



**PGY3+ RMCLHN**  
**Rural Generalist Anaesthetics (RGA)**  
**Riverland Academy of Clinical Excellence**

**Information Pack 2025 Clinical Year**



as of April 2024

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## About Riverland General Hospital Rural Generalist Anaesthetics (ACRGA) Advanced Skills

### Introduction

We invite you to become part of a collegiate, committed, multidiscipline Anaesthetics team consisting of Specialist Anaesthetists and GP Anaesthetists and a number of junior doctors, and a wonderful group of experienced and qualified nurses.

This full year role provides you with the requisite exposure to rural anaesthetics cases to meet the requirement of the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine Advanced Specialist Training in Anaesthetics (ACRRM AST Anaesthetics) and FRACGP-RG ARST requirements in rural GP Anaesthetics via the Advanced Certificate of Rural Generalist Anaesthesia (ACRGA).

This position is available to Postgraduate Year 3 and above (PGY3+).

The program offers generous opportunities to learn a wide range of practical and skills in a rural setting.

We expect the successful candidate to enrol in and complete the ACRGA qualifications over the 12 months. This post is best undertaken as part of rural generalist training through either GP College, with a view to practicing as a GP Anaesthetist. Preference is given to applicants committed to a career in rural practice within South Australia.

### Key Dates

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

## Number of positions in 2025 clinical year



## Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network (RMCLHN)

### About RMCLHN

The Riverland Academy of Clinical Excellence (RACE) articulates the ambition of the Riverland Mallee Coorong LHN to be a centre of excellence in rural health – teaching, research, and innovative clinical care. It is the next exciting step in a long-term commitment to medical education in our region.

Based on a holistic understanding of health and integrating hospital and general practice training at all levels with a broad range of contemporary training in advanced skills, RACE is a one-stop-shop for career advancement in general practice and rural generalism. This Rural Generalist Anaesthetics position is also excellent preparation for specialty training in Anaesthetics and includes opportunities to advance your career through becoming part of local and international research and education networks.

We have listened to trainee doctors around the country who want a secure single-employer contract for the duration of their training, who want to be able to choose to live in one place if they wish, and who want flexibility for part-time employment. All of this in supportive communities where you have meaningful work while you learn.

Our Academy Pathway is based in the small towns that have been the home of the Parallel Rural Community Curriculum for 25 years. New GPs and other specialists have brought an exciting culture of 'can do together' to the region.

You will have opportunities to work with experienced healthcare teams, under personalised supervision of experienced rural clinicians, challenge yourself and gain valuable experience with hands-on procedural skills. You will work in a network of hospitals, general practices, aboriginal health services, community, mental health, and aged care services in our region that provide high quality care close to home for our 70,000 residents over an area of 983,776 sq km.

Being a member of a smaller cohort of trainees, you will have access to significant individual support from the RACE Medical Education Unit and you will also develop close working relationships with your junior and senior medical colleagues. The working culture at our hospitals and general practices embraces teamwork and recognises that all team members, including you, are highly valued for the skills and knowledge they are able to contribute to patient care.

### Riverland General Hospital

The Riverland General Hospital includes a modern 38 bed complex complete with a busy emergency department, renal dialysis, and operating facilities. It provides 24 hours a day, seven days a week (24/7) accident and emergency services, acute inpatient care, maternal and neonatal services, elective surgery, renal dialysis, acute stroke, palliative, and rehabilitation. There is a Regional Cancer Centre providing chemotherapy and an Integrated Mental Health Inpatient Unit on site with specialist oncologist and resident

psychiatrist. Additional services located onsite are radiology (including MRI), SA Pathology, clinical pharmacy, and Allied Health Services. Hospital services are co-located with community health services.

There are two theatre suites and one day case theatre with approximately 2500 anaesthetics delivered per year by a combination of specialist and GP anaesthetists. Resident and visiting surgeons provide general surgical, ophthalmology, ENT, obstetrics and gynaecology, orthopaedics, urology, and dental services to the community.

## What can you expect from RMCLHN

### What should employees expect from the role?

In the Riverland General Hospital Anaesthetic Department, you will work with supervising Anaesthetists, and Junior Medical Officers in providing peri-operative anaesthetic care of surgical and obstetric patients. You will also have experience in providing a pain service to hospital inpatients as well as work with more senior members of the team managing patients in the Emergency Department providing sedation and airway, plus CVS support, as well as other all hospital areas. You will participate in pre-anaesthetics checks within the outpatients Department. In addition, there is also a theatre at Loxton, Waikerie, and Renmark where you will be expected to work to increase case mix.

### Will I be based at Berri all year? Will I be expected to travel to other country locations?

The (PGY3+) TMO is primarily based in the Riverland General Hospital in Berri.

You may occasionally be required to attend other health units within the region to provide service. You will additionally be seconded to a tertiary hospital to further extend and enhance your skills in for example, paediatrics and invasive procedures.

### What are the key outcomes of the program?

The aim of this program is to provide trainees with sufficient clinical experience and supervision support to meet the logbook and work-based assessments of the AST/ARST in GP Anaesthetics. Candidates will also be supported to meet the external course requirements and assessments to achieve their AST/ARST and set them up to be confident working at the level of a rural GP Anaesthetist.

### 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. The successful incumbent is required to be enrolled in the RACGP or ACRRM training programs.

We encourage trainees to join a GP anaesthetics roster in rural South Australia on completion of the year. We encourage a transition process where early career GP anaesthetists can receive backup from an experienced GP anaesthetist in the year after completion of this post until they are confident to take on a fully independent role, we recommend a period of consolidation of skills that may be part of further GP training.

**What are the hours of work and overtime?**

This post requires a commitment of 76 hours per fortnight. Participation in the out of hours general anaesthesia on-call rostering is required. Some out-of- hours work is required within the roster in order to provide continuity of care and meet logbook requirements.

**What education is provided?**

The unit is based on the curriculum of the ACRGA but has a strong learning focus including.

- > Advanced life support training.
- > Grand Rounds.
- > Regular logbook and learning needs review.

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

Each day the trainee will work with a named supervisor in theatre who will provide direct clinical supervision. Overall term supervision is provided by the Director of the Department. What other support is provided? The Medical Education Unit has an open-door policy where trainees are welcomed to discuss any issues or concerns. The DCT, EDMS and MEO also arrange confidential beginning and end of year appraisals as a formal time for trainees to ask for advice/support, highlight any concerns, discuss career pathways, and provide feedback about the training program.

**Will the TMO supervise interns/others in their role?**

Supervision is not a requirement of this position. It is an expectation that there will be tutorials and other educational activities at departmental meetings.

This position works directly with the Anaesthetist and Nursing staff.

**What pathways are there after the year is completed?**

Trainees are encouraged to see this post as a step in their pathway to providing rural GP anaesthetic services to a community in rural South Australia.

This position will articulate with:

- > ACRRM and RACGP General Practice training.
- > Other local training positions including AST/ARST in Emergency Medicine and Obstetrics.

**Rotations at RMCLHN**

The post is based at the Riverland General Hospital for the full calendar year. It is not expected that other rotations will be allocated during this period.

## Selection into RMCLHN Rural Generalist Anaesthetics (ACRGA) Advanced Skills

### About the selection panel

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

- > Executive Director of Medical Services.
- > Director of Clinical Training.
- > Director of the Anaesthetics Department.
- > Rural Generalist Anaesthetic Consultant.
- > Medical Education Officer.

### Eligibility

Must have:

- > Licenses, Medicare Provider and Prescriber numbers, registrations and practising certificates that are required for you to work legally in this role must be valid and remain current.
- > Be available for a 12-month full-time commitment commencing February 2025.
- > Must have Australian Working Rights.
- > Be free of any chemical dependence.
- > Enrolment in either the RACGP-RG or ACRRM Training Programs.

### Skills and knowledge required for the role

#### Educational / Vocational Qualifications

- > Appropriate basic medical degree and medical qualifications recognized in Australia.
- > Have general medical registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra).

#### RMCLHN Values

- > Respectful
- > Motivated
- > Compassionate
- > Consumer Focused
- > Accountable
- > Resourceful
- > Excellence
- > Service

#### Personal Abilities / Aptitudes / Skills

- > Interest in experiencing rural learning environment

- > Demonstrated high level of skill in negotiation and communication
- > Proven skill in problem solving and decision making at both the clinical and the individual level
- > Demonstrated commitment to quality management philosophy and devolved responsibility
- > Demonstrated commitment to patient and relative participation in patient care
- > Proven ability to react positively to change
- > Professional integrity
- > Ability to work in a multi-disciplinary team environment
- > Ability to be adaptable to change
- > Good communication skills, both verbally and in writing
- > Have a commitment to rural/remote medical practice, including experience of at least one term in rural general practice

### Experience

- > Trainees must have completed an accredited ALS2 course within 52 calendar weeks prior to commencing RGA training and have completed at least one year of the primary fellowship training
- > Demonstrate relevant knowledge skills and experience including or similar to, experience as an RMO in a term of anaesthesia
- > Successfully completed at least one of EMST/ATLS, Emergency Management of Anaesthetic Crises (EMAC), Emergency Life Support (ELS), or have a secure position on an upcoming course for any of the above
- > At least two years of postgraduate clinical practice.

### Knowledge

- > Demonstrated understanding of cultural safety and the rights and responsibilities of patients and their families
- > Knowledge and awareness of quality improvement activities and clinical risk reduction and patient safety techniques
- > Good theoretical knowledge of medicine as it relates to women's health
- > An understanding of the spirit of the principles of the Premier's Safety Commitment and the legislative requirements of AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 Risk Management standard, Equal Employment Opportunity and Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare legislation
- > Knowledge and understanding of relevant legislation, industrial agreements, standards, codes, ethics, and competency standards.

## Selection Process

### Our approach to selection

At a minimum the selection process will involve assessing your:

- > Curriculum Vitae.
- > 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 video conference interview, and in some circumstances, this can be conducted via teleconference.

SA Health will match the highest ranked candidates to these positions.

## 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 two referees in Australia who you have worked with in a clinical setting.

## Curriculum Vitae

Your Curriculum Vitae must include:

- > Contact details including email and mobile phone number.
- > Qualifications and academic achievements.
- > Clinical achievements
  - o All jobs / clinical placements since completing medical school
  - o Any rural clinical experiences since commencing medical school.
- > Personal Development
- > Successfully completed at least one of EMST/ATLS, Emergency Management of Anaesthetic Crises (EMAC), Emergency Life Support (ELS), or have a secure position on an upcoming course for any of the above.
- > Activities which demonstrate your interest in and commitment to rural GP Anaesthetic practice.

## Cover letter

Not required.

## Other Expression of Interest questions

You will be required to answer the following question in the Expression of Interest form:

- In no more than 300 words describe why training in rural general anaesthetics 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?*
- In no more than 250 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.*

## Interview

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

Interviews will be face to face or via video conference (where possible), and in some circumstances via teleconference (phone). Further details will be provided to shortlisted candidates.

The intention of the interview is to ensure the applicant selected is the best fit for the role, including their ability to succeed in attaining a rural generalist AST certification in Internal Medicine while in this post. The interview is likely to include invitation to describe previous experiences and some scenario-based questions with the aim to evaluate candidates against the skills and knowledge required for the role.

## Frequently Asked Questions

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

Yes, we welcome you to come and meet us and see the region for yourself.

### **Will accommodation be provided?**

Accommodation support is available through the RMCLHN

### **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?**

Berri is a rural town with the population of approximately 5,000 people. Some sort of private transport is required as the Riverland region is spread over quite a large area. Most locations are only 10-15 minutes away by car, 20-25 minutes by bicycle. There is a limited public transport system (bus) which runs primarily between 9am and 5pm to major towns.

### **Do I need to arrange for a carpark?**

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

### **Can I get decent coffee and food in Berri?**

Yes, and yes. Berri 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.

### **What is there to do in Berri?**

The benefits of living on the Murray River is it will provide you with the ultimate rural Australian experience, with meandering networks of waterways, endless horizons of orange earth and national parks makes it the ideal place to hire a kayak.

Berri is not only a riverside town, but it is surrounded by 3000 hectares of vineyards and it is only natural that Berri has a lot of wine to offer. Visit several the small boutique wineries around the region to have a taste of the local crisp whites and Moorish reds or dine at one of the cosy local pubs, perhaps one of the hearty restaurants or relax and enjoy the perfect cappuccino at a little riverbank cafe.

You will fall in love with Berri and surrounding communities.

## Contacts

### Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network:

### Riverland Academy of Clinical Excellence

Executive Director Medical Services	Name: Dr Caroline Phegan Email: <a href="mailto:Caroline.Phegan@sa.gov.au">Caroline.Phegan@sa.gov.au</a>
Executive Director Clinical Innovation	Name: Professor Paul Worley Email: <a href="mailto:Paul.Worley@sa.gov.au">Paul.Worley@sa.gov.au</a>
Director Clinical Training	Name: Dr Hamish Eske Email: <a href="mailto:Hamish.Eske@sa.gov.au">Hamish.Eske@sa.gov.au</a>
Medical Education Officer	Name: Megan Walker Email: <a href="mailto:Megan.Walker@sa.gov.au">Megan.Walker@sa.gov.au</a> Name: Sandra Crockett Email: <a href="mailto:Sandra.Crockett@sa.gov.au">Sandra.Crockett@sa.gov.au</a>

### 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](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au)

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