

## Practice Experience Program (PEP) Specialist Stream

From 1 September 2019, The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners' (RACGP's) **PEP Specialist Stream** will replace the current Specialist Recognition Program. The PEP Specialist Stream provides support for overseas-trained doctors with a specialist qualification transitioning into Australian general practice. It is a 3GA workforce program that allows doctors to access Medicare benefits while working towards Fellowship of the RACGP (FRACGP).



### Why is the program changing?

The change comes in response to the Medical Board of Australia's (MBA's) guidelines to ensure that overseas-trained doctors have access to educational support and undergo appropriate assessment before being awarded FRACGP. Under the new program, the RACGP will no longer award Fellowship *ad eundem gradum* (FAEG). FRACGP will be awarded once all program requirements have been met.

### Key dates 2019

**31 August**  
Specialist Recognition Program finishes

**1 September**  
PEP Specialist Stream commences



### How long will it take me to complete Fellowship requirements?

The time taken to complete Fellowship requirements is determined by your comparability outcome. You must be categorised as partially or substantially comparable to be eligible for the PEP Specialist Stream.

If your comparability outcome is:

- **substantially comparable** – you will be required to achieve FRACGP within 12 calendar months if working full time
- **partially comparable** – you will be required to achieve FRACGP within 24 months if working full time. This includes successful completion of the RACGP examinations.

If you choose to work part time, it will take longer to complete your Fellowship requirements.

### Key program changes



As an overseas-trained doctor applying for the program, the following key changes will apply to you.

- Removal of the upfront award of FAEG
- A PEP provider number will be issued by the RACGP
- Access to free educational resources
- Limited registration with the MBA while working towards Fellowship
- Completion of a workplace-based assessment (WBA)



## Where in Australia can I work?

Under the Australian Government's Stronger Rural Health Strategy, applicants applying for the new PEP Specialist Stream will have restrictions placed on where they can work.

Requirements:

- Applicants must provide a job offer in comprehensive general practice work in a Modified Monash Model (MMM) 2–7 location.
- Substantially comparable doctors may be eligible to apply for MMM1 provider numbers, subject to availability.
- Your job offer must meet the RACGP definition of comprehensive general practice.

You can check the MMM classification of a practice location on the DoctorConnect website.

Further information about provider numbers will be updated on the PEP Specialist Stream website.



## How do I apply?

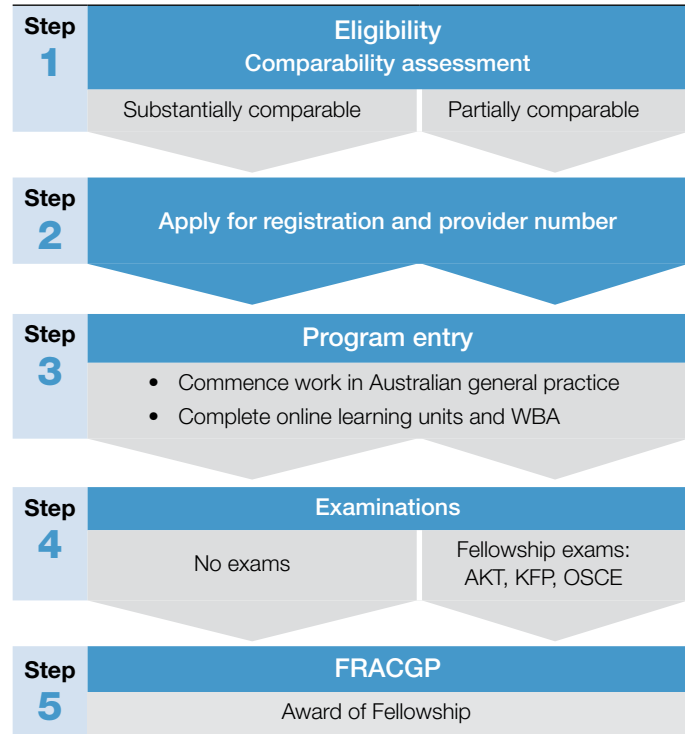
For further information on how to apply for the PEP Specialist Stream, refer to the eligibility criteria on the RACGP website.

For general information on the program, email [pathways@racgp.org.au](mailto:pathways@racgp.org.au) or phone 1800 472 247.



## What's involved in the PEP Specialist Stream?

An overview of the program requirements follows. Please refer to the PEP Specialist Stream website for detailed information.



AKT, Applied Knowledge Test; FRACGP, Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners; KFP, Key Feature Problem; OSCE, Objective Structured Clinical Examination; WBA, workplace-based assessment

\*WBA should include peer review and feedback reflective component, and supervisor report



## Resources

**PEP Specialist Stream** [www.racgp.org.au/PEPSP](http://www.racgp.org.au/PEPSP)

**RACGP** [www.racgp.org.au](http://www.racgp.org.au)

**Medical Board of Australia** [www.medicalboard.gov.au](http://www.medicalboard.gov.au)

**DoctorConnect** [www.doctorconnect.gov.au](http://www.doctorconnect.gov.au)

### Disclaimer

The information set out in this publication is current at the date of first publication and is intended for use as a guide of a general nature only and may or may not be relevant to particular patients or circumstances. The RACGP and its employees and agents have no liability (including for negligence) to any users of the information contained in this publication.

© The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners 2019

This resource is provided under licence by the RACGP. Full terms are available at [www.racgp.org.au/usage/licence](http://www.racgp.org.au/usage/licence)

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands and seas on which we work and live, and pay our respects to Elders, past, present and future.