

# Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) Program Entry in 2020:

## Policies

### Applying for the AGPT Program

Applying for the AGPT Program is through either:

- The Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM); and/or
- The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP)

It is expected that once accepted onto the AGPT Program registrars will not change training pathways (rural or general) or training regions. ACRRM offers rural places so applicants will only need to preference a training region. If applying through RACGP applicants will need to preference a training pathway and training region.

If successful in gaining a position on the AGPT Program, registrars must adhere to the AGPT Program Policies, which are available on the AGPT website at [www.agpt.com.au/About-Us/Policies-/Policies](http://www.agpt.com.au/About-Us/Policies-/Policies).

### Key Requirements for Registrars on the AGPT Program

The AGPT Program Policies aim to ensure that registrars progress through their training on the AGPT Program within set timeframes, with continuity of training and recency of practice so that registrars attaining fellowship through the Program are ready to practice as independent specialist GPs.

While registrars are required to adhere to the requirements specified within the policies, there may be circumstances where registrars will require additional flexibility to manage their training, and/or other circumstances occurring in their lives. The Policies are cognisant of this, with additional flexibilities available for registrars to complete their training set out in a number of the Policies. These include *the AGPT Extension of Training Time Policy 2019*, *AGPT Program Leave Policy 2019* and *AGPT Training Obligations Policy 2019*. In addition, the *AGPT Transfer Policy 2019* enables registrars to transfer to a different training region or pathway on either a permanent or temporary basis, in some circumstances, to undertake their training.

The key requirements for registrars on the AGPT Program are as follows:

- Once registrars have enrolled in their chosen fellowship program(s) they cannot change to another fellowship program. In order to change fellowship programs, registrars will need to withdraw from the AGPT Program and reapply to their preferred GP College.

- Registrars are expected to remain in the training region and pathway in which they accepted a training place for the duration of their training.
- Transfers between training regions and/or pathways may be considered in extenuating and unforeseen circumstances, or to address identified career, training and/or education requirements.
- Registrars training on the AGPT Program are expected to achieve fellowship within the relevant training time cap specified below:
  - 4 Full time Equivalent (FTE) years if seeking fellowship of RACGP\*;
  - 5 FTE years if seeking fellowship of ACRRM, both ACRRM and RACGP, or RACGP and FARGP\*; and
  - 6 FTE years if seeking fellowship of ACRRM and undertaking Advanced Specialised Training in surgery\*.

*\*The training time cap incorporates the training terms required by the relevant College plus an additional FTE year to enable a registrar to take a six calendar month period of Category 2 Leave (Additional Leave from the Program) and a six calendar month extension of training time if required. Registrars can only access additional Category 2 Leave or extensions of training time beyond an initial six calendar month period in extenuating and unforeseen circumstances.*

- Registrars nearing the end of their training time without successfully passing the fellowship assessments/exams of their chosen College(s) may be able to seek additional support (including further extension/s of training time) to optimise their chances of successfully attaining fellowship.
- The *AGPT Rural Generalist Policy 2019* provides additional flexibility for registrars undertaking AGPT Program Rural Generalist Training. This flexibility includes the easing of restrictions around transfers between training regions and allows for an additional skills training term to be undertaken to enable these registrars to best meet community needs. AGPT Rural Generalist Training under the *AGPT Rural Generalist Policy 2019* is only available to registrars enrolled on the AGPT Program.
- Registrars have access to leave from the AGPT Program in addition to their leave entitlements through employment arrangements. Registrars can access unpaid parental leave, sick or carer's leave, Australian Defence Force service leave (which does not count towards the training time cap) and additional leave for personal reasons (which does count towards the training time cap in most circumstances). Generally the deferral of the commencement of training is not permitted, but may be considered in extenuating and unforeseen circumstances.
- Registrars are expected to maintain general medical registration while training. Registrars must successfully complete the training terms specified by the relevant College/s, and adhere to the policies of the relevant College/s, which can be found on the college websites:

ACRRM: [www.acrrm.org.au](http://www.acrrm.org.au)

RACGP: [www.racgp.org.au](http://www.racgp.org.au)

## Further Information

AGPT Policies:

[www.agpt.com.au/About-Us/Policies-/Policies](http://www.agpt.com.au/About-Us/Policies-/Policies)

AGPT Eligibility and Application Questions

Department of Health: [www.agpt.com.au](http://www.agpt.com.au)

Training Region Specific Questions:

[www.agpt.com.au/Training-organisations/Training-Organisations-by-State-Territory](http://www.agpt.com.au/Training-organisations/Training-Organisations-by-State-Territory)

College Selection and Assessment Processes:

ACRRM: [www.acrrm.org.au/agpt](http://www.acrrm.org.au/agpt)

RACGP: [www.racgp.org.au/agpt](http://www.racgp.org.au/agpt)

