



## INTRODUCTION

Doctor of Medicine students undertake placements in General Practice during their course. The University receives funding from the Commonwealth Government which can be used to assist Australian domestic students (CSP or full-fee) and New Zealand students in meeting the costs of rural General Practice placements. The following information outlines the conditions under which eligible students can receive financial support for some specific costs associated with these placements. Please note: International students are not eligible to receive the Commonwealth Government funding.

Rural placements are classed by the government as those in the ASGC\_RA categories 2–5 only. Students can check whether a placement is in a rural area using the following link:

<http://www.doctorconnect.gov.au/internet/otd/Publishing.nsf/Content/locator>

Students will be notified upon allocation of their placement, if their General Practice Placement is rural.

All CSP students enrolled in the Doctor of Medicine (including those who are New Zealand Citizens and those in Bonded Medical Places) are eligible for a studentship payment and provided accommodation as defined below in this document.

The Rural Clinical School will process all eligible studentship payments in the final week of placement

## ACCOMMODATION

The Rural Clinical School will arrange and pay for accommodation for the duration of the rural GP placement for eligible students.

Students must contact the Rural Clinical School (Email: [rcs-admin@lists.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:rcs-admin@lists.unimelb.edu.au) Phone: +61 3 5823 4500) within 3 days of receiving their initial placement practice confirmation email to advise the following:

1. The student requires accommodation for the rural placement.
2. The student has arranged private accommodation at their own cost for the rural placement and provides the address confirming it is within 50 km travel distance from the practice (one way), advising the address they will be staying at.
3. The student will require accommodation in Melbourne to attend the compulsory 2 day clinical workshop where there is no available accommodation of their own, or with family or friends.

For health and safety reasons, approval may not be given for students to travel more than 50 km each way to their practice on a daily basis. Any travel more than 50 km from their practice students must seek approval in writing from the Rural Clinical School and the Department of General Practice within 3 days of receiving their initial placement practice confirmation email.

## STUDENTSHIP PAYMENT

The Rural Clinical School will provide a studentship payment for eligible students to assist with costs related to the placement. This includes the following items based on the Zones provided below:

- One return trip between Parkville and rural placement town (including self-recruited rural placements). Students who have their own no cost accommodation within 50 km of the placement town are eligible to claim for travel where the distance is between 15 and 50 km one way (daily claim range from 30–100 km). Kilometres will be reimbursed at the rate of 25 cents per kilometre as determined by the predefined Zones. Please note that financial assistance will not be given for any additional travel back to Parkville with the exception of travel to the compulsory 2 day clinical workshop and the Easter break.
- Daily travel to attend compulsory 2 day clinical workshops within 50 km of the placement town are eligible to claim for travel where the distance is between 15 and 50 km one way (daily claim range from 30–100 km). If travel exceeds the 50 km from placement town, one return trip will be provided to attend the compulsory 2 day clinical workshop.
- Students may be eligible for travel reimbursement where requested by their GP supervisor to attend alternative clinic sites, greater than 15 km from their primary placement, please advise the Rural Clinical School contact (Email: [rcs-admin@lists.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:rcs-admin@lists.unimelb.edu.au)) in the final week of placement to advise of any extra travel to attend clinics.
- One \$50 mobile device data payment for study purposes.

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

All students travelling to a rural location in their own vehicle must have a current driver's licence and be responsible for their own vehicle insurance.

Students are required to ensure their bank details are current via Stop 1 to receive the studentship payment.

## **SAFETY**

The University takes the risks of driving very seriously. Driver safety information is available from:

<http://www.tac.vic.gov.au/road-safety/safe-driving/tips-and-tools>

<http://safety.unimelb.edu.au/>