

# North West Program Policy



## 1. Purpose of Policy

General Practice Training Tasmania (GPTT) is committed to supporting healthy communities through the fair and equitable placement of registrars across Tasmania while enhancing the quality of GP Registrar Training.

The North West Program aims to encourage and support RACGP pathway registrars to undertake training placements in Tasmania's North West Region.

## 2. Definitions and Acronyms

<b>GPTT</b>	General Practice Training Tasmania
<b>RACGP</b>	Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
<b>Registrar</b>	GP Registrar
<b>GPT1</b>	General Practice Term 1
<b>GPT2</b>	General Practice Term 2

## 3. Policy

RACGP Applicants interviewing with GPTT have the option to opt in to the North West Program.

GP Registrars who accept an offer of training with GPTT, and have previously opted in to the North West Program, will undertake a placement in Tasmania's North West region for the first 12 calendar months of their community general practice. This placement could comprise any combination of GPT1 and/or GPT2 and /or a community based extended skills post.

North West region practices are listed on the GPTT website [GPTT Accredited North West Practices](#)

Key benefits of this program include support to stay within the region throughout training and access to existing rural benefits and scholarship support opportunities to undertake education courses as per the GPTT Registrar Financial Assistance Policy.

Applicants must notify GPTT prior to interview that they are opting in to the North West Program by completing the declaration provided with the notification of interview.

Applicants who select the North West program will have their commitment to the North West Region favourably considered during the GPTT selection process, however participation in this program does not guarantee a position with GPTT should other selection criteria not be met.

#### 4. Policy Exceptions

Exceptions to the training location requirements of this policy will only be considered in extenuating and unforeseen circumstances.

Extenuating and unforeseen circumstances are defined as circumstances which were unforeseen and outside a registrar's control when they accepted a place on the North West Program with GPTT. These circumstances will not be considered as unforeseen if it can be determined that the circumstances were known or reasonably should have been known by the registrar prior to the acceptance of their place on the North West Program.

Examples of extenuating circumstances may include, but are not limited to:

- Ill-health (other than minor illnesses);
- Deterioration of an existing medical condition that can no longer be managed in the current location;
- Bereavement;
- Acute personal/emotional circumstances;
- Hospitalisation;
- Illness of an Immediate Family Member;
- A major change to a registrar's personal circumstances; or
- An involuntary change in a spouse's employment.

Exceptions to this policy must be approved by the Director of Education and Training. All applications and requests pertaining to extenuating and unforeseen circumstances of the registrar will be considered on a case by case basis.

#### 5. Related Policies and Documents

Registrar Financial Assistance Policy  
Practice Placement and Enrolment Policy  
North West Program Declaration Form

Policy Authorised by:	Director of Education and Training
Policy Maintained by:	Education Manager
Date of original issue:	8 April 2019
Version Number:	2
Date of current issue:	30 October 2020
Date of next review:	30 October 2021