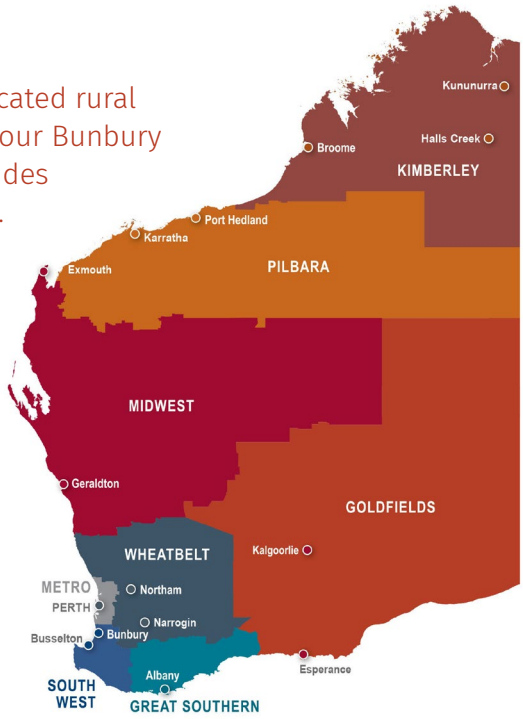
GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Rural Psychiatry Training Western Australia

Our Regions

Rural Psychiatry Training WA (RPTWA) is Australia's first ever dedicated rural Psychiatry training program. Run by a highly qualified team from our Bunbury Training Hub in WA's picturesque South West region, RPTWA provides comprehensive rural training at over 44 RANZCP accredited posts.



Comprehensive Training Hubs (CTH)

Stage 1 trainees are allocated to one of four Comprehensive Training Hubs in Albany, Broome, Bunbury & Geraldton, which each have the full range of training posts required for completion of a 5-year generalist RANZCP Fellowship.

Rural Training Centres (RTC)

Stage 2 & 3 Trainees also have the option to explore the unique and well-supported training posts available at each of our Rural Training Centres across rural and remote WA.

Kimberley

The Kimberley is the northernmost region of Western Australia. It is bordered on the west by the Indian Ocean, on the north by the Timor Sea, on the south by the Great Sandy and Tanami Deserts of the Pilbara region, and on the east by the Northern Territory.

With an area covering 423,517 square kilometres, the Kimberley region is about three times the size of England, twice the size of Victoria and just slightly smaller than California in the USA. While the Kimberley is often known for the red dirt (or pindan) found in the south-western part of the region, the natural landscape of the entire region varies between broad savannah grasslands, rugged ranges, golden beaches, and spectacular tropical gorges. Much of the flora and fauna found in the Kimberley is unique to the region.

The region has a rich cultural history spanning tens of thousands of years. Approximately half of the region's population comprises Aboriginal people that represent more than 30 traditional Aboriginal language groups. There are around 200 indigenous communities across the Kimberley and traditional culture remains a strong part of everyday life in the region.

Broome CTH

6 posts

Rurality: MM 6-7
Area: 423,517 km2

Towns:
Broome, Kununurra, Derby, Halls Creek & Fitzroy Crossing

Population:
38,801 (approximately half identify as Aboriginal, more than 30 language groups in over 200 indigenous communities)

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Pilbara

Located in the north of Western Australia, the Pilbara region is bordered by the Indian Ocean to the west and extends along the Great Sandy Desert to the Northern Territory border on the east.

With an area covering 507,896 square kilometres, the Pilbara region accounts for 20% of the state's land mass and is twice the size of Victoria, five times the size of Tasmania and roughly the combined land area of the US states of California and Indiana.

The Pilbara region is home to some of Earth's oldest rock formations and its landscape includes coastal plains and mountain ranges with cliffs and gorges. It is a globally significant mining and energy region, boasting a wealth of resources, dynamic communities, rich Aboriginal culture and stunning natural landscapes.

Port Hedland RTC

2 posts

Rurality: MM 6-7
Area: 507,896 km2

Towns:
Karratha, Port Hedland, Newman & Tom Price

Population:
59,552 (15% identify as Aboriginal) + FIFO population.

Midwest

The Midwest region sits in the western middle section of Western Australia and is bordered by the Indian Ocean in the west, the Pilbara region in the north, the Wheatbelt to the south and the Goldfields in the southeast.

It covers nearly one-fifth of the state's land area (or more than 600,000 square kilometres), with the majority of its population found along the coast, with more than half of those in Geraldton.

The region is known for its unique natural environment and is one of only five areas in the world with both marine and terrestrial biodiversity hotspots of national or international significance. It is home to the world's oldest rocks at Jack Hills, dating back four billion years, as well as a range of natural attractions including Kalbarri National Park, Houtman Abrolhos Islands and the World Heritage-listed Shark Bay and Ningaloo Reef.

Geraldton CTH

8 posts

Rurality: MM 3-7
Area: 600,000 km2

Towns:
Geraldton, Dongara, Meekatharra, Carnarvon & Exmouth

Population:
63,650 (10% identify as Aboriginal)

Goldfields

The Goldfields region is the largest region in Western Australia. It is bordered by the Pilbara to the north, the Wheatbelt to the west, the Great Southern to the south-west, the Southern Ocean to the south and the WA border to the east.

With a land area of 771,276 square meters, the Goldfields region is three times the size of Victoria and just under a third of the total land mass of Western Australia. The Goldfields is named because of the abundance of gold discoveries in the late 19th century that sparked a rush of fortune seekers from around the globe to the region, all hoping to find their fortune. It remains a globally significant mining and energy region and is the premier gold producer for the state. Gold and nickel production are the main drivers of the local economy and are supported by the region's agriculture, pastoral, tourism, fishing and aquaculture industries.

Kalgoorlie RTC

Planned

Rurality: MM 6-7
Area: 771,276 km2

Towns:
Kalgoorlie, Leonora, Laverton, Norseman & Esperance

Population:
55,000 (10% identify as Aboriginal) + FIFO population

Wheatbelt

The Wheatbelt surrounds the Perth metropolitan area, extending north from Perth to the Midwest region and east to the Goldfields-Esperance region and is bordered to the south by the South West and Great Southern regions and to the west by the Indian Ocean, Perth metropolitan area and Peel region.

The region covers an area of 154,862 square kilometres. It is home to three distinct Aboriginal groups – Njaki Njaki Nyoongar, Ballardong Nyoonger and Gubrun. The region is popular with tourists thanks to its character townships, pioneering history, golden fields, rural farms and wildflowers. It is known for the world-famous Wave Rock, which stretches 100 metres and stands 15 metres high, and the region's Dryandra Woodland is one of Western Australia's most important areas for wildlife preservation.

Northam RTC

5 posts

Rurality: MM 4-7
Area: 154,862 km2

Towns:
Northam, Narrogin, Merredin, Moora & Jurien Bay

Population:
76,394 (6% identify as Aboriginal)

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South West

The South West region is in the south-western corner of Western Australia and covers an area of more than 23,000 kilometres. It shares its eastern boundary with the Wheatbelt and Great Southern regions and is bordered by the Indian & Southern Oceans, with around 1,000km of spectacular coastline. The region boasts a rich and varied natural environment. It is home to 24 different national parks, tall timber forests, ancient caves and an abundance of wildflowers, birdlife and native wildlife. Its coastline features some of the best beaches in the country and is a popular surfing destination worldwide.

The South West is Western Australia's most popular tourist destination outside of Perth and is renowned for its wineries, fresh produce, restaurants and thriving arts community, with numerous galleries showcasing the works of the region's talented artists.

Bunbury CTH
14 posts

Busselton RTC
2 posts

Rurality: MM 2-6
Area: 23,000 km2

Towns:
Bunbury, Collie, Busselton, Bridgetown, Manjimup & Margaret River

Population:
177,300 (2.3% identify as Aboriginal)

Great Southern

The Great Southern region is located on the south coast of Western Australia, adjoining the Southern Ocean, where the coast extends for approximately 250 km. The total land area is 39,007 sq km (including islands), representing approximately 1.5 per cent of the State's total area. The regional population is approximately 60,000 of which 1,400 are under 17 years. The historic port town of Albany, which is the State's oldest European settlement, has one of the best natural anchorages in the Southern Hemisphere and is the region's administrative centre.

The region's economy is largely based on agriculture, in particular, wheat, barley, canola, livestock and wool, and the Great Southern account for 13% of Western Australia's overall agricultural output. In addition to agriculture, the local economy is well supported by retail, manufacturing, construction, tourism, viticulture, timber, mining and fishing industries.

Albany CTH
8 posts

Rurality: MM 3-7
Area: 39,007 km2

Towns:
Albany, Katanning, Denmark, Kojonup & Gnowangerup

Population:
60,000 (3.6% identify as Aboriginal)