

## Rural Background Criteria

For the purpose of admission to the ANU Medical School, rural background is defined as primary residency for 5 years consecutively or 10 years cumulatively in an ASGS-RA 2-5 area.

If you have lived in an Australian rural area, ASGS-RA 2 to 5, for 5 years consecutively or 10 years cumulatively, you may be eligible for consideration in rural schemes and sub-quotas. You will need to complete the Rurality Section in the online application form and then submit supporting documentation to the Medical School.

### The ASGS-RA Classification System

The ANU Medical School will use the ASGS-RA guidelines in the processing of Rurality Claims for admission to the ANU Medical School. These guidelines are also used by the Graduate Entry Medical School Admissions System (GEMSAS).

The ASGS-RA is a geographical classification tool developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in 2011. The purpose of the RA structure is to classify data from census Collection Districts (CDs) into broad geographical categories, called Remoteness Areas (RAs). The RA categories are defined in terms of 'remoteness' – the physical distance of a location from the nearest urban centre based on population size. Under this classification system remoteness is updated each census. The most recent classification is the one by which we will assess your rurality.

The ASGS-RA system is made up of 5 categories:

- RA-1 Major city
- RA-2 Inner regional
- RA-3 Outer regional
- RA-4 Remote
- RA-5 Very remote

If you have lived in an ASGS-RA 2-5 area for 5 years consecutively or 10 years cumulatively and wish to be considered for rural schemes and sub-quotas, you will need to provide documentary evidence to substantiate your claim. Please be aware that the rural residence/s must have been your primary residence/s. You can check your ASGS-RA status by [clicking here](#).

## Supporting Documentation

Acceptable supporting documentation includes:

- Supporting letter from a GP, School, University or Workplace
  - It must be on an official letter head
  - It must detail your primary rural living address
  - It must include details verifying 5 years consecutively or 10 years cumulatively of rural living
- Documents that show your primary residential address eg. Invoice's for telephone, rates, rent or bank statements.
  - Documents must display yours or your parents/guardians names
  - Documents must display your primary rural living address
  - You must provide documentation for each year you are claiming for eg. If you are claiming for 5 years of consecutively rural living, you will need an invoice/statement for each of the 5 years. If you are claiming for 10 years cumulative then the documentation must support 10 full years and documentation will be needed for each time period, one document for the start of each time period and one for the end of each time period.

## Important Information

- Supporting documents do not need to be certified
- Your documents must be of high resolution quality
- School reports are not sufficient supporting documentation as they do not include your rural residential address.
- Ensure your documentation supports 5 years consecutively or 10 years cumulatively of rural living.
- You cannot claim time in the future as part of the 5 or 10 years, as there is no way to establish proof that you will continue to reside in a rural setting.
- Time spent at a rural holiday home or secondary living address will not be considered.

## Contact Information

ANU Medical School

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