

# Allied Health New Service Grant



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# 1. Grant Overview

Rural Workforce Agency Victoria (RWAV) is a not-for profit government-funded organisation aimed at improving health care for rural, regional and Aboriginal communities in Victoria.

The Allied Health New Service Grant is funded by RWAV as part of the Australian Government Department of Health Rural Health Workforce Support program.

The purpose of the Allied Health New Service Grant is to:

- Enable health services and allied health practitioners to access funding to establish or expand allied health services in rural and regional Victoria
- Support increased access to allied health services in MMM 3-6

## 2. Eligibility

**Applicants must be working in:**

- Private practice or an independently registered and managed community health services
- A rural or remote area of Victoria (MM3-6)
- Activities undertaken at Aboriginal Medical Services and Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations in MM1-7 locations are eligible
- Services funded solely by the Government are ineligible
- To be assessed, all application questions must be answered, all documentation provided, and a contact provided who can discuss the application further

## Eligible Allied Health Professions

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioner
- Aboriginal Health Worker
- Audiologist
- Chinese Medicine Practitioner
- Chiropractor
- Counsellor
- Dietitian
- Exercise Physiologist
- Medical Radiation Practitioner
- Mental Health Credentialed Workforce
- Nutritionist
- Occupational Therapist
- Optometrist
- Orthoptist
- Orthotics and Prosthetics
- Osteopath
- Pharmacist
- Physiotherapist
- Podiatrist
- Psychologist
- Social Worker
- Sonographer
- Speech Pathologist

The funded allied health service must be delivered for a **minimum of 12 months** following implementation of the grant funded activities.

All applications will be assessed against the eligibility criteria by an RWAV panel, and the following will be looked upon favourably.

- Innovative service models that meet locally identified clinical needs
- Increasing the available FTE and/or number of patients serviced
- Partnerships between 2 or more service providers including multi-site service delivery
- Enhancing existing partnerships or confirming new partnerships between clinicians and service providers
- In-kind support provided by the grant recipient/s

### 3. Eligible Activities

- Resources to deliver the proposed allied health service; including clinical equipment
- Technology to support allied health new staff; including computers and office technology
- Short term (up to 3 months) rental support to establish or expand services
- Marketing (excluding TV marketing) and advertising the new allied health service offering
- Enhancing existing partnerships or confirming new partnerships between clinicians and service providers

**Grant funding cannot be used for the following activities:**

- Recruitment and relocation grants to health professionals to cover expenses that are covered by their employers
- Recruitment and relocation grants to cover expenses associated with international relocation, including visa costs and international flights, without prior written approval from the department
- Television marketing
- Purchase of land
- Major capital expenditure
- The covering of retrospective costs
- Costs incurred in the preparation of a grant application or related documentation
- Major construction/capital works
- Activities which support political campaigns
- Grant recipient staff overseas travel and
- Activities for which Commonwealth, State, Territory or Local Government bodies have primary responsibility

## 4. Funding Available

The Allied Health New Service Grant provides payments of up to \$10,000 inc. GST per practice. Applications open 9:00 am Monday, 4 March 2024 and close 11:59 pm Thursday, 18 April 2024.

All claims against grant funding by successful applicants must be submitted to RWAV **prior to June 30, 2024**. Claims submitted after this date will not be recognised and funding will be forfeited.

The grant funding will be provided to the business owner or nominated representative for the health service.

Funding is available for prospective costs only. The grant funding will be provided by reimbursement, payments will be made upon provision of an acceptable invoice. This is a competitive grant round, not all applicants who apply will be successful.

## 5. Application Process

All applications must be made through the [MyRWAV](#) portal accessed on the RWAV website prior to the activity taking place.

You may be asked to provide more information to support your application.  
*Submitting your application does not guarantee you will be successful.*



## 6. Notification of Applications

RWAV will notify you the outcome of your application via email. Please note applications may take up to six (6) weeks to be assessed, approved and processed.

If your application is unsuccessful, RWAV will provide an explanation as to why your application has been declined.

If your application is successful, we will email you a **Grant Letter of Agreement** for you to sign and return within 30 days.

The Grant Letter of Agreement details:

- The funded course/activity
- The amount of funding available
- Your requirements as a Grantee (successful applicant)
- Your Return of Service Obligation period (12 months)

## 7. Changes to Grant Activities

Written approval from RWAV is required to change the course/activity outlined in your **Grant Letter of Agreement**. RWAV will review any new activity against the identified health/workforce need, your original application and the reason for the change.

Changes to proposed course/activity are at the discretion of RWAV and is usually only permitted where the training provider cancels the training or under exceptional circumstances. RWAV reserves the right to cancel the Grant Letter of Agreement if the original activity cannot be completed.

## 8. Termination of Grant Letter of Agreement

RWAV may terminate a Grant Letter of Agreement if it reasonably believes the applicant:

- Has transferred to a different activity without consent from RWAV
- Has breached the Grant Agreement
- Has provided false or misleading information in their application
- Fails to complete the activity

## 9. Debt Recovery

Where a Grantee (successful applicant) does not fulfil their requirements as detailed in the Grant Letter of Agreement, RWAV may seek to recover the relevant monies. Each Grantee will be asked to sign a Grant Letter of Agreement, confirming that they have understood the terms and conditions of the agreement including the process for debt recovery should the Grantee be unable to meet their obligations.

The Grants Officer will support the Grantee during the period outlined in the Grant Letter of Agreement to address issues as/before they arise. This will minimise the need for debt recovery in most cases. Where this fails, and the Grantee is unable to meet their obligations, the Grants Officer will contact the Grantee to inform them that the debt recovery process will begin.

## 10. Complaints and Appeals

Unsuccessful applicants who wish to appeal the outcome of their application should initially email the grants team at [grants@rwav.com.au](mailto:grants@rwav.com.au) to determine if they may be eligible to access funding and/or support from other sources to meet their upskilling or professional development needs. If the matter is not resolved applicants can appeal to the Senior Manager, Health Workforce Solutions to consider their case.

## 11. More Information

Any questions relating to the Allied Health New Service Grant should be directed to the Contracts Officer at [grants@rwav.com.au](mailto:grants@rwav.com.au) or via phone on 03 9349 7800



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