

# Australian General Practice Training Guide

## What is AGPT?

Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) is a vocational training program for medical officers wishing to pursue a career in general practice and / or rural and remote medicine in Australia. The AGPT program is funded by the Australian Government and delivered by Regional Training Organisations (RTOs).

Through AGPT, RTOs deliver training according to college curricula to allow registrars to attain a general practice fellowship. Rural Generalist trainees are required to complete Fellowship of:

- Australian College Rural Remote Medicine (FACRRM) and / or;
- Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (FRACGP) plus Advanced Rural General Practice (FARGP).

This guide assists trainees to find application and training option information. It is recommended that trainees seek advice from their Rural Generalist Training Advisor (RGTA) before making application and throughout the process as required.

There are alternative training options to AGPT, some of which are self-funded. More information is available [here](#).

## How does Rural Generalist training work within AGPT?

Rural Generalist training is now recognised as having a special place within general practice training in Australia. AGPT has a [Rural Generalist Policy](#) that allows for increased flexibility to meet the extended training needs of Rural Generalists. This includes up to six years to complete training and an easier, temporary transfer between RTOs for Advanced Skills Training (AST).

## What is the difference between AGPT, RTOs, Colleges and the QRGP?

We've provided some information in the [appendix](#) of this guide to illustrate how the parties involved in your general practice training fit together.

## When should I apply to join AGPT?

This is an individual decision based on many factors. It is expected that QRGP trainees will be enrolled on a primary care Fellowship pathway by PGY 3. The new AGPT Rural Generalist Policy means that for most QRGP trainees there are no training time barriers to applying in post graduate year (PGY) 1. We strongly recommend enrolment with AGPT prior to commencing Advanced Skills Training. This ensures the training you do will count, the curriculum will be met and you will have the educational support of your RTO. Trainees are responsible for checking the accreditation status of AST posts with their RTO well in advance of AST commencement. Delaying application carries the risk of training time not being counted.

## When do AGPT applications open and how do I apply?

AGPT applications open 10am Monday 23 March and close 10am Monday 11 May 2020 (AEST). The application and selection process is coordinated by the relevant college/s you apply to. For more information and to apply, visit the [ACRRM](#) and [RACGP](#) websites. For AGPT eligibility information, please refer to the AGPT Eligibility Guide on the [AGPT website](#).

## How do I choose which RTO to apply to?

There are two RTOs in Queensland; [James Cook University General Practice Training \(JCUGPT\)](#) and [General Practice Training Queensland \(GPTQ\)](#). The RTOs have separate geographical training regions and coordinate training within their region only. Please click [here](#) for more information on RTO training regions.

AGPT expects that Registrars will complete all of their training in their RTO region and transfer requests are subject to a formal application process detailed by each RTO. The AGPT transfer policy can be accessed [here](#) and should be carefully reviewed prior to making application. The general advice is to apply to the RTO that covers the area where you intend to undertake the rural practice component of your training. Specific advice is available from your RGTA.

It is important that you keep your RGTA informed of your training intentions so the team can assist you to determine the impact on your AGPT obligations and offer assistance to you as required.

#### Which AGPT Pathway should I apply to? The Rural Pathway or General Pathway?

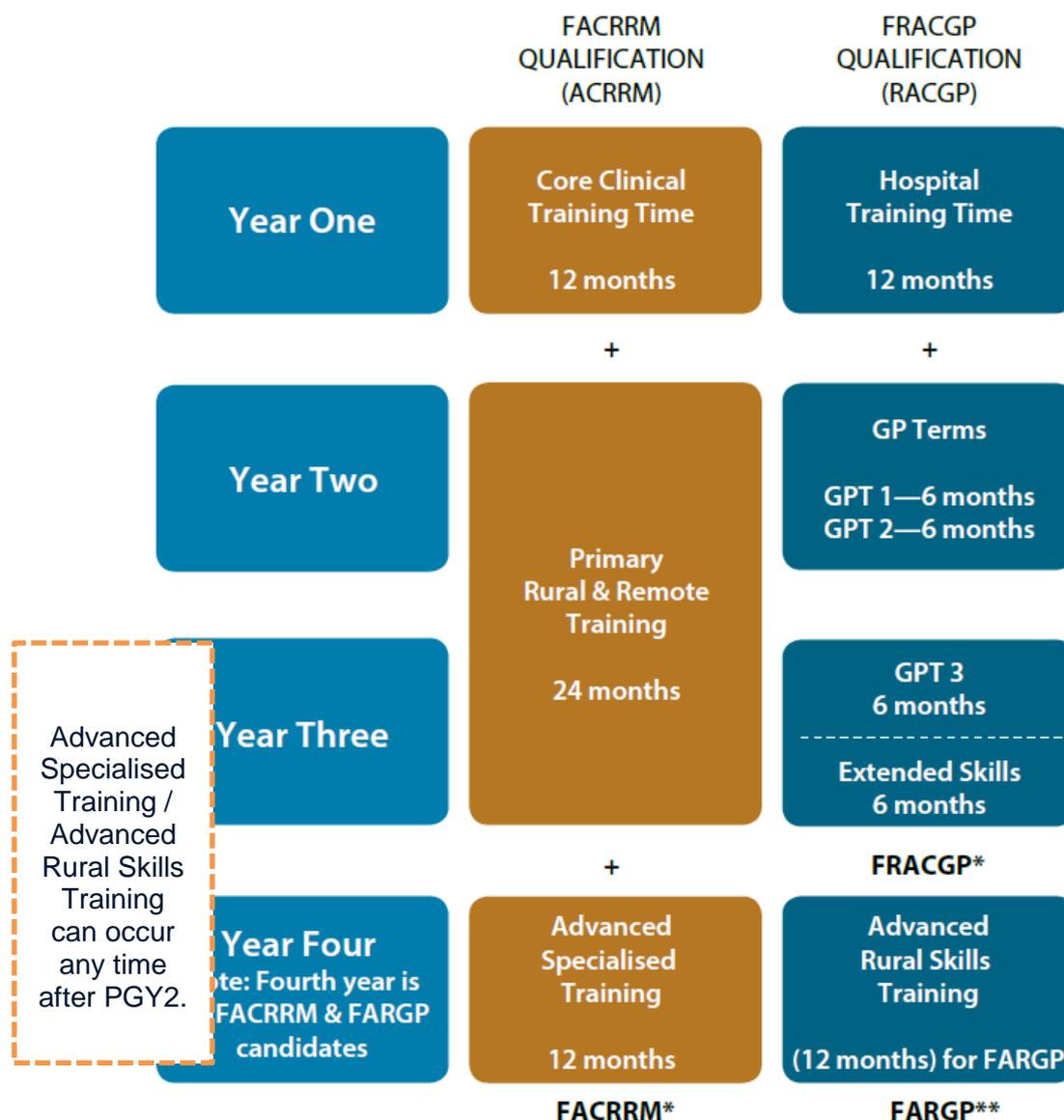
QRGP trainees are encouraged to select the AGPT Rural Pathway on application. This gives trainees access to the benefits of the 2019 Rural Generalist Policy which includes increased flexibility to meet the extended training needs of Rural Generalists and an easier, temporary transfer between RTOs for Advanced Skills Training (AST).

AGPT applicants will be asked if they are enrolled in other training programs in the 'Contracts - deeds of agreement' section. QRGP trainees should select the option 'I am an enrolled Rural Generalist Trainee' and select Queensland as the state. As the QRGP and AGPT Rural Pathway are distinctly separate programs, AGPT applicants who indicate Queensland Rural Generalist Trainee enrolment status are not applying or reapplying to the QRGP. Likewise, QRGP trainees are not granted automatic entry to the AGPT Rural Pathway.

QRGP trainees who apply for the AGPT Rural Pathway are obliged to train toward a Rural Generalist Medicine endpoint (a minimum of FACRRM or FRACGP + FARGP), and complete their training in [Modified Monash Model \(MMM\)](#) 2 - 7 locations.

#### What does AGPT training look like?

The following diagram, from the AGPT Handbook, illustrates the training path for each college. Please note that Advanced Specialised Training / Advanced Rural Skills Training can occur any time after PGY 2.



Advanced Specialised Training / Advanced Rural Skills Training can occur any time after PGY2.

† There may be flexibility in the order in which training terms may be undertaken.

\* Leading to specialist (general practice) registration.

\*\* The FARGP is a specialist twelve month program for registrars wishing to specialise in rural general practice.

Source: General Practice in Australia - The Guide available online at <http://www.agpt.com.au/>

### Who should I contact if I have questions?

If your question relates specifically to the application process the colleges coordinate, or you would like to find out more information about each RTO, please contact the appropriate organisation directly.

For assistance regarding how AGPT and your choice of RTO will fit with your Rural Generalist training, please contact your RGTA or the QRGP team on 1800 680 291 or [rural\\_generalist@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:rural_generalist@health.qld.gov.au).

## Appendix: How AGPT, RTOs, Colleges and the QRGF fit together

Organisation	Function	Scope	Duration
AGPT	Fund RTOs to deliver AGPT program for medical graduates wishing to specialise in general / rural generalist practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fund training</li> <li>• Make training places available to Colleges / RTOs</li> <li>• Monitor RTO compliance</li> </ul>	From commencement on AGPT through until completion of program (generally four years).
RTOs	Deliver the relevant College/s training program based on College standards and requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recruit registrars</li> <li>• Develop individual learning plans for registrars</li> <li>• Deliver training through a network of approved training locations and educational activities</li> <li>• Guide and monitor training progress and completion</li> </ul>	From enrolment with AGPT to completion of fellowship training.
College	Set professional medical standards for general practice which lead to full vocational recognition for Medicare A1 item numbers and unsupervised practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate AGPT selection process</li> <li>• Develop and maintain curriculum and training and assessment standards</li> <li>• Confer fellowship</li> <li>• Monitor continuing professional development</li> </ul>	From enrolment to completion of training and continuing professional development.
Queensland Rural Generalist Pathway	Provide medical graduates with a supported training pathway to a career in rural and remote medicine; and rural and remote communities with a skilled medical workforce.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recruit final year medical students / postgraduate medical officers interested in a rural medical career</li> <li>• Provide education, training and case management from commencement to completion of training and beyond</li> <li>• Assist with placement</li> <li>• Guide and monitor career planning intentions and outcomes</li> </ul>	From final year medical school to alumni involvement.

