The Medical Education and Training (MET) factsheets provide a comprehensive picture of medical education and training in Australia as well as the supply of medical practitioners from overseas. ‘MET3’ is the third data collection in the MET series bringing together the latest information from a range of sources.

FACTSHEETS ARE AVAILABLE ON:

**University Medical Education and Training**
*Data provided by Medical Deans Australia and New Zealand* – includes medical students enrolled in university training at accredited medical schools in undergraduate or postgraduate degrees. This also includes the number of graduates and projections on the numbers expected to graduate.

**Prevocational Medical Education and Training**
*Data provided by State and Territory Health Departments* – includes the number of prevocational junior doctors from internship to postgraduate year 2 across Australia.

**Vocational Medical Education and Training**
*Data provided by the Medical Colleges and the Australian Government Department of Health* – includes specialist training through an accredited specialist medical college. It also includes new and total Fellows of each of the medical colleges.

**International Supply of Medical Practitioners**
*Data provided by the Department of Home Affairs and AHPRA* – includes doctors and specialists who were trained overseas and their visa subclass, education level, countries in which studies were undertaken and pathways for assessment and recognition in Australia.

**Quality, Distribution and Access to programs**
*Data provided by Australian Government Department of Health* – includes Special Purpose Training Programs under section 3GA of the Health Insurance Act 1973.

The MET dataset is made available online each year [https://hwd.health.gov.au/datatool.html](https://hwd.health.gov.au/datatool.html)
Quality, distribution and access to programs

All doctors who were either first medically registered in Australia, or who completed an Australian internship, after 1 November 1996 must meet legislative requirements before they can claim Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) rebates.

These requirements are designed to improve the quality and distribution of our medical workforce to ensure all Australians have access to the right health professional, with the right skills, in the right setting, at the right time.

These requirements apply to all medical graduates at the postgraduate and vocational levels, including overseas trained doctors (OTDs) and foreign graduates of an accredited medical school (FGAMS). The requirements are legislated under section 19AA and 19AB of the Health Insurance Act 1973.

Doctors may be eligible to claim MBS rebates before they are vocationally recognised if they are:

- actively working towards Fellowship on an approved workforce or training program (these programs are referred to in section 3GA of the Act and are listed in Schedule 5, Part 2 of the Health Insurance Regulations 1975); or
- temporary residents who are subject to a ten-year moratorium under section 19AB of the Act and who are working in a general practice setting and have been granted an exemption to enable them to claim MBS rebates for an employment engagement (normally in a recognised District of Workforce Shortage (DWS) or Distribution Priority Area (DPA)).

An OTD or FGAMS, who is subject to the ten-year moratorium, may apply for an exemption so that they can claim MBS rebates for services they provide as part of an employment engagement. The DPA and DWS status of every Australian street address for GPs and other non-specialists, specialists and consultant physicians is available from the DoctorConnect website.

Quality and distribution

8,607 providers on approved 3GA programs in 2017–18

16.8% of providers were on the RLRP Program

15.3% were on the AMDS

3GA Programs 2017–18

- Remote Vocational Training Program 135
- Queensland Country Relieving Doctors Program 185
- Special Approved Placement Program 336
- Rural Locum Relief Program (RLRP) 1,444
- Approved Medical Deputising Services Program (AMDS) 1,319
- Approved Private Emergency Department Program 98
- Temporary Resident Other Medical Practitioners Program ((1058)) 45
- Sports Physician Trainees 59
- Australian General Practice Training Program (AGPT) 4,985