

MEDI7315 - Rural and Remote Medicine (RRM)

Guidelines for RRM Special Consideration

Students have an opportunity to submit an application for RRM Special Consideration prior to preferencing placement sites. You will be required to provide a detailed explanation of why and what is required in regard to RRM Special Consideration. Compelling reasons ONLY will be considered as justification for students to be afforded RRM Special Consideration. Students are required to provide documentary evidence to substantiate their claim for RRM Special Consideration. RRM Special Consideration process can be used for domestic students who find themselves in circumstances that they feel prevents them from undertaking a rural placement (see EXEMPTION from Rural Placement) OR students with a rural background or connection (i.e. completed TREES Observership) and may wish to complete a rural placement at a specific site (see PRIORITY PLACEMENT), OR students seeking credit for the John Flynn Placement Program (see JFPP).

Application Process

Students must complete the attached form and submit with supporting documents via email to med.rrmstudents@uq.edu.au

Application Closing Dates

| RRM Special Consideration Closes | CCP Semester 1, 2022 | CCP Semester 2, 2022 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Midday, Monday 27 Sept 2021 | Midday, Monday 7 March 2022 |

Please note, students who apply must still submit their preferences in [Placements](#).

Eligibility

Students are eligible to apply for a RRM Special Consideration based on compassionate grounds (medical, Elite Athlete, carer responsibilities, Research Higher Degree commitments); connection with a rural or remote community i.e. completed Yr 1 TREES Observership, family connection and support, rural background).

Support Documents

All applications for RRM Special Consideration must be supported by documentary evidence (eg a Statutory Declaration, Medical Certificate), will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, and will be made at the sole discretion of the Head of Discipline.

PRIORITY PLACEMENT

Students have the opportunity to nominate their preference (rank order) for allocation to a rural and remote site through *Placements* in order to best meet their needs. In certain circumstances, students may seek to be assigned to a specific rural or remote placement from the available options in *Placements*. It is recognised that for some students, exceptional compassionate grounds may limit their ability to undertake a placement at some of the rural and remote sites. Conversely, the Discipline encourages students who have a strong connection with a rural or remote community to apply for a Priority Placement. While the Discipline will make every attempt to cater to a priority placement request, approval cannot be guaranteed. Students must still submit their RRM preferences in *Placements*.

EXEMPTION from Rural Placement

By default, domestic students will undertake the Rural and Remote Medicine MEDI7315 (RRM) course. It is recognised that some domestic students may find themselves in circumstances that prevent them from undertaking a rural placement. In this instance, students will need to apply for an exemption from RRM with compelling reasons and supporting documentation and, if approved, undertake a Medicine in Society MEDI7321 (MIS) placement in the Brisbane region instead. Approval cannot be guaranteed and students will receive an email to indicate the outcome. If approved for RRM, students must submit their preferences in *Placements for MIS*.

The following will not be considered grounds for Exemption from RRM: Private accommodation and/or transportation arrangements; Financial considerations (including employment and/or business arrangements); Location of partner or family (except where special consideration has been approved due to carer responsibilities); Family celebrations and/or social events (for example, weddings, holidays and birthdays); Religious grounds.

John Flynn Placement Program (JFPP)

Please note: the 2021 application round scheduled for 17 May 2021 - 26 May 2021 did not proceed. Final JFPP placements will occur in 2021, with JFPP activity extended for an additional 2 months and the end date changing from 31 December 2021 to 28 February 2022. Please contact the JFPP program for information on JFPP Scholars at different stages on their [JFPP journey](#).

The Discipline Rural and Remote Medicine and Health Workforce Queensland (HWQ) are supportive of students undertaking a combined placement in relation to JFPP and the UQ rural medicine placement. However, HWQ advises that a combined placement will only be approved on a case by case basis and will generally not be approved for 1st or 2nd placements. Please note that students are only entitled to claim a maximum of two weeks towards a combined placement with the JFPP.

JFPP Guidelines – see note above

Option 1 - Undertake Year 3 Rural Placement at your designated JFPP location

JFPP students seeking approval to undertake a combined JFPP and a Year 3 rural placement, and wanting to be placed at your designated JFPP location will need to:

1. **Meet the Faculty of Medicine Placement guidelines if intending to undertake a clinical placement in interstate or international locations as detailed.**
 - a. Students must hold a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 4.5 or greater at the time of making any application referred to within these rules
 - b. Students must not have received a penalty (including a warning) for any level of general or academic misconduct to be eligible
2. **Submit an application to the Discipline of Rural & Remote Medicine by email to med.rmmstudents@uq.edu.au prior to closing date.**

Additionally, you will need to provide the following with your JFPP combined placement application:

- a. Name and contact details of the JFPP Mentor
- b. Written statement from the JFPP Mentor confirming their status as a Rural and Remote Medical Practitioner and their willingness to supervise and support you during the placement, including the conduct of requisite assessment tasks
- c. Brief profile for the healthcare facility(ies) where training will be undertaken

- d. Brief description of the community in which the placement will be undertaken
 - e. A one off placement agreement that complies with the University of Queensland Standard Terms and Conditions for Placements (Clinical) (if required)
- 3. If your RRM Special Consideration application is approved by the Head of Discipline Rural & Remote Medicine, you will be responsible for:**
- a. Liaising and organising with your JFPP Mentor to supervise you for the six week rural placement component of the RRM placement
 - b. Arranging and funding all your own accommodation, travel and other support for the six week rural clinical placement
 - c. All costs associated with your six week rural clinical placement

Option 2 - Apply to use your allocated rural placement in combination with JFPP for 2 weeks credit

To apply to use your allocated RRM placement in combination with your JFPP you will need to submit an application for RRM Special Consideration by the closing date.

1. Once your placement has been confirmed by the University you will be provided with written confirmation of your placement
2. You will be required to submit your University placement confirmation letter to the JFPP administration for approval

Please note that students are only entitled to claim a maximum of two weeks towards a combined placement with the JFPP.

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Student Application for RRM Special Consideration

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| Application Type | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIORITY PLACEMENT | | | <input type="checkbox"/> JFPP Option 1 Approval to undertake RRM Placement with your JFPP mentor | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> EXEMPTION from RRM (to complete MIS instead) | | | <input type="checkbox"/> JFPP Option 2 Request for letter to JFPP to apply for 2 weeks credit | | |
| Student Name | | | Student Number | | | |
| Contact Number | | | UQ Email Address | | | |
| Clinical Unit | | | Application Date | | | |
| Placement 1, 2 or 3 in Sem1 4, 5 or 6 in Sem2 | | | Preferred placement sites <i>if applicable</i> | | | |
| Reasons for Application <i>refer to the Guidelines on Page 1</i> | | | | | | |
| Documentation attached to support application <i>please list</i> | | | | | | |

SUBMIT your completed application and supporting documents to med.rrmstudents@uq.edu.au