Introduction to CHSALHN

The Country Health SA Local Health Network (CHSALHN) oversees the public hospitals and health services in the following regions across rural South Australia:

- Adelaide Hills.
- Barossa.
- Eyre Peninsula and Western South Australia.
- Far North.
- Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island.
- Limestone Coast.
- Murray Mallee.
- Yorke and Mid North.

Mount Gambier and Districts Health Service (MGDHS)

Limestone Coast residents have access to a wide range of health care services in a number of locations throughout the region.

Mount Gambier and Districts Health Service is part of the South East Health Services. We provide acute services ranging from in-hospital care by local General Practitioners to specialist surgical, obstetric, paediatric and anaesthetic services delivered by Medical Consultants. Services also include accident and emergency care, day and in-patient surgery, mental health services including an in-patient unit, aboriginal health and community health.

The Mount Gambier Hospital is the major regional health provider for the lower, mid and upper
South East Regions with other facilities located nearby in Bordertown, Keith, Kingston, Lucindale, Millicent, Naracoorte and Penola. The catchment area also extends across the border into western Victoria.

The Mount Gambier Hospital services and facilities include:

- Emergency Department including two resuscitation rooms, fast track treatment areas, multiple treatment bays, an infectious isolation room and a separate paediatric area.
- 37 bed Medical Unit, including rehabilitation beds.
- 27 bed Surgical Unit.
- 14 bed Level 4 Maternity Unit with 3 birthing suites.
- 2 cot Level 4 neonatal nursery.
- 6 bed Paediatric Unit.
- 6 bed High Dependency Unit.
- 6 bed Mental Health In-patient Unit.
- 11 Day Surgery Chairs.
- 4 Operating Theatres.
- 6 chair Chemotherapy Unit.
- 4 chair Renal Dialysis Unit.
- 12 room out-patient Consulting Suite.
- 2 out-patient procedure rooms.
- Pre–Admission Clinics.

Co–located at the Hospital site are the following services:

- Mount Gambier Private Hospital 17 bed facility.
- Benson Radiology.
- SA Pathology.
- SA Pharmacy.
- South East Regional Community Health Service (now Country Health Connect).
- South Australian Dental Services.
- South East Mental Health Services – inpatient, intermediate care and community based care.
- Drug and Alcohol Services.
- Rehabilitation Service.
- Renal Dialysis Service.
- Aboriginal Health Services – Pangula Mannamurna Aboriginal Corporation (not co-sited but located nearby).
- Allied Health Services.
Introduction to General Training/General Practice (GT/GP) for PGY2+

Country Health SA currently offers the only full year of General Training/General Practice Training in rural South Australia. The positions are targeted at Trainee Medical Officers (TMO) who have just completed an internship and are seeking a general hospital experience at the postgraduate Year 2 level (PGY2).

The work location will be at the Mount Gambier and Districts Health Service. Formal education opportunities will be provided both in the Hospital and at Flinders University Rural Health which is adjacent to the Hospital site.

CHSALHN and Flinders University have collaborated to provide rural Trainee Medical Officer (TMO) positions based for a full year at Mount Gambier Hospital. The Medical Education Unit (located at Flinders University Rural Health), provides the educational support for the training programs. PGY2 appointees undertake a full year of training.

Both the General (non-specialist) Training Program and General Practice Training Program will provide rotations in General Medicine, General Surgery and Emergency Medicine. Other terms that may be available include paediatric medicine, orthopaedic surgery and anesthetics. Applicants with an interest in general practice, or those accepted into general practice training, will be given preference for the paediatric rotation and rostered accordingly. The paediatric term offers a broad exposure to paediatrics, incorporating in-patients and out-patients and some opportunities for community paediatrics. No rotations have guaranteed availability.

The program provides an excellent grounding for general practice training as well as building experience for those seeking a general year.

Opportunities exist to remain in the region to complete a rural General Practice Training pathway.

In 2018, 4 positions are available.

Am I eligible to apply?

- Completed a medical degree.
- Successful completion of intern or intern equivalent program.
- Have general medical registration with The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).
- Be available for a 12 month full time contract commencing on the 5th February 2018 and concluding on 3rd February 2019.
- Have working rights in Australia.
Selection Process

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend an interview. Interviews can be conducted face to face, via teleconference or video conference. Subsequent to interviews your application will be scored/ranked and depending on your score, Country Health SA may match you to an available position. At a minimum the selection process will involve assessing the applicant's:

- Curriculum Vitae.
- Cover letter.
- Answers to short answer questions.
- Referee reports (three referee reports from last work place).
- Appropriate completion and submission of required documentation; and
- An interview.

You have been asked to answer the following questions:

1. In no more than 500 words, please provide a clinical example where you needed to use your problem solving and decision making skills. Outline the situation, what actions you took, your role, and what you learned from this.

2. In no more than 500 words, please provide an example where you have demonstrated your commitment to providing a quality service to patients and their families. Please outline the situation, what actions you took, your role, who else you involved and the outcomes.

3. What experience have you had of either living and/or working in a rural area?

4. Are there any healthcare needs which might be specific to a rural location?

5. What personal strengths do you have which will assist you to live and work within a rural community?

In your Curriculum Vitae you are required to carefully document any professional development you have undertaken, including academic and clinical achievements, quality improvements and research.

Make sure the three referee reports are completed by your nominated referees in the required timeframe.

You have been asked to provide a cover letter in your application. Your cover letter should address some or all of the following points:

- Previous experience that would benefit Mount Gambier and Districts Health Service.
- Your strengths and weaknesses.
Key Dates

> Monday, 22nd May – Applications open.
> Friday, 16th June – Applications close.
> 10th July – 18th August – Shortlisting and interviews commence.
> Thursday, 7th September - Round 1 results available to applicants.
> Thursday, 14th September - Round 2 results available to applicants.
> Thursday, 21st September - Round 3 results available to applicants.

Contact Persons

For General and Basic Specialist (RMO) Training position enquires

General Practice
Dr Debbie Hough
deborah.hough@flinders.edu.au

Workforce enquiries – Mount Gambier Hospital Medical Administration

Kristy Overmaat
Medical Liaison Officer
Mount Gambier and District Health Service
T: (08) 8721 1617 (9.00am – 3.00pm Mon – Fri)
E:kristy.overmaat@sa.gov.au

Tania Hill
Medical Liaison Support Officer
Mount Gambier and District Health Service
T: (08) 8721 1572 (7:30am – 4.00pm Mon – Thur)
E:tania.hill@sa.gov.au

Website: www.health.sa.gov.au

Education enquiries

Sarah Boyd
Medical Education Officer
Mount Gambier Junior Doctor Program
Flinders University Rural Clinical School
T: (08) 8726 3903 (Tues, Wed & Thur)
E:sarah.boyd@flinders.edu.au

Website: http://www.flinders.edu.au/people/sarah.boyd

Role Description

Please find attached the Role Description.
Further Information


> Follow this link to view Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) registration standards [https://www.ahpra.gov.au/](https://www.ahpra.gov.au/)

Frequently Asked Questions

I am unsure about moving to the country. Can I visit to look at the facilities prior to finalising my preferences?

We would encourage you to visit our beautiful city and enjoy the rural hospitality. Please let us know if you are planning a visit so that we can facilitate this, for example, with a tour of the hospital and Flinders University Rural Health, and point you in the direction of touring and entertainment.

Mount Gambier lays half way between Adelaide and Melbourne, but that’s not the only reason we’re perfectly centred. Mount Gambier strikes the ideal balance between the vibrant lifestyle of a big city and comforts of a small town, between cultural progress and tradition, and between modern conveniences and the preservation of natural beauty – be it our iconic blue lake, or our many caves, sinkholes and parks.

Will accommodation be provided?

You will need to arrange your own accommodation. Real estate agents can assist you with this. You will find rentals very affordable compared with the metropolitan area. The median price is $250 per week.

Will I be supported with relocation expenses?

We appreciate that moving house can put a strain on your finances, particularly prior to starting your new job. Please contact us to discuss what relocation support may be available and what documentation you will need to supply.

Will I need my own transport?

Mount Gambier is a rural city of over 25,000 people. Some sort of private transport is highly recommended as the city is spread over quite a large area. Most locations are only 3 to 8 minutes away by car and 10 to 15 minutes by bicycle. There is a limited public transport system (bus) which runs primarily between 9am and 5pm.

Do I need to arrange for a carpark?

The good news is that parking in all of Mount Gambier is currently free of charge. Some areas require permits and time limits, but generally it is easy to park in or around the Hospital and University precinct. There is a secure staff car park on the Hospital site.

Can I get decent coffee and food in Mount Gambier?

Yes and yes. There is a wide range of cuisines on offer and real baristas. Several farmers and
craft markets operate regularly throughout the South East. Nearby are premium wine growing regions. The problem will be what to choose! The hospital has a fantastic chef run café on site with its own good coffee and good food – the ideal place to catch up with some of the other 50+ doctors on site.

**Can I get my cultural fix of theatre, music and cinema?**

The benefits of being half way between Adelaide and Melbourne is that shows stop here to perform. Don’t expect Madonna, but entertainers such as our own Louise Adams and Kasey Chambers have all recently dropped in. Adelaide Fringe in Mount Gambier is a month long program of spectacular performances and visual arts events in Mount Gambier as part of the Adelaide Fringe and brings the streets to life throughout the last weekend in February through mid March. Mount Gambier is the home of the James Morison Jazz Academy and this Generations in Jazz is a spectacular gathering on the outskirts of the city and not only attracts the jazz legends of today, but the bright stars of tomorrow, bringing together up to 4400 of Australia’s most talented musicians, along with a growing list of global artists. Generations in Jazz represents a wonderful opportunity to listen, perform, respect, and develop a true appreciation for a truly wonderful sound, and be part of a commitment to furthering jazz in Australia and beyond. There is the 500 seat Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre that hosts a range of theatre, film, music and dance events and a cinema complex. The Riddoch Art Gallery is the largest SA Regional Gallery.

**I am the outdoors type. What can I do?**

Well you are in the right place for outdoor opportunities with plenty of land, sea and sky options such as caving, sinkhole diving, surfing, sailing, fishing, archery, shooting, horse riding, walking trails, to name a few. There are gyms and sporting clubs offering team and individual sports. Cycle or walk along the newly created Railway Lands that take you across town or enjoy the many events that take place in this area.

**What are my chances of getting into a different career pathway?**

If rural GP training isn’t your thing, you will find that your PGY2+ year will set you up admirably for admission to other training programs. This is because at Mount Gambier you get a lot more ‘hands on’ exposure to patients and one on one teaching with Consultants. You also have the time to pursue audits, research projects, mentoring and teaching of students, leading journal clubs, attending and presenting at conferences, all of which enhance your CV. Previous trainees have been accepted into Pathology, Physician, Surgical, Anaesthetics and Maxillofacial training.