

The Rural Locum Assistance Program (Rural LAP)

Are you an obstetrician, anaesthetist, nurse, midwife or allied health practitioner who:

- works in rural Australia and can't take leave because no-one is available to fill in for you?
- is looking for locum opportunities in rural and remote Australia?
- is an urban general practitioner (GP) wanting financial assistance for training?

The Rural LAP combines the Rural Obstetric and Anaesthetic Locum Scheme (ROALS), the Nursing and Allied Health Rural Locum Scheme (NAHRLS) and the Rural Locum Education Assistance Program (Rural LEAP).

The aims of the amalgamated program include enhancing the ability of healthcare professionals in rural Australia to take leave and undertake continuing professional development (CPD) activities and improving the retention of these health professionals in rural locations. The program will also enhance the ability of metropolitan-based GPs to upskill professional competencies in emergency medicine.

Rural LAP was established by the Australian Government to support specialist and GP obstetricians and anaesthetists, nurses, midwives, and allied health professionals in rural and remote Australia to take leave from their work for up to 14 working days (categories 2-7) for recreation or CPD leave, and up to 28 working days for placements (categories 5-7) supporting recreation and CPD leave (noting that priority will be given to placements with a CPD component or located in categories 6 and 7).

Rural LAP also offers financial assistance to urban GPs who require training in order for them to become rural locums. Training for Rural LAP focusses on emergency medicine and to be eligible you must be willing to undertake a general practice locum placement in rural and remote Australia.

Rural LAP is not a recruitment agency. They are an Australian Government-funded service that is focused on supporting health professionals by administering an uncomplicated start-to-finish locum placement service.

The service includes recruiting and placing credentialed locums and paying their travel, accommodation, travel allowance, and incentives during their placement. The hosting organisation is only responsible for covering the base locum wage for the period during which the locum is required.

There are no fees or other hidden charges.

[Find out how the Rural Locum Assistance Program \(Rural LAP\) can help you](#)



NQPHN acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as Australia's First Nation Peoples and the Traditional Custodians of this land. We respect their continued connection to land and sea, country, kin, and community. We also pay our respect to their Elders past, present, and emerging as the custodians of knowledge and lore.

