

Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Special Interest Group

Terms of Reference

Area of College	Member Engagement & Support
Document Writer	Manager, Peak Bodies
Document Owner	Manager, Peak Bodies
Approved by	RACP Board
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References/Legislation	<i>Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)</i>
Associated RACP Documents	Governance of College Body By-law, Appointments to College Bodies Policy, RACP Constitution
Applicability	Australia

Note: This is a controlled document within the [RACP Policy Framework](#). The Framework covers all RACP policies, procedures, by-laws, terms of reference, guidelines, forms and so forth. Any new documents or amendments of existing documents or changes to approver, owner or area of college should be done in accordance with the RACP Policy Framework and Document Control (RACP Policy Framework) Procedure.

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1. INTRODUCTION

These Terms of Reference are to be read in conjunction with the [Governance of College Bodies By-law](#). Both the Governance of College Bodies By-law and these Terms of Reference govern the College Body.

1.1. Established

The Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Special Interest Group, reporting to the College Council, is established under the authority of the RACP Board to perform the functions set out in these Terms of Reference and all matters ancillary to those functions.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Special Interest Group is to provide advice and input to achieve equitable health outcomes for Australians and New Zealanders living in regional, rural, and remote locations by prioritising, advocating for, and supporting regional, rural, and remote workforce and training initiatives.

3. FUNCTIONS

The functions of the Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Special Interest Group are to:

- a) support the recommendations of the College's Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Strategy;
- b) provide support and advice on the College's Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Strategy implementation plan activities;
- c) provide advice to relevant College bodies and teams to ensure regional, rural, and remote practice and activities remain a priority;
- d) respond to requests for information or advice, such as but not limited to input into internal documents or responding to consultations (internal and external) relating to regional, rural, and remote practice and issues in rural healthcare; and
- e) liaise and collaborate with regional, rural, and remote physicians through available channels.

4. MEMBER COMPOSITION

The Membership of the Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Special Interest Group shall have no limit on membership; however, members should live in, work in, or have a strong interest and commitment to supporting healthcare in regional, rural, or remote communities within Australia or Aotearoa New Zealand.

Membership shall be by application (refer to Schedule 1).

5. EXECUTIVE GROUP

5.1. Establishment of an Executive Group

Subject to College Board approval, the Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Special Interest Group may but is not required to establish an Executive Group.

5.2. Membership of Executive Group

The Executive Group will comprise of five members of the Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Special Interest Group following an expression of interest process.

Expressions of interest will be reviewed by a selection panel of the College Council.

5.3. Role of the Executive Group

Generally, the Executive Group shall be the first point of contact for any requests for advice and either provide a response or recommend that the broader Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Special Interest Group is consulted.

In some situations, both the Executive Group and broader Australian Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Special Interest Group may be contacted for advice or input at the same time, including but not limited to situations involving time constraints and / or issues of significant interest to the broader Australian Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Special Interest Group.

6. SECRETARIAT SUPPORT

The Peak Bodies team (Member Engagement and Support) will be the point of contact within the College for the Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Special Interest Group and Executive Group.

7. DEFINITIONS

Term	Means
Board	The Board of Directors of The Royal Australasian College of Physicians.
College	The Royal Australasian College of Physicians, an incorporated body limited by guarantee ACN 000 039 047.
College Body	Has the same meaning as in the College Constitution.
Conflict of Interest	Has the same meaning as in the Governance of College Bodies By-law.
Ex-officio	Has the same meaning as in the Governance of College Bodies By-law.
Member of a College Body	Has the same meaning as in the Governance of College Bodies By-law.
Member of the College	Has the same meaning as in the Governance of College Bodies By-law.
Parent Body	Has the same meaning as in the Governance of College Bodies By-law.

8. HISTORY

Commencement		
These Terms of Reference were approved by the RACP Board and commenced on 31 October 2025.		
Revision	Effective Date	Summary of Changes
1.0	31 October 2025	Initial approval/New Document
2.0		<i>[second version]</i>
3.0		

9. SCHEDULE 1

Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Special Interest Group Application Form

Fields marked * are mandatory

Applicant Details		
*Title		
*Given Names		
*Family Name		
MIN		
*Country	<input type="checkbox"/> Australia	<input type="checkbox"/> Aotearoa New Zealand <input type="checkbox"/> Other
*Postcode	(Residential):	(Primary work):
*Are you a:	<input type="checkbox"/> Trainee	<input type="checkbox"/> Fellow
*Specialty/ies	(please specify)	

Position applying for	
X	Member, Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Special Interest Group

Contact Details	
Address	
Phone (preferred)	
*Email (preferred)	

Briefly state how your knowledge, qualifications, experience, or strong interest in regional, rural, or remote practice will contribute to the objectives of the Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Special Interest Group:

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Regional, Rural, and Remote Physician Special Interest Group

Areas of interest you feel comfortable contributing to:

<input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-clinical aspects
<input type="checkbox"/> Artificial Intelligence	<input type="checkbox"/> Overseas Trained Physicians
<input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Professional Development (CPD)	<input type="checkbox"/> Peer support
<input type="checkbox"/> Digital health	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy development
<input type="checkbox"/> Disability support	<input type="checkbox"/> Professional development
<input type="checkbox"/> eHealth	<input type="checkbox"/> Recruitment / retention
<input type="checkbox"/> Examinations	<input type="checkbox"/> Research
<input type="checkbox"/> External consultations (jurisdictional, government)	<input type="checkbox"/> Rural Generalism / Specialist Generalism
<input type="checkbox"/> Funding	<input type="checkbox"/> Telehealth
<input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare reform	<input type="checkbox"/> Training
<input type="checkbox"/> Incentivisation of workforce	<input type="checkbox"/> Training site accreditation
<input type="checkbox"/> Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/> Trainee supervision
<input type="checkbox"/> Locums / Outreach support	<input type="checkbox"/> Trainee wellbeing
<input type="checkbox"/> Member wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/> Workforce
<input type="checkbox"/> Mentoring	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Multidisciplinary Models of Care	
<input type="checkbox"/> Networking	

Signature _____

Date _____

Form to be emailed to: Manager, Peak Bodies via Council@racp.edu.au