



PGY2+ FUNLHN
Rural Generalist / General Training

Information Pack 2025 Clinical Year

as of April 2024



CONTENTS

About the Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network	3
Introduction	3
Key Dates	3
Number of positions in 2024 clinical year	4
Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network (FUNLHN).....	4
What can you expect from FUNLHN	4
Rotations at FUNLHN	5
Selection into FUNLHN Rural Generalist / General Training	6
About the selection panel	6
Eligibility	6
Skills and knowledge required for the role	6
Selection Process	7
Our approach to selection	7
Your Expression of Interest	7
Curriculum Vitae	7
Other Expression of Interest questions	7
Interview	7
Frequently Asked Questions.....	9
Contacts.....	11
Role Description	11
Any further questions?	11

About the Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network

Introduction

Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network oversees the public hospitals and health services in the following regions across rural South Australia:

- > Port Augusta Hospital
- > Whyalla Hospital and Health Service
- > Hawker Memorial Hospital
- > Quorn Health Service
- > Roxby Downs Health Service.

Key Dates

Expressions of Interest open:	Wednesday 12 June 2024 (09:00 am ACST)
Expressions of Interest close:	Wednesday 3 July 2024 (11:55 pm ACST)
Referee reports close:	Wednesday 10 July 2024
Shortlisting commences:	Wednesday 31 July 2024
Interviews:	To be advised
Round 1 results available to applicants:	Thursday 19 September 2024 (1 st preference matches only)
Round 2 results available to applicants (excluding general training):	Thursday 26 September 2024 (2 nd or higher preference matches)
Round 3 results available to applicants (excluding general training):	Thursday 3 October 2024 (3 rd or higher preference matches)
Round 4 onwards (including general training):	Thursday 10 October 2024 (4 th or higher preference matches)
Start date of Term 1 Clinical Year:	Monday 3 February 2025

Number of positions in 2024 clinical year



Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network (FUNLHN)

What can you expect from FUNLHN

Does this program meet RACGP and ACRRM Training Requirements?

Yes. RACGP Trainees will be able to spend at least 75% of their year in Hospital to meet the requirements of the College hospital year.

ACRRM Trainees are guaranteed to achieve two of the three core clinical experiences (Anaesthetics, Paediatrics and Obstetrics) as required by the Colleges during this year. No metropolitan program can guarantee this clinical experience for ACRRM trainees. The Paediatrics clinical experience is through management of paediatric patients in the Emergency Department and follows through if they require admissions.

Where will I be based? Will I be expected to travel to other country locations?

Trainees will spend at least 6 months in a primary location of either Port Augusta or Whyalla. Other rotations will include a combination of rotations in the two locations. During rotations away from the primary site, travel and accommodation costs are covered to ensure trainees are not financially disadvantaged.

What are the key outcomes of the program?

The program aims to provide TMOs with key experiences in the management of patients in the rural setting. In particular a comprehensive experience in rural general practice, providing both primary care and inpatient care to local communities.

The Core Clinical experiences are mapped to the requirements of RACGP and ACRRM.

TMOs will acquire a more 'hands-on' experience in all aspects of patient care including procedural skills and management of critical patients under close supervision and support of senior staff.

This will serve as an excellent pathway for in Rural Generalist Training or those intending to pursue general practice as well as other specialist training.

Advanced Skills Training program in obstetrics, anaesthetics, emergency medicine and mental health are available for PGY3+.

If I want to stay on for an extra year, do I have to apply again?

This program involves a 12-month commitment and Expressions of Interest to the program are required for the following year.

What education is provided?

There are a range of education sessions available, such as teaching ward rounds, grand rounds and journal club which all trainees can link into. A comprehensive Rural Emergency education program will be provided to trainees throughout their rotation in Whyalla and Port Augusta Emergency Department.

How will supervision be provided? Will this vary from rotation to rotation?

TMOs will work under close supervision and support of registrars and General Practitioners, consultants and term supervisors. Rural General Practitioners are particularly dedicated teachers and mentors; this ensures a highly consistent level of supervision between rotations.

What other support is provided?

The Executive Director of Medical Service, Director of Clinical training and Medical Education Officers are available for professional, administrative and welfare support. The Medical Education staff has an open-door policy where TMOs are encouraged to discuss any issues or concerns. With Medical Education Staff not being located close to the site of all rotations, video conferencing and routine visits will facilitate the support provided out of Whyalla Hospital.

Will the TMO supervise interns/others in their role?

TMOs may be required to assist in the learning experience of medical students from the University of Adelaide and interns which are on rotation from Port Augusta and Whyalla Hospitals.

Rotations at FUNLHN

The rotations of the Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network are designed to provide a range of clinical experiences that are high quality and truly representational of rural medicine.

Each trainee will rotate through a combination of the following rotations:

- > **Obstetrics** – Whyalla Hospital (Term Description [here](#))
- > **Adult Medicine / Emergency** – Whyalla Hospital (Term Description [here](#))
- > **Anaesthetics** – Port Augusta Hospital (Term Description [here](#))
- > **Mental Health Inpatient Unit** – Whyalla Hospital (Term Description [here](#))
- > **General Inpatients / Paediatrics** – Port Augusta (Term Description [here](#))
- > **Royal Flying Doctor Service / Inpatients** – Port Augusta (Term Description [here](#))

Each Trainee will complete at least one rotation in Anaesthetics, Obstetrics with some Paediatrics / General Inpatient / Emergency.

Accommodation and travel assistance are provided when completing a rotation away from your primary location.

Selection into FUNLHN Rural Generalist / General Training

About the selection panel

The selection panel for this program will include, but not limited to, a combination of the following:

- > Director of Clinical Training
- > Executive Director of Medical Services
- > Medical Education Officer
- > Trainee Medical Officer Unit Manager
- > Manager of Medical Workforce

Eligibility

Must have:

- > Completed medical degree.
- > Have general medical registration with the Medical Board of Australia.
- > Have completed internship year.
- > Be available for a 12-month full-time commitment commencing February 2025.
- > Must have Australian Working Rights.

Skills and knowledge required for the role

Educational/Vocational Qualifications

- > Medical Qualification registerable with the Medical Board of Australia.
- > Minimum of 1-year postgraduate training.

Personal Abilities/Aptitudes/Skills

- > Interest in experiencing rural learning environment.
- > Professional integrity.
- > Ability to work in a multidisciplinary team environment.
- > Commitment to quality improvement.
- > Ability to be adaptable to change.
- > Good Communication skills both verbally and in writing.
- > Proficient in using computers in various settings.
- > Commitment to teaching medical students.

Experience

- > Successful completion of intern or intern equivalent program.

- > Sound experience in procedural skills.
- > Sound examination and diagnostic skills in adult and paediatric medicine.
- > Good theoretical knowledge.
- > Knowledge and awareness of quality improvement activities and clinical risk reduction and patient safety techniques.

Selection Process

Our approach to selection

At a minimum the selection process will involve assessing your:

- > Curriculum Vitae.
- > Answers to Expression of Interest short answer questions.
- > Referee reports.
- > Appropriate completion and submission of required documentation
- > An interview.

All Expressions of Interest will be scored/ranked for shortlisting. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to a face to face or skype interview, and in some circumstances, this can be conducted via teleconference.

SA Health will match the highest ranked candidates to the available positions of this program.

Your Expression of Interest

Your Expression of Interest must include:

- > An Expression of Interest addressing the selection criteria (see below).
- > Current Curriculum Vitae.
- > Contact details for three referees in Australia who you have worked with in a clinical setting.

Curriculum Vitae

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.

The contact details for three referees should also be current and accurate.

Other Expression of Interest questions

- > *In no more than 300 words describe why rural general training interests you?*
- > *What experience have you had of either living and/or working in a rural area or what personal strengths do you have which will assist you to live and work within a rural community?*

Interview

Applicants who are shortlisted for an interview will be notified by mobile phone and/or email.

The intention of the interview is to ensure that they are the best fit for the role. Interview is likely to include invitation to describe previous experiences and some scenario-based question with the aim to evaluate candidates against selection criteria which include:

1. *Demonstrated ability to thrive in the rural context.*
2. *Highly effective communication and collaboration skills in the clinical setting*

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 cities 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 point you in the direction of touring and entertainment.

Port Augusta is located 310km north of Adelaide at the top of the Spencer Gulf, Port Augusta is a small city known as the crossroads because the Stuart Highway heads north to Alice Springs and Darwin and the Eyre Highways heads west to the Nullarbor and the Eyre Peninsula and the Princes Highway to the south leads to Adelaide. Port Augusta is also the gateway to the North and central Flinders Ranges. Port Augusta has a various number of attractions which are enjoyed by residents and visitors whether fishing, sailing, and hiking or the city art galleries. With vivid scenery, small city charm, distinctive mystic outback landscapes and year-round things to do.

Whyalla is located on the Eyre Peninsula's Spencer Gulf and is the largest city for retail shopping within the region. Whyalla boasts a warm climate, accessible ocean shores and saltwater fishing. Whyalla represents South Australia's foremost combination of industrial and nature-based experiences. With vivid scenery, small city charm, distinctive mystic outback landscapes and year-round things to do.

Will accommodation be provided?

Accommodation is provided to RMOs free of charge whilst on rotation between Port Augusta and Whyalla for the year or you can arrange your own accommodation.

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?

Some sort of private transport is required as the cities are spread over quite a large area.

Do I need to arrange for a carpark?

The good news is that parking in all the rural cities and towns are 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 precincts. There is a secure staff car park on the Hospital site.

Can I get decent coffee and food?

Yes and yes. Port Augusta offers a range of dining options featuring regional produce inspired by freshness and seasonality. Restaurants, Cafes' and hotels provide something for everyone. There is a wide range of cuisines on offer and real baristas.

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What is there to do in the areas?

Port Augusta

The benefits of being on the Spencer Gulf is discovering rich Indigenous heritage. Port Augusta is a small city with a diverse culture. Port Augusta has plenty of shopping opportunities, as well as sporting facilities such as the public swimming pool, golf course, bowling green and a state-of-the-art football oval. You can walk along sandy beaches or in leafy gardens, watch a movie, swim, shop or socialise in a café or bar. With an enviable lifestyle with natural wonders, spectacular vista and beaches, unique one of a kind experiences and great services.

With open spaces, wind and ocean make for many sports and activities. Unearth the Flinders Ranges, Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens, Pichi Richi Railway or walk along the Port Augusta's scenic coastline on the coastal path.

Whyalla

The benefits of being on the Eyre Peninsula discovering rich Indigenous heritage. Whyalla is a city with a diverse culture. Whyalla is recognised as a regional hub for creative expression with performances, shows, events and exhibitions showcase a vibrant city reflected in the arts.

You can walk along sandy beaches or in leafy gardens, watch a show or movie, relax in a spa or swim, shop or socialise in a café or bar. With over 300 days of sunshine a year gives local residents an enviable lifestyle with natural wonders, spectacular vista, and beaches, unique one of a kind experiences and great services. With open spaces, wind and ocean make for many sports and activities. Whyalla has over 100 sports codes from motor sports, golf to the traditional sports.

Unearth white sands, heritage listed pebble dunes and blue waters of every hue alongside coastal walks and tracks with stunning vistas across the Spencer Gulf.

Contacts

Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network

Director of Clinical Training (Medical education enquiries)	Name: Dr Nadeeshani Assiriyage Email: Nadeeshani.Assiriyage@sa.gov.au
Medical Education Officer (Medical education enquiries)	Name: Sam Seemanpillai Email: Sam.Seemanpillai@sa.gov.au
Manager of Medical Workforce (Medical Administration enquiries)	Name: Jenna Patterson Email: Jenna.Patterson@sa.gov.au
Manager – Trainee Medical Officer Unit Rural Support Service (Medical education and general enquiries)	Name: Kylee Nuss Email: Kylee.Nuss@sa.gov.au

Role Description

View Role Description [here](#)

Any further questions?

SA Health Salaried Medical Officers Enterprise Agreement 2022 [here](#)

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) registration standards [here](#)

For more information

www.sahealth.sa.gov.au

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www.ausgoal.gov.au/creative-commons