medicare benefit until you receive confirmation of your eligibility in writing.

Fellowship Qualification

If you have obtained a Fellowship qualification, you will be responsible for applying for a MPN. The 'Application for an Additional location Medicare Provider Number' form is to be completed and is available from the DHS website: <http://www.humanservices.gov.au/health-professionals/forms/hw062>

Provider numbers are valid for specific locations and it is **YOUR** responsibility to make sure you have applied for, and been granted, a provider number before providing any services which you claim a Medicare benefit.

Not Fellow

If you separate from the AGPTP without obtaining Fellowship, you will need to seek advice regarding your eligibility for a MPN by contacting Health at: 19AB@health.gov.au