



Going Rural and the MD Project: Factsheet



Types of Rural Projects

- A rural-based project is one in which the supervisor is located or affiliated with one of the rural clinical schools (RCSs). Projects may be based in other rural locations.
- Not all rural-based projects are listed in the “rural health” stream. There are listings in other streams (e.g. Indigenous health, medical education).
- Rural-based projects are often community health or clinical projects with an emphasis on the impact of rurality.
- There are opportunities to get involved in the rural project during the summer scholarship programmes offered annually.

Choosing a Rural-Based Project

- Rural-based projects are available to students with an interest in rural research, who are on a Commonwealth supported program. At this stage, rural-based projects are currently not available to international students.
- You do not necessarily need to be heading to a RCS placement in year 4/5 to choose a rural project.

Year 3 of the MD with a Rural-Based Project

- If you choose a rural-based project, you will usually be required to travel to your rural site to complete your project work for at least 4 weeks out of your 5-week year three MD project rotation time.

Rural-based MD Projects and the Year 4/5 Rural Clinical School Placement

- It is not required that students coming to Bathurst and Lismore for the RCS placement undertake a rural-based MD project, although this is encouraged
- Undertaking a rural-based project does not automatically guarantee a Bathurst or Lismore RCS allocation in year 4.
- For those rural-based projects where the student is required to be in the rural location in year 4/5, preference will be given to these students for the Bathurst or Lismore RCS placement.

Travel Support

- Students who choose a rural-based project will have the opportunity to apply for some financial support for their travel and accommodation to visit their rural location in year 3 during their MD project rotation.

If any questions at all, please contact the rural team and we are happy to discuss:

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