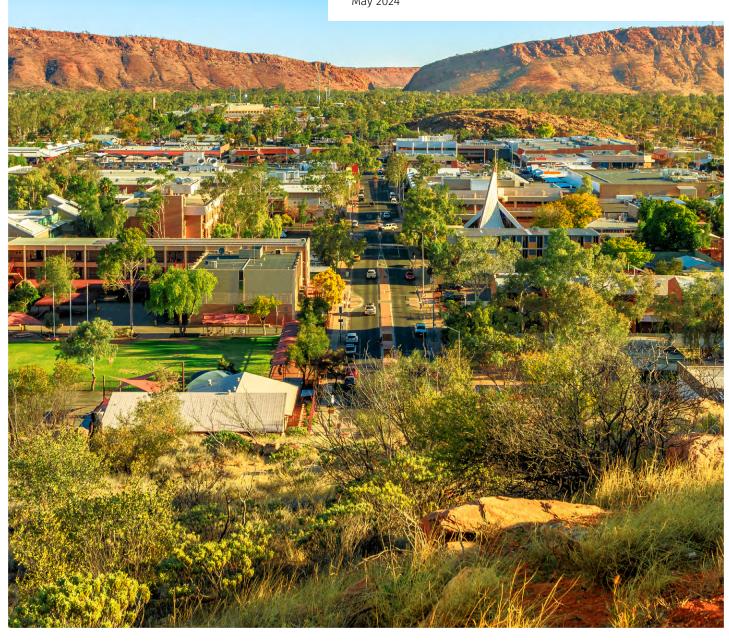
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ACEM Regional, Rural and Remote Placement Information Guide

Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand

May 2024





The Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM) is the not-for-profit organisation responsible for training emergency physicians and advancement of professional standards in emergency medicine in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

Our vision is to be the trusted authority for ensuring clinical, professional and training standards in the provision of quality, evidence-based, patient-centred emergency care.

Our mission is to promote excellence in the delivery of quality emergency care to all of our communities through our committed and expert members.

Acknowledgement

The Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM) acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the lands upon which our office is located. We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past, present and future, for they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia.

In recognition that we are a bi-national College, ACEM acknowledges Māori as tangata whenua and Treaty of Waitangi partners in Aotearoa New Zealand.

College contacts

For FACEM Training Program enquiries, contact the Training Team: training@acem.org.au

For site accreditation enquiries, contact the Accreditation Team: accreditation@acem.org.au

For enquiries regarding STP, contact the STP Team:

STP@acem.org.au

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Introduction

The ACEM Regional, Rural and Remote (RRR)
Placement Information Guide provides information
about how trainees can maximise their FACEM
Training Program time in RRR locations.

Access to emergency care is an essential service for every community in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand, especially those in regional, rural and remote locations. When training at a RRR site, trainees have the opportunity to work and learn in a variety of locations and broaden their experience by working with diverse communities.

Many advantages of training and working in RRR locations exist, including:

- + Unique medical experiences with a diverse patient population, including greater exposure to Indigenous Health
- + Enhanced learning through complex cases and increased autonomy that helps develop leadership skills
- + Development of a comprehensive skillset in procedures and patient care, particularly in resource-limited environments
- + Cross-specialty learning and application of emergency medical expertise
- + Camaraderie and community-centered medicine
- + Individual recognition and appreciation
- + Active lifestyle with shorter commutes and proximity to nature

This information guide aims to:

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- + Increase the number of trainees undertaking RRR training
- + Provide rural and regional pathways by increasing awareness of the options available
- + Increase the visibility of regional, rural, and remote emergency care for members and trainees

The Regional, Rural and Remote Placement
Information Guide will be updated annually with the
latest information on training site locations.

RRR classification

Sites listed in this guide meet the criteria of being MM 2 or greater according to the Modified Monash Model (MMM) 2019. The MMM is used to determine eligibility for a range of health workforce programs, such as rural bulk billing incentives, the Workforce Incentive Program and the Bonded Medical Program.

Descriptions of each category relevant to this guide are as follows:

Modified Monash Category (MMM 2019)	Description
MM 1	Metropolitan
MM 2	Regional centres
MM 3	Large rural towns
MM 4	Medium rural towns
MM 5	Small rural towns
MM 6	Remote communities
MM 7	Very remote communities

Sites located in Aotearoa New Zealand are classified as regional, rural or remote according to the Stats NZ Tatauranga Aotearoa's Functional Urban Area classification. The classification has identified EDs in Auckland, Christchurch, Wellington, Dunedin, Hamilton or Tauranga as 'metropolitan' with all others located outside of these cities as 'regional'.

Accreditation of training sites

This guide offers information on accredited training sites that are classified as RRR as described above. Please note that this guide may not include all accredited EDs in Australia located in regional, rural, and remote (RRR) areas. While current at the time of publishing, accreditation status may change, and new sites may become accredited. Sites are reinspected every five years. For an up-to-date list of accredited training sites, please click here.

I was fortunate to begin my ACEM I was fortunate to begin my Activity training in a regional area in Albany, Western Australia. The regional setting allowed my introduction to registrar training to be a pleasant experience with senior colleagues investing time and effort into my progress with an old-school-apprenticeshiplike mentality.

Being in a smaller, mixed ED setting, I had a taste of everything emergency medicine can offer – enabling the development of a solid foundation of experience to build from.

When you are often the only registrar on the floor; procedure opportunities and resuscitation team participation was always on the cards when the sick patients were in the department. Being one of the few trainees during these formative years, I was able to build close relationships with my seniors and had constant access to mentorship which I have used for my later years.

Working and training in the rural setting you will always feel valued and appreciated, which tends to make training a more rewarding experience.

Every year there are more opportunities for trainees in regional areas with excellent financial incentives, development opportunities and patient mix exposure opportunities.

I highly recommend the experience.

- FACEM trainee, Dr James Dent (2023)

For non-ED placements, ACEM recognises training in non-ED specialties if the training post is approved for the Fellowship program of the relevant specialist medical college. Click <u>here</u> to check if a site is accredited by a specialist medical college and cross-check it using the <u>Health Workforce Locator</u> to see if it meets MM 2+ criteria. ACEM also accredits placements as Special Skills Placements (SSPs).

ACEM's National Program in Australia

Through ACEM's National Program, many sites in Australia offer additional support and funding to assist trainees in their training journeys at RRR locations. The National Program aims to address some of the big challenges facing emergency medical care across Australia, including improving the quality and distribution of the future emergency care workforce. Two such opportunities include the Integrated Rural Training Pipeline (IRTP) and those considered as Specialist Training Placements and Support (STPS).

The IRTP initiative aims to deliver a sustainable. Australian-trained future medical workforce for regional, rural, and remote communities. An IRTP post enables a specialist trainee to complete at least two thirds of their speciality training within a rural region (defined as MMM 2-7 locations), with only limited metropolitan rotations where necessary to meet speciality training program requirements. Under IRTP, specialist trainees:

- + must show a commitment to working in a rural
- + must complete at least two thirds of their specialty training within a rural region (defined as MMM 2-7 locations); and,
- + may complete limited metropolitan rotations where necessary to meet College education and accreditation standards.

The Specialist Training Program (STP) seeks to extend vocational training for specialist registrars (trainees) into settings outside traditional metropolitan teaching hospitals, including regional, rural, and remote and private facilitates. It aims to improve the quality of the future specialist workforce by providing non-GP speciality trainees with exposure to a broader range of healthcare settings. STP aims to have a positive influence on future medical workforce distribution. Funding for STP posts is provided by the Commonwealth Department of Health's Specialist Training Program. The funding contributes to salary support for trainees.

There may also be additional funding available to supplement the additional costs that trainees may incur when working in rural areas through Rural Loading Support (Rural Loading) or for supervision costs in private hospitals (Private Infrastructure and Clinical Supervision).

For any enquiries regarding Rural Loading funding or any additional funding support, trainees are recommended to contact ACEM at STP@acem.org.au before selecting sites to conduct training.

Additional funding is available for trainees in Tasmania, known as the Tasmania Project or 'Training More Specialist Doctors in Tasmania measure'. The Tasmania Project aims to support approved speciality training to be undertaken and completed in Tasmania and support the training and retention of specialist doctors in the Tasmanian health system. ACEM currently facilitates six trainee posts, along with complementary supervisory positions in Tasmanian EDs. Click here for more information.

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Further details

Emergency department training

Trainees are required to complete a minimum of 12 FTE months in an ACEM accredited non-major referral ED during their training. ED rotations listed in this guide are accredited at the time of publishing. It is the responsibility of all trainees to ensure that their placement is accredited before signing a contract to undertake training to ensure the training time will be certified towards meeting training requirements. This guide will be updated annually to reflect changes to accreditation.

You can see whether a site is accredited by ACEM on the 'Where can I do my training?' page on the ACEM website and you can check your training requirements on your MyACEM training portal or with the ACEM Training Team at training@acem.org.au.

Non-ED training – Special Skills Placement

Non-ED training can be undertaken in another speciality or in a discipline that is accredited by ACEM as a Special Skills Placement. View a list of these placements <u>here</u>.

If trainees wish to train at a site that is not accredited as an existing SSP, an application for a one-off certified training placement in Australia or Aotearoa New Zealand can be submitted. A 'Category T' application form must be completed and the placement approved prior to the placement starting to ensure training time will accrue to training requirements.

Find out more, including specific details for accredited special skills terms on the <u>Training Site Accreditation</u> page.

Non-ED training - Other specialties

Non-ED training can also be completed in a specialty that is recognised by the Australian Medical Council or Medical Council of New Zealand such as Psychiatry or General Medicine.

Non-ED specialty rotations listed in this guide are accredited by the relevant specialist medical colleges at the time of publishing. Accreditation should be verified with the relevant specialist college before undertaking a training placement.

Note: Placements undertaken in a unit(s) approved by the College of Intensive Care Medicine (CICM) solely for foundation training in intensive care medicine will not be credited towards the Critical Care training requirement. Sites accredited at this level by CICM will only be certified for non-ED training requirements.

Placements completed in Paediatric ICU or Paediatric Anaesthetics will also not be credited towards the Critical Care training requirement. Sites accredited at this level by CICM or Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) will only be certified for non-ED training requirements.

Health networks

Sites may be part of a health network, which are managed by the relevant parties at a site level.

ACEM is not involved in the decisions made by health networks or other medical specialist colleges.

All training placements recorded in the MyACEM portal must reflect the true full-time equivalent of training undertaken at a single site. Trainees are not permitted to complete a single training placement across multiple training sites, regardless of whether these are part of a health network.

Regional, rural and remote emergency medicine e-Learning modules

Available on the ACEM e-Learning pages, these mini digital learning resources are designed to support the development of knowledge and skills of trainees, ACEM members and other health professionals in regional, rural and remote emergency care in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

Click <u>here</u> to access the module on 'Getting the most out of a rural placement'.

College contacts

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FACEM training placements in RRR locations

The following pages provide information on RRR sites in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand, categorised by region. Details included:

- + Site name
- + RRR classification
- + Accredited specialties available
- + Paediatric Emergency Requirement status
- + Accredited site limit in ED training
- + Training Stage 4 (TS4) accreditation status
- + Available funding and type (IRTP / STPS)

Region	Total sites with MM 2 or higher
Australian Capital Territory	0^
New South Wales	12
Northern Territory	5
Queensland	10
South Australia	2
Tasmania	3
Victoria	7
Western Australia	3
Aotearoa New Zealand	10

Note at the time of publishing, there are no sites in the ACT that have MM 2+ classification.

^For trainees in the ACT, there are existing relationships between sites in the ACT and NSW who provide opportunities for trainees to complete their placements in RRR locations. For more details, please speak to your DEMT or contact the ACEM Training Team.

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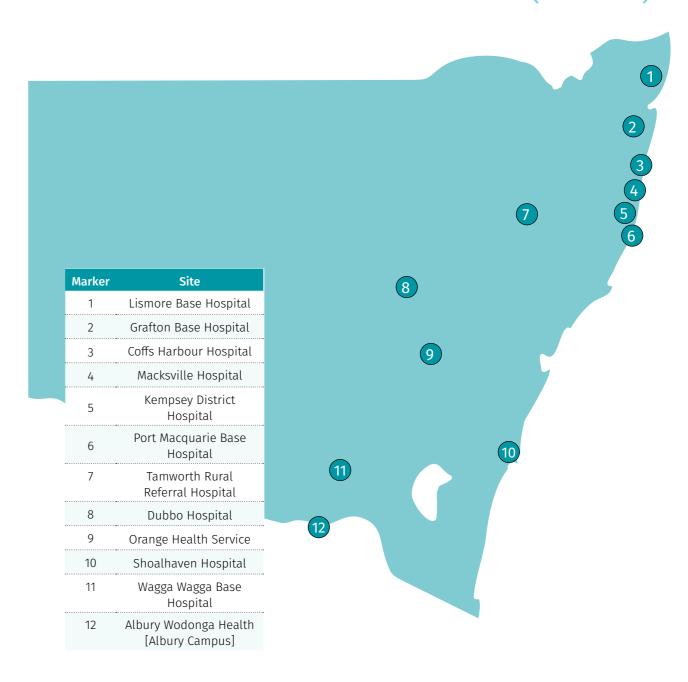


Site Name	ммм	Accreditation Post*	Paediatric Emergency Requirement	Site Limit for ED Training (months)	Accredited For TS4*	Type of Funding (IRTP / STPS)
Albury Wodonga	odonga ealth [Albury MM 2	ED General	Yes	24	Yes	STPS (ED)
Health [Albury Campus]		Ultrasound	-	3	No	_
Coffs Harbour Hospital	MM 3	ED General	Yes	36	Yes	-
Dubbo Hospital	MM 3	ED General	Yes	24	No	STPS (ICU* and Anaesthetics*)
Grafton Base Hospital	MM 3	ED General	Yes	24	Yes	-
Kempsey		ED General	No	12	Yes	_
District Hospital	MM 4	Ultrasound	-	3	Yes	STPS (Ultrasound)
		ED General	Yes	24	Yes	STPS (ED, ICU* and Anaesthetics*)
Lismore Base	MM 3	Pre-Hospital and Retrieval	-	6	No	STPS (Pre-Hospital and Retrieval)
Hospital		Ultrasound	-	6	No	-
		Medical Education	-	3	No	-
Macksville Hospital	MM 4	Rural/Remote Health	-	6	No	-
Orange Health Service	MM 3	ED General	Yes	24	Yes	IRTP
Port Macquarie Base Hospital	MM 3	ED General	Yes	36	Yes	IRTP and STPS (Anaesthetics*)
Shoalhaven Hospital	MM 3	ED General	Yes	12	Yes	-
Tamworth		ED General	Yes	36	Yes	_
Rural Referral Hospital	MM 3	Pre-Hospital and Retrieval	-	6	Yes	-
Wagga Wagga		ED General	Yes	36	Yes	IRTP
Base Hospital	MM 3	Ultrasound	-	3	No	STPS (Anaesthetics*)

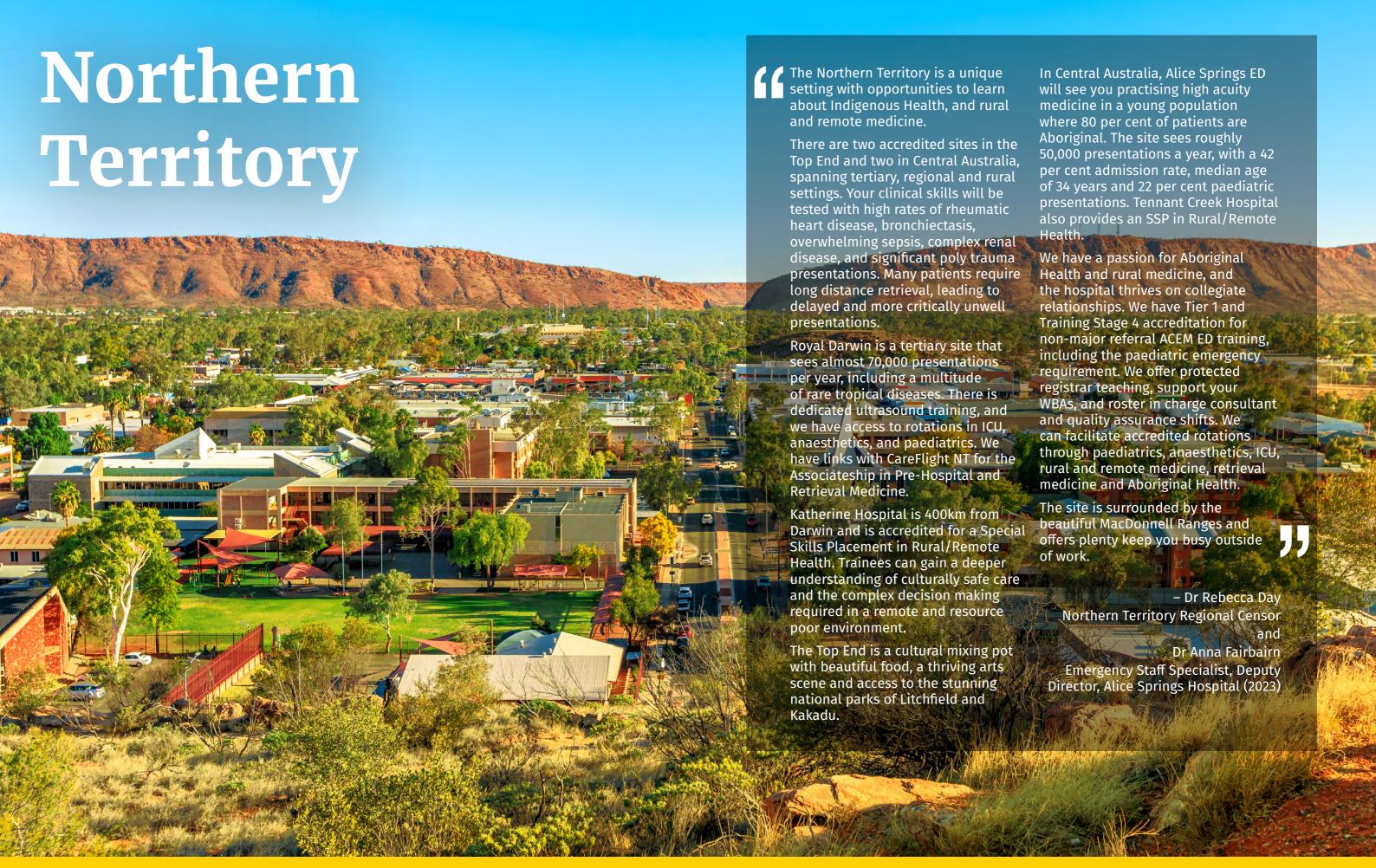
*Accredited through ANZCA (Anaesthetics) or CICM (ICU) Click here for up-to-date accreditation status.

Australasian College for Emergency Medicine May 2024

Locations for FACEM training in regional, rural and remote New South Wales (MM 2+)



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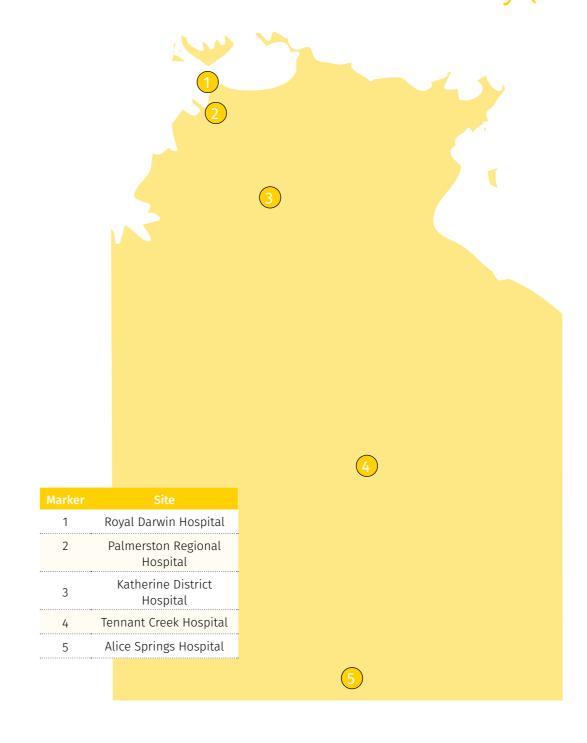


Site Name	ммм	Accreditation Post*	Paediatric Emergency Requirement	Site Limit for ED Training (months)	Accredited For TS4*	Type of Funding (IRTP / STPS)
Alice Springs		ED General	Yes	36	Yes	
Hospital		DipPHRM	_	6	No	IRTP and STPS (ED, and Pre-Hospital
	MM 6	Pre-Hospital and Retrieval	-	6	Yes	and Retrieval)
		Indigenous Health	-	6	Yes	-
Katherine Hospital	MM 6	Rural/Remote Health	-	6	No	-
Palmerston Regional Hospital	MM2	ED General	Yes	12	Yes	-
Royal Darwin Hospital	MM 2	ED General	Yes	36	Yes	IRTP
Tennant Creek Hospital	MM 7	Rural/Remote Health	-	6	No	-

Click here for up-to-date accreditation status.

Australasian College for Emergency Medicine May 2024

Locations for FACEM training in regional, rural and remote Northern Territory (MM 2+)



Queensland

Doing emergency medicine training in regional, rural and remote Queensland offers a plethora of benefits for trainees looking to gain practical experience, knowledge and have a fulfilling training experience.

Firstly, the regional areas offer unique opportunities for medical procedures that may not be available in urban settings.

There are less trainees to compete with for the most advanced procedures in emergency medicine. These procedures may include handling trauma cases, critical care, snake bites and other toxicology cases, paediatrics, and much more.

There is also the opportunity to work alongside our indigenous populations and understand their unique culture, and opportunities and challenges from a health point of view.

Another key benefit of emergency medicine training in regional, rural, and remote Queensland is the close working relationships that are formed with FACEMs.

Due to the smaller size of hospitals, ACEM trainees often have more opportunities to interact with their ED consultants and receive one-on-one

guidance and support. This allows for a more personalised training experience, where trainees can ask questions and receive feedback in real-time, leading to a more rewarding and effective learning experience.

There are more likely to be consultant jobs at the end of training in the regions too.

Lastly, the weather in Queensland is warm and sunny all year round, providing a pleasant working environment that enhances the overall experience of living regionally Queensland has a plethora of options for training, from larger coastal cities to mid-size towns, to outback and working towns, all with places of incredible natural beauty easily accessible.

Overall, emergency medicine training in regional, rural, and remote Queensland offers a unique, enjoyable, and valuable experience that provides trainees with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed into the future.

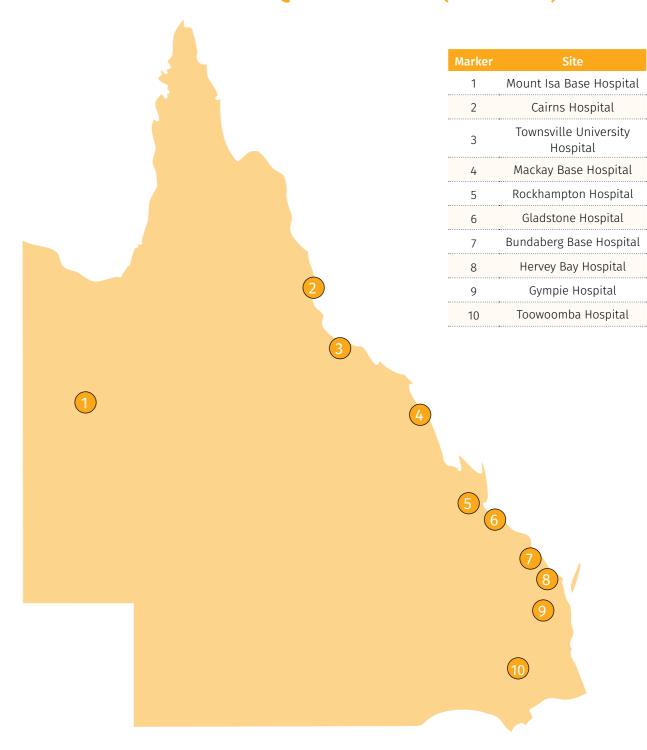
– Dr Kim Hansen, QLD Faculty Chair (2023)



Site Name	ммм	Accreditation Post*	Paediatric Emergency Requirement	Site Limit for ED Training (months)	Accredited For TS4*	Type of Funding (IRTP / STPS)
Bundaberg Base Hospital	MM 2	ED General	Yes	24	Yes	IRTP and STPS (Anaesthetics*)
		ED General	Yes	36	Yes	
Cairns Hospital	MM 2	Medical Education/ Simulation	_	6	Yes	STPS (ED and Medical Education)
		ED General	Yes	24	Yes	STPS (ED)
Gladstone Hospital	MM 3	ACEM Anaesthetics Critical Care	-	6	No	-
Gympie Hospital	MM 3	ED General	Yes	12	Yes	-
Hervey Bay Hospital	MM 2	ED General	Yes	24	Yes	-
Mackay Base Hospital	MM 2	ED General	Yes	24	No	IRTP and STPS (ED)
Mount Isa Base Hospital	MM 6	ED General	Yes	24	Yes	STPS (ED)
Rockhampton		ED General	Yes	24	No	_
Hospital	MM 2	Ultrasound	-	3	No	STPS (Ultrasound)
T		ED General	Yes	36	Yes	IRTP and STPS (ED and Anaesthetics*)
Toowoomba Hospital	MM 2	Medical Education/ Simulation	-	6	Yes	-
Townsville		ED General	Yes	36	Yes	IRTP and STPS
University	MM 2	Hyperbaric	-	6	No	(Ultrasound and
Hospital		Ultrasound	-	3	No	Anaesthetics*)

^{*}Accredited through ANZCA (Anaesthetics) or CICM (ICU) Click here for up-to-date accreditation status.

Locations for FACEM training in regional, rural and remote Queensland (MM 2+)





Site Name	ммм	Accreditation Post*	Paediatric Emergency Requirement	Site Limit for ED Training (months)	Accredited For TS4*	Type of Funding (IRTP / STPS)
Mount Barker District Soldiers' Memorial Hospital	MM 3	ED General	Yes	12	Yes	-
Mount Gambier and Districts Health Service	MM 3	ED General	Yes	12	No	-

Click <u>here</u> for up-to-date accreditation status.

Locations for FACEM training in regional, rural and remote South Australia (MM2+)



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Site Name	ммм	Accreditation Post*	Paediatric Emergency Requirement	Site Limit for ED Training (months)	Accredited For TS4*	Type of Funding (IRTP / STPS)
Launceston General		ED General	Yes	24	Yes	IDTO
Hospital	MM 2	Ultrasound	-	3	No	IRTP
North West Regional Hospital	MM 3	ED General	Yes	24	Yes	STPS (ED)
		ED General	Yes	36	Yes	
		Hyperbaric	-	6	No	
Royal Hobart Hospital		Medical Education/ Simulation	-	3	Yes	
	MM 2	Trauma	_	6	Yes	_
		Hospital in the Home	-	6	No	
		Research	_	3	No	
		Geriatric EM	-	6	Yes	

Tasmania Project funding available for all sites. Click here for up-to-date accreditation status.

Locations for FACEM training in regional, rural and remote Tasmania (MM 2+)



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Victoria

Victorian rural and regional training offers a broad range of experiences to the time they really cement their build a very well-rounded emergency physician.

There are many benefits of training outside a metropolitan context trainees have the opportunity to work in departments which see all clinical presentations due to a lack of available specialist hospitals and sub-specialist registrars. This also assists trainees in rapidly upskilling in patient care across all ages, rather than requiring dedicated paediatric rotations to meet training requirements.

Trainees are well supported in rural placements across the state. Working in smaller centres provides opportunities to build professional relationships with senior colleagues and mentors which can last the duration of training and beyond.

Rural and regional trainees are often given the opportunity to develop leadership skills and 'grow their wings' earlier than colleagues in quaternary centres with experiences such as 'in charge' night shifts no longer reserved for final year trainees.

Many trainees report that this is professional growth and clinical reasoning skills without a FACEM standing beside them, but support is only a phone call away.

Rural clinicians have the benefit of embedding themselves in their local communities, which provides opportunities to build relationships across the health service inpatient colleagues become surfing buddies, hiking friends and may be seen at catchups at the local sporting games. This makes for friendlier referrals and support from the hospital when needed.

Finally, there are so many beautiful places to live and work across rural and regional Victoria.

Housing, transport and education are often much more reasonable than inner metropolitan areas, and so many wonderful outdoor activities to create a distraction from busy clinical shifts for the adventurous and not so adventurous!

> – Dr Belinda Hibble VIC Faculty Chair (2023)



Site Name	ммм	Accreditation Post*	Paediatric Emergency Requirement	Site Limit for ED Training (months)	Accredited For TS4*	Type of Funding (IRTP / STPS)
Bass Coast Health	MM 4	Rural/Remote Health	-	3	No	STPS (ED)
Bendigo Hospital	MM 2	ED General	Yes	36	Yes	STPS (ED and Anaesthetics*)
Colac Area Health	MM 4	Rural/Remote Health	-	6	No	STPS (Rural and Remote)
Echuca Regional Health	MM 3	ED General	No	12	Yes	-
Grampians Health – Ballarat	MM 2	ED General	Yes	24	Yes	STPS (ED and Anaesthetics*)
		ED General	Yes	24	No	STPS (ED)
Mildura Base Public Hospital	MM 3	ACEM Anaesthetics Special Skills	-	6	No	-
South West Healthcare [Warrnambool]	MM 3	ED General	Yes	12	Yes	IRTP and STPS (ED)

^{*}Accredited through ANZCA (Anaesthetics) or CICM (ICU)

Click <u>here</u> for up-to-date accreditation status.

Locations for FACEM training in regional, rural and remote Victoria (MM2+)

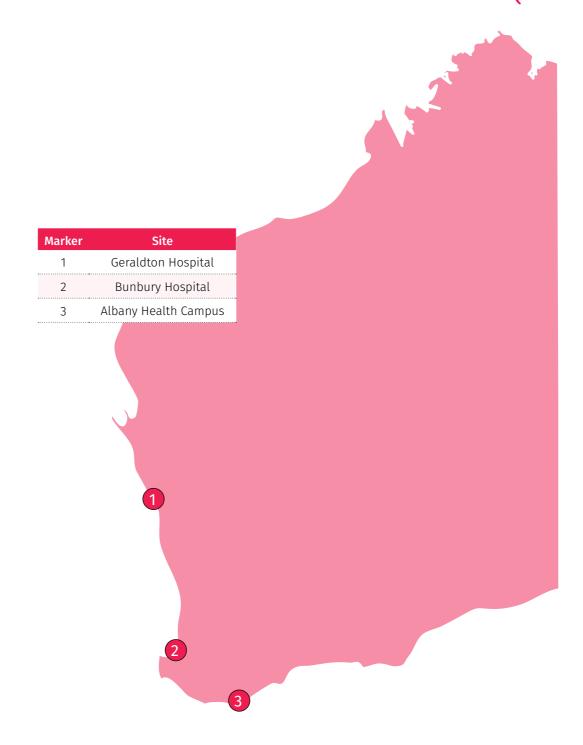




Site Name	ммм	Accreditation Post*	Paediatric Emergency Requirement	Site Limit for ED Training (months)	Accredited For TS4*	Type of Funding (IRTP / STPS)
Albany Health		ED General	Yes	24	Yes	IRTP and STPS (ED)
Campus	MM 3	Medical Education/ Simulation	-	6	No	-
Bunbury		ED General	Yes	24	Yes	
Hospital at South West Health Campus	MM 2 us	Medical Education/ Simulation	-	6	No	STPS (ED, Medical Education/ Simulation)
Geraldton Hospital	MM 3	Rural/Remote Health	-	6	No	-

Click here for up-to-date accreditation status.

Locations for FACEM training in regional, rural and remote Western Australia (MM 2+)



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ACEM Regional, Rural and Remote

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Aotearoa New Zealand

Aotearoa New Zealand offers an amazing variety of places that fulfil the rural emergency care training time. The ten sites accredited for rural training represent all the great aspects of living in Aotearoa.

Taranaki offers access to world class surfing, Hawkes Bay to wonderful food and great vineyards, and Southland to the incredible landscapes of the Catlins and Central Otago – complete with winter skiing, and summer hiking and mountain biking.

Nelson is an incredibly cool city with both stunning beaches and serious mountain biking nearby. However, all the sites offer access to unique, wonderful areas that are worth exploring, even if for only six months.

Many FACEMs have chosen these places to live and work due to the quality of life they offer.

The payoff of this is that the training in these areas is of a very high standard, with all offering access to consistently excellent teaching and on the floor supervision.

FACEM trainees who go to these sites consistently report better access to procedures and critical care interventions, things that they often struggle to get in larger sites.

An additional draw is that several sites can offer access to anaesthetics time after periods spent training there, including Rotorua and Southland.

Our rural training centres offer excellent opportunities to hone your skills as an emergency physician.

Aotearoa New Zealand is both small enough and big enough that our rural sites exist in places where there is lots to do and have vibrant communities that people get very settled in but are also situated within driving distance of major cities.

Overall, the sites in Aotearoa New Zealand offering rural training are well established with a strong FACEM core and are highly regarded by trainees who spend time there.

– Dr Donagh MacMahon New Zealand Faculty Trainee Representative (2023)



Site Name	MMM	Accreditation Post*	Paediatric Emergency Requirement	Site Limit for ED Training (months)	Accredited For TS4*	Type of Funding
Hawkes Bay Regional Hospital	_	ED General	Yes	24	Yes	-
Hutt Hospital	_	ED General	Yes	24	Yes	_
Lakes District Hospital	_	Rural / Remote Health	_	6	Yes	-
Nelson Hospital	-	ED General	Yes	12	Yes	-
Palmerston North Hospital	_	ED General	Yes	24	Yes	-
Rotorua Hospital	_	ED General	Yes	24	Yes	-
Southland Hospital	_	ED General	Yes	12	Yes	_
Taranaki Base Hospital	_	ED General	Yes	24	Yes	_
Whakatāne Hospital	_	ED General	Yes	12	No	_
Whangārei Hospital	_	ED General	Yes	24	Yes	-

Please note, at the time of publishing there were no sites with 'Regional' classification that were also accredited as 'Major Referral' in ED General. Click here for up-to-date accreditation status.

Locations for FACEM training in regional Aotearoa New Zealand





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