

CONFRONTING THE RURAL HEALTH CHALLENGE

ASGC-RA 3 (Outer Regional)

Overseas Trained Doctors

- The ten year restrictions will be seven years in ASGC-RA 3 localities.

HECS Reimbursement Scheme

- Under the HECS Reimbursement Scheme, the HECS debts will be repaid over four years in ASGC-RA 3 localities.

General Practice Rural Incentives Program

- The new General Practice Rural Incentives Program will provide the following incentives in ASGC-RA 3 localities:
 - Relocation grants: Doctors that relocate from the city to ASGC-RA 3 localities may be eligible for a relocation grant of \$30,000.
 - Retention grants: Doctors that practice in ASGC-RA 3 localities may be eligible for retention grants as indicated in the table below:

	Period of time in location (years)				
	0.5	1	2	3-4	5+
Grant amount	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$13,000	\$18,000

Locums

- Non-financial support: Doctors in ASGC-RA 3 localities will be eligible to seek locum support from the new National Rural Locum Program, where assistance will be provided to match locums with doctors who need time off to rest or undertake professional development.

Bonded Medical Places (BMP) Scheme and Medical Rural Bonded Scholarships (MRBS)

- Scaling increments for return of service obligations under BMP and MRBS will resemble those that will be applied to Overseas Trained Doctors. This will be ratified following further consultation with internal and external stakeholders.