

RURAL ALLIED HEALTH NEW SERVICE GRANT

GRANT OVERVIEW

The RWAV Rural Allied Health New Service Grant supports health services and allied health practitioners to access up to \$10,000 to establish or expand allied health services in rural and regional Victoria. This grant is designed to support increased access to allied health services in MMM 3-6.

All applications will be assessed against the eligibility criteria by an RWAV panel, and the following will be looked upon favourably.

- Innovative service models that meet locally identified clinical needs;
- Increasing the available FTE and/or number of patients serviced;
- Partnerships between 2 or more service providers including multi-site service delivery;
- Enhancing existing partnerships or confirming new partnerships between clinicians and service providers;
- In-kind support provided by the grant recipient/s.

Grant monies can be used for the following, if outside the list below, please confirm with RWAV before including in your application:

- Consultancies to prepare business plans or feasibility studies for new allied health services in MMM 3-6;
- Short term (up to 3 months) accommodation support for new allied health clinicians;
- Marketing (except TV marketing) and advertising a new allied health service offering;
- Resources to deliver the proposed allied health service;
- Technology to support allied health new staff;
- Enhancing existing partnerships or confirming new partnerships between clinicians and service providers.

Please note:

- The new allied health service must be delivered for a minimum of 12 months following implementation of the grant funded activities.
- The grant recipient must contact RWAV at the earliest indication of the grant not progressing as per the agreed implementation and timeline.



APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications must be deemed 'complete' to be considered for program funding – including provision of all relevant supporting documents.

Applications must be submitted via the RWAV [website](#) online application portal.

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FUNDING AVAILABLE

This is a competitive grant round for private or independently registered clinics, organisations, clinicians and health services for up to \$10,000 inc. GST to establish new allied health services, or expand current service offerings, in MMM 3-6. The funding is available to be used by the successful applicant over six months.

The grant funding will be provided to the business owner or nominated representative for the health service.

Payments will be made upon provision of an invoice, please contact RWAV for further clarification if required.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be working in:

- Private practice or an independently registered and managed community health services;
- A rural or remote area of Victoria (MM3-6);
- Activities undertaken at Aboriginal Medical Services and Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations in MM1-7 locations are eligible;
- Services funded solely by the Victorian State Government are ineligible;

To be assessed, all application questions must be answered, all documentation provided, and a contact provided who can discuss the application further.

Grant funding cannot be used for the following activities:

- recruitment and relocation grants to health professionals to cover expenses that are covered by their employers;
- recruitment and relocation grants to cover expenses associated with international relocation, including visa costs and international flights, without prior written approval from the department;
- Television marketing;
- purchase of land;
- major capital expenditure;
- the covering of retrospective costs;
- costs incurred in the preparation of a grant application or related documentation;
- major construction/capital works;
- activities which support political campaigns
- grant recipient staff overseas travel; and
- activities for which Commonwealth, State, Territory or Local Government bodies have primary responsibility.

ELIGIBLE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS FOR THIS GRANT INCLUDE

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioner
- Aboriginal Health Worker
- Allied Health Assistant
- Audiologist
- Chinese Medicine Practitioner
- Chiropractor
- Dietitian
- Exercise Physiologist
- Medical Radiation Practitioner
- Mental Health Credentialed Workforce
- Nutritionist
- Occupational Therapist
- Optometrist
- Orthoptist
- Orthotics and Prosthetics
- Osteopath
- Pharmacist
- Physiotherapist
- Podiatrist
- Psychologist
- Social Worker
- Sonographer
- Speech Pathologist

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Approved applications

All applicants will receive an email confirming if your grant application was successful or not, within 2 weeks of the closing date. A case manager will be allocated to all successful applications to support the recipient in understanding all grant commitments and obligations.

Progress reporting and acquittal of funding (with copies of receipts) will be required on a 3 monthly basis. RWAV will supply the reporting and acquittal templates to all successful applicants. At the acceptance of the acquittal RWAV will reimburse costs against the agreed total funding amount.

Termination of grant agreements

RWAV may terminate a Grant Agreement if it reasonably believes the Grantee:

- Transferred to a different activity without consent from RWAV;
- Has breached the Grant Agreement;
- Provided false or misleading information in their application;
- Fails to complete the activity.

Debt recovery

Where a Grantee does not fulfil their Grant Agreement, RWAV will seek to recover the relevant monies. The debt recovery process will be as follows:

Each Grantee will be asked to sign a Grant Agreement, confirming that they have understood the terms and conditions of the agreement including the process for debt recovery should the grantee be unable to meet their obligations.

Each Grant Agreement will clearly state the grantee's requirements, including:

- The funded course/activity;
- The amount of funding available;
- The return of service obligation (if applicable); and
- The process for debt recovery if the above is not met.

The RWAV Case Manager will support the Grantee during the Grant Agreement period to address issues as/before they arise. This will minimise the need for debt recovery in most cases. Where this fails, and the Grantee is unable to meet their obligations, the Case Manager will contact the Grantee to inform them that the debt recovery process will begin.

Complaints and appeals

Unsuccessful applicants who wish to appeal the outcome of their application should initially discuss their situation with the Health Workforce Development Program Manager. Please email grants@rwav.com.au. If the matter is not resolved applicants can appeal to the RWAV Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to consider their case. The RWAV CEO is the final arbiter for any appeal on the Allied Health New Service Grant.

KEY DATES

- Applications open
Wednesday 1 February 2023
- Online information session
Wednesday 1 March 2023
- Applications close
Friday 31 March 2023
- Applicants informed of success
Friday 14 April 2023
- Deadline for signing contracts
Friday 28 April 2023

MORE INFORMATION

Any questions relating to the Allied Health New Service Grant should be directed to:

Gaby Gauthier

Allied Health Project Officer

T: (03) 9349 7881

Information including these guidelines and application form can be found on the RWAV website
www.rwav.com.au