

## Resources for Physicians Working or Planning to Work in Rural and Remote Communities in Alberta

### Rural Remote Northern Payment Program

This program supports the recruitment and retention of physicians to live and practice in rural remote and northern areas of the province. The greater the medical isolation, the greater the financial incentives for physicians. Two types of incentive payments are available:

- A premium payment applied automatically to every insured health service
- Flat-fee payment for physicians who practice and reside in less-isolated communities.

More information: [RRNP | AMA](#)

To apply: [Fees information for health professionals | Alberta.ca](#)

### Rural and Remote Family Medicine Resident Physician Bursary Program

This program provides up to \$20,000 in financial support to U of A and U of C resident physicians. Each year, approximately 20–30 bursaries are awarded. Recipients sign a return-of-service agreement for a minimum of one year. Eligible communities have a population of less than 15,000 and are located at least 50 km from a major urban center.

More information: [Rural and Remote Family Medicine Resident Physician Bursary | Alberta.ca](#)

### Rural Team Recruitment Grant Program

Eligible communities can apply for up to \$10,000 per healthcare professional, with a maximum of \$50,000/yr to support recruitment efforts for physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, and allied health professionals. Funding can be used for community welcome packages, relocation assistance, short-term housing support, local recruitment events, etc.

More Information: [Government of Alberta Announces Rural Health Grants – RMA](#)

### Municipality Supported Clinics Grant Program

Municipalities may be eligible to receive up to \$100,000 per year to assist with clinic start-up costs, facility upgrades, equipment purchases, operational expenses, or recruitment incentives for healthcare professionals. Priority is given to communities with limited or no existing primary care services.

More Information: [Government of Alberta Announces Rural Health Grants – RMA](#)

### Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP) – Post-Secondary to Practice

Funding and logistical support for medical learners completing rural placements.

More Information: [Post-Secondary Students- Rural Health Professions Action Plan](#)

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### **RhPAP- Rural Medical Education and Accommodations**

Fully subsidized, furnished accommodations for eligible learners completing rural rotations across Alberta as well as travel reimbursement and orientation support.

More Information: [Rural Accommodations- Rural Health Professions Action Plan](#)

### **Practitioner Request: Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan**

The AHC11234 Practitioner Request Form is required for physicians to register with Alberta Health and establish billing privileges under the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan.

More Information: [Practitioner Request](#)

### **Alberta Medical Practice Permit**

To practice as a physician in Alberta, you need an Alberta medical practice permit. Practice permits are issued by the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA).

More information: [College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta | CPSA](#)

## **Work Opportunities**

### **Doctor Jobs**

Doctor Jobs has a variety of job postings including rural opportunities. They will assess whether applicants meet Alberta's eligibility requirements and discuss the resources needed for privileging.

More Information: [Doctor Jobs](#)

### **Physician Link AB**

Physician Link AB has a variety of physician job postings.

More Information: [physicianlinkab.ca/LinkSearchResults.aspx](http://physicianlinkab.ca/LinkSearchResults.aspx)

### **Locum Opportunities**

Locum physicians' contract with the Alberta Medical Association to provide rural/regional locum coverage. There is no specific term of service or minimum number of assignments. Being an AMA locum does not prevent you from doing private locums or other work.

More information: [Info for Locum Physicians | AMA](#)

### **Alberta Advantage Immigration Program**

The Alberta Advantage Immigration Program (AAIP) offers a Dedicated Health Care Pathway for eligible healthcare professionals, including Clinical Assistants, to become permanent residents in Alberta. This pathway allows individuals with job offers in the healthcare sector to apply for nomination through either the Alberta Express Entry Stream or the Non-Express Entry option.

More information: [AAIP Application Streams](#) & [Alberta Opportunity Streams- Eligibility](#)

## Additional Reading

### **Alberta's Rural Health Action Plan (2024-2027)**

Key rural health priorities and areas of focus. It acknowledges the current challenges, including limited access to health care providers, infrastructure issues, social determinants of health and the realities of vast geography paired with small populations.

More Information: [Rural Health Action Plan, 2024-27](#)