

NSW Rural Generalist (Medical) Training Program

Rural Generalist Foundation Year Preferecing and Allocation to 2021 Advanced Skills Training Posts

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Who manages the allocation of Rural Generalist (RG) Foundation Year trainees to Advanced Skills Training positions across NSW?

The Health Education and Training Institute manages the NSW Rural Generalist (Medical) Training Program on behalf of NSW Health. The allocation process was established to ensure fair, equitable and open merit based selection of Rural Generalist (RG) Foundation Year trainees to vacant advanced skills positions. The Health Education and Training Institute, in conjunction with rural Local Health Districts, provides RG Foundation Year trainees with first round choices to Advanced Skills Training posts in NSW.

How does the preferencing and allocation for Advanced Skills Training occur?

Eligible RG Foundation Year trainees are sent an application kit for completion. In the application trainees nominate a preference for a pathway, request positions at nominated hospitals in order of their preference, and provide supporting documentation to the RG Foundation Year Allocation Panel. Additional supporting documentation required includes:

- Updated referees (Names and emails)
- Updated Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Term/rotation reports
- Log books

The RG Foundation Year Allocation Panel assesses all applications. The Panel assesses and ranks all trainees based on readiness, performance and suitability. This assessment may be done in conjunction with the relevant senior staff and clinical supervisors.

If more than one trainee nominates for a position, then the RG Foundation Year

Allocation Panel reviews each trainee's progress and assesses based on merit. Following any initial notification of an allocation, the final confirmation of positions depends on the continued performance of trainees. This decision is made in consultation with supervisors.

Who is on the RG Foundation Year Allocation Panel?

Members of the RG Foundation Year Allocation Panel include the State-wide Director of Training RGTP, medical educators and relevant senior specialist staff in the various disciplines. Other medical staff from rural Local Health Districts may also participate depending on the assessment and placement.

What roles do General Practice Training Providers or General Practice Colleges have in this process?

As RG Foundation Year trainees have already been selected to the program via a merit based selection process and interview by the centralised panels (including GP Training Providers and GP College members) this allocation is a second step on the pathway.

Trainees are requested to nominate their GP Training Provider and GP College and approve the transfer of information between the Health Education and Training Institute and their providers.

Trainees are also requested to notify their GP Training Provider and GP College of their intentions to undertake Advanced Skills Training well in advance. This ensures trainees have the correct information, are aware of their eligibility and their training is supported.

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What if a trainee is not deemed ready?

If a trainee is not deemed ready to progress to Advanced Skills Training, they are given the opportunity to continue the program and be reassessed the following year. There will be no further extension in the program after one additional year unless there are extenuating circumstances (e.g. maternity leave).

Questions relevant to Foundation Year trainees

What if I don't feel ready for Advanced Skills Training next year?

Trainees who do not wish to undertake Advanced Skills Training in the following year are able to defer for one year. It is expected trainees will continue onto GP training with their GP Training Provider or undertake further hospital training during this deferral, unless there are extenuating circumstances (e.g. maternity leave).

How long have I got to complete my Advanced Skills Training?

Advanced Skills Training is conducted over 12 months full time.

Trainees also need to be aware of the training duration requirements of their GP Training Provider and whether additional time undertaking Advanced Skills Training can be completed within appropriate timeframes. Please refer to the Australian General Practice Training provider for appropriate information.

How do I find out more information about potential training posts?

NSW Local Health District nominate available training places each year depending on capacity and supervision available.

UP to 50 places are available in NSW in 2021, Trainees will be given summary information on available posts for 2021 with the application kit.

What if a post is not available in 2021?

Posts cannot be guaranteed. From time to time posts may no longer be available for a range of reasons.

Where an allocated training post is no longer available, the trainee will have the choice of re-allocation to another vacant post in the state.

How will contracts be provided by Local Health Districts for training positions?

The Advanced Skills Training positions are managed as new positions, therefore a new contract will be issued to the trainee.

The Health Education and Training Institute manages initial documentation and provides all documents from the NSW Health eRecruit system to the respective Medical Workforce Units in Local Health Districts.

Local Health Districts will then request any further documents and signed forms. It is important that trainees provide their local hospital with updated documents regardless of whether they have been previously employed at the hospital.

If I am not yet accepted for GP training, am I able to continue in the RG Foundation Year and apply for GP training next year?

If not yet accepted onto GP training, trainees are able to continue during the RG Foundation Year and must organise their own employment for the RG Foundation Year.

Trainees must be accepted to GP training, and provide evidence of this, to be allocated to an Advanced Skills Training position.

Complaints Policy

The Health Education and Training Institute follows the NSW Health Complaints Management Policy PD2020_013. It is recommended that, should any trainee wish to raise a complaint, this be in writing to the State-wide Director of Training in the first instance.