

Rural Surgery Fellowship for Provincial Surgeons Learning & Development Grant Guideline GDL-4955

Review: January 2026

Governing Policy: POL-4914 Learning and Development Grant policy

Eligibility summary RACS Fellows – based outside metropolitan areas

Interest area Regional, remote and rural surgery

The Rural Surgery Fellowship for Provincial Surgeons supports regional, remote and rural surgeons to travel and develop existing skills, or acquire new skills, in a field of benefit to the surgeon's rural, regional and remote community.

Conditions

This guideline outlines information specific to the respective grant's purpose, duration, conditions and recipient eligibility. For all the conditions for this scholarship it is essential that you also read the Learning and Development Policy.

Applicant eligibility

Applications are open to RACS Fellows whose primary practice postcode is in a non-metropolitan area of Australia or New Zealand. Rural, regional and remote is defined by the Monash Modified Model in Australia as MM2 to MM7, or outside the six main urban centres in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Eligible activity

The Fellowship may be used to fund travel, accommodation, living expenses, conference and course fees required to complete the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activity. Recipients can complete the activity on one occurrence or over a series of smaller occurrences.

The Fellowship does not incorporate payment for, or arrangement of, a locum.

Duration

Between one and twelve weeks.

Selection

Eligible applicants are currently located or working in rural, regional or remote Australia or Aotearoa New Zealand.

Preference will be given in post-review ranking to those who:

- are current members of the Rural Surgery Section
- have secured structured visits/appointments to established units
- have not secured alternative financial support.

The selection panel is comprised of members of:

- the Chair and two members of the Rural Surgery Section (RSS) Committee
- the Chair (or nominee) of the Fellowship Services Committee

Rural Surgery Fellowship for Provincial Surgeons GDL-4955

Recipient obligations

The recipient:

- is required to spend a major part of the occurrence(s) at the agreed venue to complete the CPD activity
- is required to give a guarantee to continue to practice in their local area on completion of the Fellowship
- is encouraged to submit an abstract for presentation at the annual conference of the Provincial Surgeons of Australia or an appropriate forum in New Zealand
- Is encouraged to complete a reflective practice activity about the experience, tied into the annual CPD learning plan.

Funding source

The funds are held in the Rural Surgery Section (RSS).

Partner committee

Rural Surgery Section (RSS) Committee