

## When to use this form

Use this form if you are a health professional who requires recognition as a specialist or consultant physician.

You need to:

- be an Australian citizen, permanent resident, a temporary resident, or a New Zealand citizen.
- be a registered medical practitioner.
- be, or will be, working as a specialist or consultant physician.
- have, or have applied for, a Medicare provider number for the specific practice location(s) at which you will render services.
- provide services to private patients that attract Medicare benefits at the specialist or consultant physician rates.
- be registered to practise as a specialist in your specialty with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) or have Australasian Specialist Medical College Fellowship and status as a Fellow of an Australasian Specialist Medical College in relation to the specialty. The exception is recognition in Intensive Care or Nuclear Medicine.

## Provider number

You need to have a provider number before we can process your specialist recognition.

When you are recognised as a specialist or a consultant physician, you are not allocated a **specialist** provider number. Your record is updated to reflect your approved specialty and this applies to any current or future provider numbers you have.

If you need a provider number, your Provider Number application can be sent to the **Provider Registration Section** at the same time that you send in your Specialist Recognition application to the **Specialist Recognition Team**.

## Recognition in Intensive Care or Nuclear Medicine

If you do not hold the Fellowship of Royal Australasian College of Physicians but have Australian medical board registration to work in the specialty you must have been assessed by the Royal Australasian College of Physicians.

If you were assessed by the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists or the College of Intensive Care Medicine of Australia and New Zealand, you are eligible to apply for recognition as a specialist.

For access to Medicare benefits for Nuclear Medicine Imaging items (Group I4 items of the Medicare Benefits Schedule), you must also be credentialled by the Joint Nuclear Medicine Credentialling and Accreditation Committee (JNMCAC) of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, and the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists.

The JNMCAC secretariat will advise Services Australia when your name has been included on the Register of Credentialled Nuclear Medicine Specialists.

Upon receipt of this advice, Services Australia will update your access to Medicare benefits for nuclear medicine imaging services.

If you have any questions regarding the credentialling process, you should contact the JNMCAC Secretariat.

**Note:** If you are not:

- a fellow of an Australasian Specialist Medical College, and
- have not successfully completed training in the speciality recognised by the college, or
- your medical registration certificate(s) does not provide details of your speciality, time-period and specific location (if limitations exist),

you must provide written advice from Ahpra which clearly states these details. Contact Ahpra to obtain a copy before submitting your application for recognition.

## For more information

Go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpmbrecognition](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpmbrecognition)

Recognition as a specialist or consultant physician does not automatically provide you with access to Medicare benefits. You may have restricted access to Medicare billing because your primary qualification was obtained overseas or you are a former overseas medical student. You will need an exemption approved under section 19AB of the *Health Insurance Act 1973* to attract Medicare benefits for your services. For those who have served their moratorium this may apply.

The *Health Insurance Act 1973* and Health Regulations are available at [www.comlaw.gov.au](http://www.comlaw.gov.au)

**Before sending this application form make sure you have included any required documents such as:**

- a copy of your current Ahpra certificate
- a copy of a letter from Ahpra specifying you are registered to work as a specialist in the nominated specialty, and the time period for which registration has been granted (if this information is not specified on the Medical Registration certificate)
- a copy of your Australasian Specialist Medical College Fellowship certificate and a copy of your letter confirming your status as a Fellow of the relevant Australasian Specialist Medical College in relation to the specialty, and
- a copy of your passport if you are an overseas trained medical practitioner or a foreign graduate of an accredited medical school of Australia or New Zealand. Copy relevant pages of your passport showing personal details and the Australian visa notice (necessary if you are a temporary resident or your residency status has changed).



# Application for recognition as a Specialist or Consultant Physician (HW077)

## Filling in this form

You can fill and sign this form digitally in some browsers, or you can open it in Adobe Acrobat Reader. If you do not have Adobe Acrobat Reader, you can print this form and sign it.

If you have a printed form:

- Use black or blue pen.
- Print in BLOCK LETTERS.

The application will be returned if information is missing and/or not signed.

## Personal details

**1** Do you have a provider number?

No  Go to next question

Yes  Provider number

▶ **Go to 3**

**2** Have you applied for a provider number?

No  Go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/providernumber](http://servicesaustralia.gov.au/providernumber) to apply

Yes

**3** Dr  Mr  Mrs  Miss  Ms  Other

Family name

First given name

Second given name

**4** Your gender

Male

Female

**5** Your date of birth

## Personal contact details

**6** Daytime phone number

Mobile phone number

**7** Australian postal address

Postcode

Email

## Residency status

**8** What is your current citizenship or residency status?

**Tick one only**

Australian citizen

Permanent resident

Temporary resident  
(including a New Zealand citizen)

If your residency status has changed and you have not advised Services Australia, provide copies of the relevant pages of your passport, visa or citizenship papers.

## Restrictions on accessing Medicare

**9** Under section 19AB of the *Health Insurance Act 1973* overseas trained doctors or foreign graduates of an accredited medical school are subject to restrictions on accessing Medicare benefits for a period of at least 10 years. To access Medicare benefits a 19AB exemption is required. To see if you need to apply for an exemption, go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpmsrecognition](http://servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpmsrecognition)

## Ahpra Registration details

**10** Registration details

Ahpra Registration number	Specialty (if applicable)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>



Provide a copy of your Ahpra certificate.

**11** Are you a Fellow of a relevant Australasian Specialist Medical College?

No



Provide a copy of written advice from Ahpra.

Yes



Provide a copy of your Australian Fellowship certificate and letter confirming your status as a Fellow in relation to the speciality.


## Qualifications

### 12 Post-graduate medical qualification

Awarding body

Field of supervising training

Month/Year

 Provide a copy of your Fellowship certificate or letter.

## Specialty(ies) in which recognition is sought

### 13 List specialties that you are qualified in and want recognition for

### 14 Date qualification obtained

### 15 Date of recognition required for Medicare claiming

## Checklist

### 16 Which of the following documents are you providing with this form?

A copy of pages from your passport (if you are a temporary resident or your residency status has changed)	<input type="checkbox"/>
A copy of your visa documents (if you are a temporary resident or your residency status has changed)	<input type="checkbox"/>
A copy of your Australian citizenship documents (if your residency status has changed)	<input type="checkbox"/>
A copy of your Ahpra certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>
A copy of written advice from Ahpra (if you answered No at <b>question 11</b> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
A copy of the letter confirming your status as a Fellow in relation to the speciality (if you answered Yes at <b>question 11</b> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
A copy of your Fellowship certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>
A copy of your Fellowship letter	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Privacy notice

**17** The privacy and security of your personal information is important to us, and it is protected by law. We need to collect this information so we can process and manage your applications and payments, and provide services to you. We only share your information with other parties where you have agreed, or where the law allows or requires it. For more information, go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/privacy](http://servicesaustralia.gov.au/privacy)

## Declaration

### 18 I declare:

- I am working, or will be commencing work, as a specialist or consultant physician in a private medical practice or have rights to private practice with a hospital.
- the information I have provided in this form is complete and correct.

### I understand:

- Medicare may contact the relevant Specialist Medical College(s), Ahpra or my employer in relation to this application.
- giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.

Applicant's signature



Date

## Returning this form



Check that you have answered all the required questions and the form is signed and dated.

**Your application will be returned to you if all the relevant documentation is not supplied or is incomplete.**

When a complete application is received, including all supporting documentation, we aim to process your application within 28 days of receipt.

Your application and supporting documentation should be sent to Services Australia before your proposed commencement date.

You should not commence billing until Services Australia has advised you in writing that your recognition has been approved.

Return the completed form and supporting documents:

- **email to: [co.srac@servicesaustralia.gov.au](mailto:co.srac@servicesaustralia.gov.au)**

There may be risks with sending personal information through unsecured networks or email channels.

All documents sent by email:

- must be in PDF format
- must not be password protected, and
- must not be larger than 10 megabytes.

Enquiries: [co.srac@servicesaustralia.gov.au](mailto:co.srac@servicesaustralia.gov.au)