Australian National University

Rural Background Criteria

For the purpose of admission to the Doctor of Medicine and Surgery program, rural background is defined as residency for at least 5 years consecutively or 10 years cumulatively in a Modified Monash Model (MMM) 2019 category MM 2 to MM 7 area.

If you have resided in an Australian rural area, MM 2 to MM 7, for 5 years consecutively or 10 years cumulatively, you may be eligible for consideration in rural schemes and sub-quotas. You will need to complete the Rurality Section in your application and then submit additional supporting documentation. You can check your MMM (2019) status by clicking here.

The Modified Monash Model

The ANU will use the Modified Monash Model (MMM) 2019 in the processing of Rurality Claims for admission to the Doctor of Medicine and Surgery program. The Model is also used by the Graduate Entry Medical School Admissions System (GEMSAS) in the processing of Rurality Claims for admission to postgraduate medicine programs.

The Modified Monash Model (MMM) is how the Department of Health define whether a location is a city, rural, remote or very remote. The Model measures remoteness and population size on a scale of category MM 1 to MM 7. The MMM (2019) has been updated to align with the latest available Census data from 2016. Metropolitan, regional, rural and remote areas are classified according to geographical remoteness as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and town size. The Model was developed to better target health workforce programs to attract health professionals to more remote and smaller communities.

The Modified Monash Model is made up of 7 categories:

- MM 1 Metropolitan areas
- MM 2 Regional centres
- MM 3 Large rural towns
- MM 4 Medium rural towns
- MM 5 Small rural towns
- MM 6 Remote communities
- MM 7 Very remote communities

If you have resided in a MM 2 to MM 7 area for at least 5 years consecutively or 10 years cumulatively and wish to be considered for rural schemes and sub-quotas, you will need to provide documentary evidence to substantiate your claim. You can check your rurality classification via the Health Workforce Locater on the Department of Health website.

Supporting Documentation

The following types of supporting documents are acceptable to provide:

1. A letter from your GP, Dentist, School, University or Workplace which verifies your primary rural living address.
2. Documents that show your primary rural living address e.g. invoices for car insurance, electricity, gas and phone bills, rental receipts and bank statements.

Both need to demonstrate that you have lived at an address within a MM 2 to MM 7 location for 5 years consecutively or 10 years cumulatively. This does not have to be at the same address as long as all of the addresses that you are claiming for are within a MM 2 to MM 7 location.

1. A letter from your GP, Dentist, School, University or Workplace:

- It must be on official letterhead.
- It must detail your full name.
- It must detail your full rural living address.
- It must include the specific dates that you resided at the address (according to records).
- It must include details verifying 5 years consecutively or 10 years cumulatively.
- It must be dated and signed.

You can provide multiple letters to demonstrate you have lived at a rural address for 5 years consecutively or 10 years cumulatively.

2. Documents that show your primary rural living address e.g. invoices for car insurance, electricity, gas and phone bills, rental receipts and bank statements:

- Documents must display your full name or your parent's/guardians full name.
- Documents must display your full primary rural living address.
- Documents submitted under your name must be accompanied with a statutory declaration signed by you confirming that you were living at the address (must outline address in the statutory declaration) during the relevant period of time (must outline dates in the statutory declaration). An official statutory declaration must be used from the Commonwealth or your state or territory. Download the Commonwealth statutory declaration form here.
- Documents submitted under your parent's/guardians name must be accompanied with a statutory declaration signed by your parent's/guardians confirming that you were living with them at the address (must outline the address in the statutory declaration) during the relevant period of time (must outline dates in the statutory declaration). An official statutory declaration must be used from the Commonwealth or your state or territory. Download the Commonwealth statutory declaration form here.
- Documents must be provided for the beginning and end of each year that you are claiming e.g. if you are claiming for 5 years consecutively, you may need to provide up to 10 documents. If you are claiming for 10 years cumulative, you may need to provide up to 20 documents.
- Documents must include details verifying 5 years consecutively or 10 years cumulatively.

Important Information

- You do not need to provide certified copies of letters or documents. They must be scanned in colour and must not be re-sized i.e. of high quality and legible.
- If your primary rural address has changed during the period you are claiming, letters and/or documents must detail your rural address history and the dates you resided at each address.
- Letters and documents with a PO Box address will not be accepted.
- School reports and invoices for rates and taxes will not be accepted.
- Time spent at a rural holiday home or secondary living address will not be considered. The address must have been your primary living location for the time period/s you are claiming.
- You cannot claim time in the future as part of the 5 or 10 years, as there is no way to establish proof that you will continue to reside at this address.

Contact

Student Administration Office
School of Medicine and Psychology
ANU College of Sceince and Medicine

Email: admissions.smp@anu.edu.au

Phone: +61 2 6125 1304 or +61 2 6125 5605