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Government releases grant opportunities for new medical school places

Medical Deans Australia and New Zealand (Medical Deans) welcomes the release by the Government of grant opportunities for 100 new medical school places in 2026, rising to new 150 new places per year by 2028.

“Medical Deans congratulates the Government on realising its commitment to increasing medical school places as part of its broader strategy to increase GP services for Australians,” said the President of Medical Deans, Professor Stuart Carney.

The new Commonwealth Supported Places for medical schools are part of a pre-election commitment to grow the GP workforce in Australia by investing more in the GP training pathway – from medical school through prevocational training to specialist GP training.

“This is an important step towards shaping the future healthcare and medical workforce we need in Australia,” Professor Carney said. “Providing opportunities for more students and prevocational doctors to learn about the breadth, skill and impact of GP care will have a major influence on future career choice.”

Professor Carney added that it would be important to ensure that new GP training places for prevocational doctors – which will also come on stream in 2026 – do not displace medical students from training in General Practices. The best way to ensure access for students was to reform the incentives for GPs to train students in their practices, he said.

In its Pre-Budget Submission to Government, Medical Deans called for an increase in rate of payment to General Practices for teaching medical students; and extending these payments to include multidisciplinary teams within General Practices (including nurses and allied health professionals as well as GPs).

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Medical Deans Australia and New Zealand Inc. represents and supports the 24 medical schools across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand in their cutting-edge medical education, work-integrated training, and research to recruit, develop and nurture outstanding medical graduates to enable our communities to continue to access world-class health services.

Medical Deans [annual survey of medical graduates](#) provides valuable information and insights on the make-up of our future doctors, including demographics, education, experience, and future career preferences.

<https://medicaldeans.org.au/>