

RWAV ALLIED HEALTH INCENTIVE GRANT

Guidelines 2020-2021

For Victorian health professionals relocating to work in:

PRIVATE PRACTICE

IN A PRIORITY LOCATION

ALLIED HEALTH

Background

The Health Workforce Access Program focuses on improving access and continuity of access to essential primary health care for communities, particularly in priority areas identified through the Health Workforce Needs Assessment process or by the Australian Government Department of Health.

The RWAV Allied Health Incentive Grant is designed to provide support to:

- Health professionals who are relocating to a Victorian priority area; and
- Working in an identified discipline of need; and
- In an area identified in the annual RWAV Health Workforce Needs Assessment, and approved by the Australian Government Department of Health.

Eligibility

All applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Be one of the eligible allied health professions and providing services in the private or non-state government primary health sector (e.g private allied health practitioner or a non-government organisation) in one of the corresponding eligible locations (see the Priority Locations Matrix).
- Be providing a minimum of 0.5 EFT per week.
- Commit to providing a minimum of one (1) year of service to that rural community. Health professionals receiving an RWAV Allied Health Incentive Grant who leave the specified community within the one (1) year commitment period may be required to refund their grant.

PRIORITY LOCATIONS MATRIX

SA3 Priority Locations	Eligible Profession
Campaspe	Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist or Psychologist
Colac - Corangamite	Occupational Therapist or Pharmacist
Gippsland - East	Occupational Therapist, Pharmacist or Physiotherapist
Glenelg - Southern Grampians	Occupational Therapist or Pharmacist
Grampians	Physiotherapist or Psychologist
Heathcote - Castlemaine - Kyneton	Dentist, Occupational Therapist, Pharmacist, Physiotherapist, Psychologist
Loddon - Elmore	Dentist, Occupational Therapist, Pharmacist, Physiotherapist, Psychologist
Maryborough - Pyrenees	Dentist, Occupational Therapist, Pharmacist, Physiotherapist, Psychologist
Moira	Dentist or Psychologist
Murray River - Swan Hill	Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist or Psychologist
Upper Goulburn Valley	Dentist or Occupational Therapist
Wellington	Dentist, Occupational Therapist, Pharmacist or Physiotherapist

- d. Submit your application prior to relocating and commencing practice in that area.
- e. Provide tax invoices for all eligible claim items for the first grant payment of up to \$1,000. Receipts for the period after the signed contract has been received are eligible. *See claimable items list below.
- f. Be appointed to the role via a health service recruitment process rather than via a commercial recruitment organisation.

Grant Funding Available

The RWAV Allied Health Incentive Grant awards successful applicants \$2,000 in total to be paid in two instalments of \$1,000 within the first month from commencement of practice and \$1,000 upon completion of 12 months service.

The first instalment of \$1,000 is to support relocation and establishment costs upon provision of paid tax invoices and the second instalment of \$1,000 is paid upon completion of twelve (12) months in the role as a retention bonus payment.

Claims

The RWAV Allied Health Incentive Grant can be used for:

Removal/relocation

- Assistance with set up costs
- Basic white goods, e.g. fridge, washing machine, microwave
- Furniture, e.g. bed, mattress, TV, dining room table
- Basic kitchen items, e.g. utensils and crockery
- Utilities connection fees
- Travel costs from home to new location (km or domestic flights)
- Rental assistance and/or housing and accommodation assistance
- Removal and relocation costs

* All claims for receipts dated after the signed contract has been received by RWAV are eligible for reimbursement. Proof of payment is required (tax invoice).

The RWAV Allied Health Incentive Grant cannot be used to:

- Cover expenses that are paid by the employer
- Cover expenses that have already been funded by other Commonwealth, State, Territory or Local Government grants
- Reimburse retrospective costs (costs incurred prior to signing relocation grant letter of agreement)
- Cover capital expenditure and/or land purchase
- Cover costs of usual travel for work purposes
- CPD training and course fees
- CPD leave relief costs (locum placements)
- Financial support for accreditation and registration fees

Application Process

All applications must be made through the RWAV website via the myRWAV portal.

Applications will be assessed based on:

- a. The location of your employment (priority area);
- b. The role that you are undertaking has been identified as a priority health discipline for that region;
- c. Your eligibility as per the applicant and eligibility criteria.

Applicant Criteria

- a. Applicants will need to agree to the terms and conditions laid out in their grant agreement letter specifying their 12 months return of service obligation. You may be asked to provide more information to support your application.
- b. Only permanent ongoing positions will be supported by the grant.
*Fixed term contracts over 12 months or longer can be considered on a case by case basis and approved by the General Manager.
- c. Be providing services in the private or non-state government primary health sector e.g. general practice, private allied health practitioner or a non-government organisation. Vacancies with state funded organisations are not eligible unless the role is also combined with general practice or a community health organisation.
- d. Be physically relocating on a permanent basis to a new home address within the state of Victoria. Grant funding is not to be used for commutable locations or to cover costs of usual travel for work purposes.
- e. Commit to providing a minimum of one (1) year of service to that rural community. Health professionals receiving a grant who leave the specified community within the one (1) year commitment period may be required to refund their grant.
- f. Applicants are not eligible to receive the grant if they have already re-located or commenced practice.

Submitting your application does not guarantee that you will be offered the RWAV Allied Health Incentive Grant.

Documentary evidence required in application

- a. Proof of Employment in a letter that:
 - Is on your employer's letterhead and from your immediate manager. If you are self-employed please provide your ABN and detail services provided, location/s, hours of service delivery;
 - Is dated and signed and confirms applicants has not commenced practice;
 - States your name as the applicant, including evidence of a name change if the receipt is not in your professional registration name;
 - States your position title;
 - States your employment status (full-time/part-time hours);
 - States the location of primary health services provided;
 - States the length of employment expected in your position;
 - States you were appointed via a health service recruitment process rather than via a commercial recruitment organisation.
- b. Any other supporting documentation relevant to the application.

Complaints and Appeals

Unsuccessful applicants who wish to appeal the outcome of their application should lodge an appeal with the Senior Manager - Healthcare Access to consider their case. The Senior Manager - Healthcare Access is the final arbiter for any appeal in respect of this relocation grant.

More information

Any questions relating to the RWAV Allied Health Incentive Grant should be directed to:

Grants Administrator, RWAV

T: 03 9349 7800

E: grants@rwav.com.au

Priority areas for 2020-21

Statistical Area (three localities)

Regions

- Gippsland
- Murray
- Western Victoria
- Non-priority areas for 2020-21

