

# GETTING STARTED TIP SHEET



## RURAL PLACEMENTS ARE VALUABLE

Students enjoy rural placements, and research suggests that students who have a rural placement are more likely to return to a rural area for work. Hosting rural students helps build the rural health workforce. Hosting students also builds your own supervisory skills, which can be useful when considering promotion to a position where you will be managing other staff.

## HOW DO YOU GET STARTED?

Things to consider:

- the experiences you can offer to a student and how these experiences match the university requirements for the student.
- the space you have for a student and access a student may require to your systems.
- your caseload and practice model/s.
- your own confidence and competence to supervise - you do not need to have years of experience, two years is often enough.
- your wider community and the kinds of things students could enjoy or become involved in (for example sports, places of interest, hobbies).

Talk to your multi-disciplinary team about their experiences with hosting students and how they can support you with interdisciplinary experiences for your student.

Prepare a thorough orientation, to your worksite, your region, your caseload, your team.

## FURTHER TIPS/IDEAS

- Contact the university for advice, support, resources and training. Universities often offer supervisor training and could guide you as to the types of experiences students need and the level of competency they need to develop by the end of the placement.
- Contact your local UDRH as well for advice, support, resources and training. UDRHs also often offer supervisor training and have supervisor resources on their websites.

## RESOURCES

- [Fact Sheets](#) Creating supportive rural placements and Supporting the needs of students on rural placements
- Charles Stuart's [Three Rivers Department of Rural Health](#) has several short online courses designed for rural supervisors including the topics of Supervision practices, Enhancing the rural experience, Creating a best practice clinical learning environment, Developing cultural awareness and sensitivity, Challenging conversations and Self-care for clinicians.
- [Going Rural Health](#) by The University of Melbourne Department of Rural Health has resources for rural supervisors
- [ClinEdAus: Enabling Clinical Education Skills](#) is an Australian website with free learning resources for supervisors in the areas of preparing and managing placements, different practice contexts (including rural and remote) and core supervision skills (managing difficult situations, giving feedback etc.).
- [Teaching on the Run \(TOTR\)](#) has a range of workshops for supervisors delivered face to face or online. There are ten topics: Effective Learner Supervision, Planning Learning, Clinical Teaching, Assessment Fundamentals, Advanced Communication, Skills Teaching, Supporting Learners, Effective Group Teaching, Communication Fundamentals, and Interprofessional Collaboration. Some UDRHs offer this training or their own workshops, contact and find out!
- Links to the four UDRHs of WA who co-produce this podcast:
  - Website of [Goldfields UDRH](#)
  - Website of [Majarlin](#)
  - Website of [UDRH SW](#)
  - Website of [WACRH](#)