Emergency Medicine Education and Training (EMET) Program Framework
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### Abbreviations and acronyms

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<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>ACEM</td>
<td>Australasian College for Emergency Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASGC-RA</td>
<td>Australian Statistical Geography Standard Remoteness Areas</td>
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<td>CPD</td>
<td>Continuing Professional Development</td>
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<td>EBA</td>
<td>Enterprise Bargaining Agreement</td>
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<td>ED</td>
<td>Emergency Department</td>
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<td>EM</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine</td>
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<td>EMC</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine Certificate</td>
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<td>EMCD</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine Certificate and Diploma</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMD</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine Diploma</td>
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<td>EMET</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine Education and Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>FACEM</td>
<td>Fellow of the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>FTE</td>
<td>Full Time Equivalent</td>
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<tr>
<td>GP</td>
<td>General Practitioner</td>
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<tr>
<td>MO</td>
<td>Medical Officer</td>
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<td>NPSC</td>
<td>National Program Steering Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSO</td>
<td>Program Support Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>The College</td>
<td>Australasian College for Emergency Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Department</td>
<td>Commonwealth Department of Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Program</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine Education and Training</td>
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The Emergency Medicine Education and Training (EMET) Program
The Emergency Medicine Education and Training (EMET) Program was established to improve care for patients requiring urgent and emergency care in Australia. The Commonwealth Department of Health has funded ACEM to administer the EMET Program since 2011, as a component of the Emergency Medicine Program (EMP).

Fellow of ACEM (FACEM)
A physician who has completed the Emergency Medicine Specialist Training Program through ACEM.

Program Support Officer (PSO)
A PSO is responsible for coordinating and supporting the FACEM delivering Emergency Medicine Education and Training (EMET), including supporting trainees enrolled in the Emergency Medicine Certificate and Diploma (EMCD).

Hub
ACEM contracts with a hub (a hospital) to deliver EMET activities within their own hospital and/or peripheral hospitals in their region or network (training sites). The hubs are primarily funded for clinically protected teaching and supervision time to enable FACEMs to deliver:

- supervision and training of EMCD trainees,
- emergency medicine (EM) training sessions, and
- on-the-floor teaching and supervision to build capacity in smaller emergency departments (EDs).¹

Training site
A hospital or outpost managing emergency presentations whose staff are receiving EMET training coordinated by a hub.

Rural Australia/Rural hospital/Rural location
Specifically refers to hospitals or health services located in Remoteness Areas (RA) 2–5 (regional, rural and remote) according to the Australian Statistical Geography Standard Remoteness Areas (ASGS-RA). The Department of Health may change this classification system in the future.

Emergency Medicine (EM) Training session
A training session led by a FACEM/s from the hub and delivered to staff at a training site or hub. EM training sessions must be medically focused.

On-the-floor teaching and supervision
This funding is for a hub (with low FACEM full-time equivalent (FTE)) to ‘buy-in’ FACEM staff to both work and teach at their hospital, or a training site (with low FACEM FTE) to have FACEM staff from their hub to both work and teach at their hospital.

Target audience
Doctors not specifically trained in emergency medical care, e.g. general practitioners (GPs) or medical officers (MOs) working in an emergency care facility with a low FACEM workforce and/or in a regional, rural or remote location. The multidisciplinary teams involved in emergency medicine care, including nurses and paramedics, may also benefit from attending training sessions.

Non-specialist doctors
For the purposes of the EMET Program, non-specialist doctors refers to those not specifically trained in emergency medical care, e.g. general practitioners (GPs) or medical officers (MOs). This does not include those currently on the pathway towards Fellowship of ACEM.

EMCD trainee
A doctor, usually a GP or MO, enrolled in the Emergency Medicine Certificate (EMC) or Emergency Medicine Diploma (EMD). The EMC and EMD aim to provide medical practitioners working in EDs with adequate knowledge and sufficient clinical experience to be safe, efficient practitioners.

¹ Where FACEM staffing is less than one FTE FACEM per 10,000 presentations
1. Introduction

The Emergency Medicine Education and Training (EMET) Program was established to improve care for patients requiring urgent and emergency care in Australia. The Commonwealth Department of Health has funded ACEM to administer the EMET program since 2011, as a component of the Emergency Medicine Program (EMP).

Of the over 600 hospitals with Emergency Departments (ED) or urgent care services in Australia, only 25 percent are staffed by Fellows of the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (FACEMs). The 75 percent of hospitals without FACEMs are typically located in rural locations with clinical staffing models that include general practitioners (GPs), medical officers (MO), nurses, paramedics and/or allied health workers. The EMET Program enables FACEMs, typically from larger regional or metropolitan hospitals, to deliver education, training and supervision in emergency medicine primarily to the doctors in these settings.

Keys to EMET’s success are:

• The ability of the FACEMs to deliver training and supervision customised to the local hospital, doctor and patient needs as well as the increased capacity building and networking that occurs between the larger hub hospitals and smaller training site hospitals.

• Enhancing the sustainability of the emergency medical workforce, across the broad range of emergency department and urgent care settings, through the promotion and supervision of doctors, including GPs and MOs, to undertake ACEM’s Emergency Medicine Certificate (EMC) and Diploma (EMD) Programs.

1.1 Purpose and structure of the Framework

This document is designed to:

• provide a comprehensive description of the EMET Program;

• strengthen internal administration and management of the EMET Program; and

• clearly delineate the roles and responsibilities of the ACEM staff and the National Program Steering Committee.

The proceeding contents of the Framework is structured as follows:

Chapter 2: The EMET Program
Chapter 3: Application process
Chapter 4: Reporting requirements
Chapter 5: Conclusion
Chapter 6: Acknowledgements
Chapter 7: Suggested citation
Chapter 8: Contact for further information

2. The EMET Program

2.1 Program aim

Boost the quality of and access to emergency care in areas of need, particularly in rural Australia, through the increased provision of emergency medicine education, training and supervision delivered by Fellows of the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (FACEMs) for non-specialist doctors.

2.2 Target audience

Doctors not specifically trained in emergency medical care, e.g. general practitioners (GPs) or medical officers (MOs), working in an emergency care facility with a low FACEM workforce and/or in a rural location.

Whilst EMET is primarily targeted at doctors, there is a substantial benefit to the GPs and other medical practitioners attending training sessions with the non-medical staff they work alongside in the provision of emergency care, as this enhances the fidelity of the education and training provided.

The multidisciplinary teams involved in emergency medicine care, including nurses and paramedics, may also benefit from attending training sessions.

2 Where FACEM staffing is less than one FTE FACEM per 10,000 presentations.
2.3 Program delivery

ACEM contracts with a hub hospital to deliver EMET activities within their own hospital and/or peripheral hospitals in their region or network (training sites). Funding enables FACEMs to deliver:

- supervision and training of Emergency Medicine Certificate and Diploma (EMCD) trainees;
- emergency medicine (EM) training sessions; and/or
- on-the-floor teaching and supervision to build capacity in smaller Emergency Departments (EDs).

EMET funding cannot be used as a contribution towards FACEM time relating solely to clinical service delivery (and associated activities) or for the supervision and teaching of ACEM fellowship trainees, medical students or interns.

Hubs and training sites

To be eligible to be a hub, a hospital must be:

- a rural hospital, typically the region’s referral hospital; or
- a metropolitan hospital or retrieval service delivering outreach only.

An eligible training site is an emergency care facility with a low FACEM workforce and/or in a rural location. A training site is typically within the same health jurisdiction as the hub.

Delivery models

The three delivery models are as follow:

- in-house and outreach (hub delivering EMET activities for hub and training site staff);
- outreach only (hub delivering EMET activities for training site staff); or
- in-house only (hub delivering EMET activities for hub staff).

Hubs delivering EMET in-house only is limited to those hospitals who are geographically isolated from their regional referral hospital and who cannot receive EMET through the typical Hub and Training Site model. Regional hospitals without specialist emergency physicians on staff can ‘buy in’ FACEM supervision and training to deliver EMET activities.

Program Support Officers (PSOs)

Hubs may receive funding to employ a Program Support Officer (PSO). A PSO is responsible for coordinating and supporting the FACEM delivering Emergency Medicine Education and Training (EMET), including supporting trainees enrolled in the Emergency Medicine Certificate and Diploma (EMCD).

2.4 Governance

The National Program Steering Committee (NPSC) oversees the development of the National Program, a joint initiative between ACEM and the Department. The EMET Program is one of a range of projects under the National Program. The role of the National Program Steering Committee in the delivery of the EMET Program includes:

- approving all major decisions associated with the Program;
- applying the Program Guidelines;
- assessing applications for funding;
- ensuring the Program aims are met;
- undertaking reviews of under performing hubs; and
- initiating and overseeing whole-of-Program reviews and evaluation activities.

ACEM staff support the NPSC to administer the EMET Program. The role of ACEM staff includes:

- the day-to-day administration of the Program;
- providing support to the hospitals funded to employ PSOs (e.g. providing a position description, training);
- liaising and reporting to the Department;
- ensuring hubs meet reporting requirements;
- managing Program data;
- undertaking a preliminary assessment of new funding applications and reviewing funded sites;
- alerting the National Program Steering Committee when a hub requires a review; and
- undertaking evaluation activities.

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3 Where FACEM staffing is less than one FTE FACEM per 10,000 presentations.
3. Application process

This chapter of the Framework aims to provide information on the roles and responsibilities of both ACEM staff and the National Program Steering Committee in the application process hospitals undertake to gain EMET funding.

3.1 Requesting applications
ACEM staff and the National Program Steering Committee will jointly determine the preferred approach to requesting applications from potential hubs, which may entail an open request for applications, issued to all hospital emergency departments or targeted requests to emergency departments in locations where the EMET Program is not active.

A copy of the EMET Program Guidelines will be provided with the Request for Applications to ensure that the applications received contain all necessary information.

3.2 Assessing applications
Assessment process
ACEM staff are responsible for making recommendations to the National Program Steering Committee to assist with decision-making process on which applications should be funded. A decision tree will categorise each application, according to the EMET Program aims, as either:

- **high priority**—the application fits within the Program aims and there are no issues with the proposed delivery model
- **moderate priority**—the application fits within the Program aims but changes to the proposed delivery model may be required
- **low priority**—the application largely fits within the Program aims but changes to the proposed delivery model are required

Applications can be considered outside of the decision tree where additional priority areas have been agreed upon by the National Program Steering Committee, in consultation with the Department of Health.

*Figure 3.1 The decision tree that will prioritise applications to ensure alignment with Program aims and objectives*

1. Will the majority of EMET activities in this application be delivered to staff from regional and remote locations?
2. Will the majority of EMET activities in this application be delivered to staff from sites with less than one FACEM per 10,000 presentations?
   - Yes to either Questions 1 or 2
   - No to both Questions 1 or 2
     - Ineligible Application*

3. Does the hub have EMCD trainee enrolled at the hub and/or training sites, or can demonstrate a commitment to having trainees in the future?
4. Does the hub have support from the health network/training sites to offer outreach?
   - Yes to both Questions 3 & 4
   - Yes to one of Questions 3 & 4
   - No to both Questions 3 & 4

*In cases where an application does not meet the eligibility criteria, applicants may request to submit a business case for assessment under special circumstances, which the National Program Steering Committee will review.*
Assessment Criteria
Along with the decision tree on the previous page, assessment of applications will also take into consideration equity amongst jurisdictions, including consideration of any overlap, to ensure a broad reach of the EMET Program.

ACEM staff will also consider whether the proposed amount of training delivered to hub staff compared with training site staff is reasonable and that the application demonstrates value for money.

The National Program Steering Committee reserve the right to exercise a degree of flexibility in determining the priority areas to best meet the Program aims and objectives.

3.3 Scope negotiations
ACEM may request that a hospital make changes to their submitted proposal. Examples of reasons for this might include:

- excluding or decreasing training activities at the hub and/or training sites where there is high FTE to ED presentations;
- increasing or decreasing the focus on certain activities, e.g. increasing the amount of training and supervision to EMCD trainees; and
- recalculating the overall budget and scope of the Program.

In these circumstances, hospitals will need to resubmit a revised version of their application.

3.4 National Program Steering Committee’s role in finalising applications
The National Program Steering Committee makes the final decision on which applications will be approved for funding and what quantum of funding is to be allocated for each successful application. The outcomes of the National Program Steering Committee decision-making on all applications will be clearly documented and communicated to the ACEM Board for information and to ACEM staff for implementation.

4. Hub reporting requirements
Hubs approved for EMET funding must complete:

- six-monthly progress reports;
- annual financial reports; and
- a mid-funding report, on performance against targets.

ACEM staff will ensure that all funded hubs comply with reporting requirements, as specified in The EMET Program Guidelines. ACEM staff roles include:

- administration of:
  - progress reports at the end of each reporting period,
  - financial reports at the end of each financial year,
  - mid-funding target reports after 18 months of operation;
- ensuring the targets set by hubs are appropriate;
- ensuring all reports are received in a timely manner; and
- following up with sites where reporting is incomplete.

ACEM staff are responsible for extracting data from progress reports to assist in reporting and evaluation requirements with the Department. These requirements include preparing six-monthly submissions to the Department on the overall progress of the EMET Program.

5. Conclusion
The EMET Program Framework and Guidelines assist ACEM in delivering a high quality and accountable EMET Program.

The EMET Program, supported by the application of the EMET Framework and Guidelines, will increase capacity of non-specialist medical staff to deliver quality emergency medicine, particularly to rurally based Australians.
6. Acknowledgements

The Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM) would like to thank the following committees and working groups for their expert input:

National Program Steering Committee
EMET Framework and Guidelines Reference Group

7. Suggested citation

Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (2017), EMET Program Framework, Melbourne

8. Contact for further information

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>34 Jeffcott Street, West Melbourne</td>
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<td></td>
<td>VIC 3003 Australia</td>
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