

# Practice incentives

## A guide to Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing incentive programs

Incentive payments are designed to support health professionals and practices to deliver quality care, enhance practice capacity, improve service access and health outcomes for patients.

There are a mix of payments, some paid directly to the provider, others paid to the practice.

Practices who are accredited, or registered with an accreditation agency to become accredited, can enrol in the incentive programs of their choice.

### MYMEDICARE - LINKED INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

|                                                                |                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#"><u>General Practice in Aged Care Incentive</u></a> | Financial incentive to support quality continuity of care for residents in aged care homes. | \$430 per resident, per year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$300 to the GP</li> <li>• \$130 to the practice.</li> </ul>                                 |
| <a href="#"><u>Bulk Billing Practice Incentive</u></a>         | Financial incentive to support practices to bulk bill all eligible patients.                | 12.5 per cent incentive payment on every dollar of MBS benefit earned from <a href="#"><u>eligible services</u></a> .<br><br>Divided 50-50 between GP and practice. |

### WORKFORCE INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

|                                        |                                                                                                      |                                                    |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#"><u>Practice Stream</u></a> | Financial incentive to increase multidisciplinary and team-based models of care in general practice. | Up to \$130,000 per year.<br><br>Paid to practice. |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|

## PRACTICE INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

|                                             |                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>After Hours Incentive</u></b>         | Financial support for practices to provide access to after-hours care for their patients.                                                                    | Payment based on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level of support offered</li> <li>• SWPE Value</li> </ul> Minimum \$1,000 - \$11,000 per year.<br>Paid to practice. |
| <b><u>eHealth Incentive</u></b>             | Financial incentive to encourage practices to remain up-to-date with digital health initiatives and adopt new technologies as they become available.         | Payment based on SWPE value.<br>Up to \$12,500 per quarter.<br>Paid to practice.                                                                                              |
| <b><u>Indigenous Health Incentive</u></b>   | Financial support for practices to provide culturally safe care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients, and work towards closing the health gap. | \$1000 sign-on payment, then \$100 - \$300 per eligible patient per 12 months.<br>Paid to practice.                                                                           |
| <b><u>Quality Improvement Incentive</u></b> | Payment to support practices to undertake continuous quality improvement to deliver best practice care.                                                      | Payment Based on SWPE value.<br>Up to \$12,500 per quarter.<br>Paid to practice.                                                                                              |
| <b><u>Teaching Payment</u></b>              | Payment to encourage practices to provide teaching sessions to students entering the medical profession.                                                     | \$200 per session (max two sessions per day).<br>Paid to practice.                                                                                                            |

*Note: A SWPE, or Standard Whole-Patient Equivalent, is a measure of practice size. As a guide, the average full-time GP has a SWPE value of around 1,000 annually.*

**For practices in Modified Monash Areas 3-7, the following incentives are also available.**

## WORKFORCE INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

|                             |                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Doctor Stream</u></b> | Financial incentive to encourage doctors to work in rural and remote areas. | Maximum annual payment amounts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MM3: \$12,000</li> <li>• MM4: \$18,000</li> <li>• MM5: \$23,000</li> <li>• MM6: \$35,000</li> <li>• MM7: \$60,000</li> </ul> Paid to doctor. |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                            |                                                                                                            |                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Rural Advanced Skills Stream</u></b> | Financial incentive to support practitioners providing urgent and advanced care in rural and remote areas. | Payment \$4,000 - \$21,000 per year, depending on location and services delivered.<br><br>Paid to doctor. |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## PRACTICE INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

|                                       |                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Procedural GP Incentive</u></b> | Incentive to maintain local access to surgical and obstetric services in rural and remote areas.                | Payment based on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• type and number of services delivered</li> <li>• services provided in after-hours period.</li> </ul> \$1,000 - \$8,500 per GP, per six months.<br><br>Paid to doctor. |
| <b><u>Rural Loading Incentive</u></b> | Additional payment loading applied to Practice Incentive Payments for practices located rural and remote areas. | Automatically applied, amount depends on practice location and which incentive.                                                                                                                                                 |