

Strengthening Medicare – General Practice Grants Program

Eligibility of investment activities

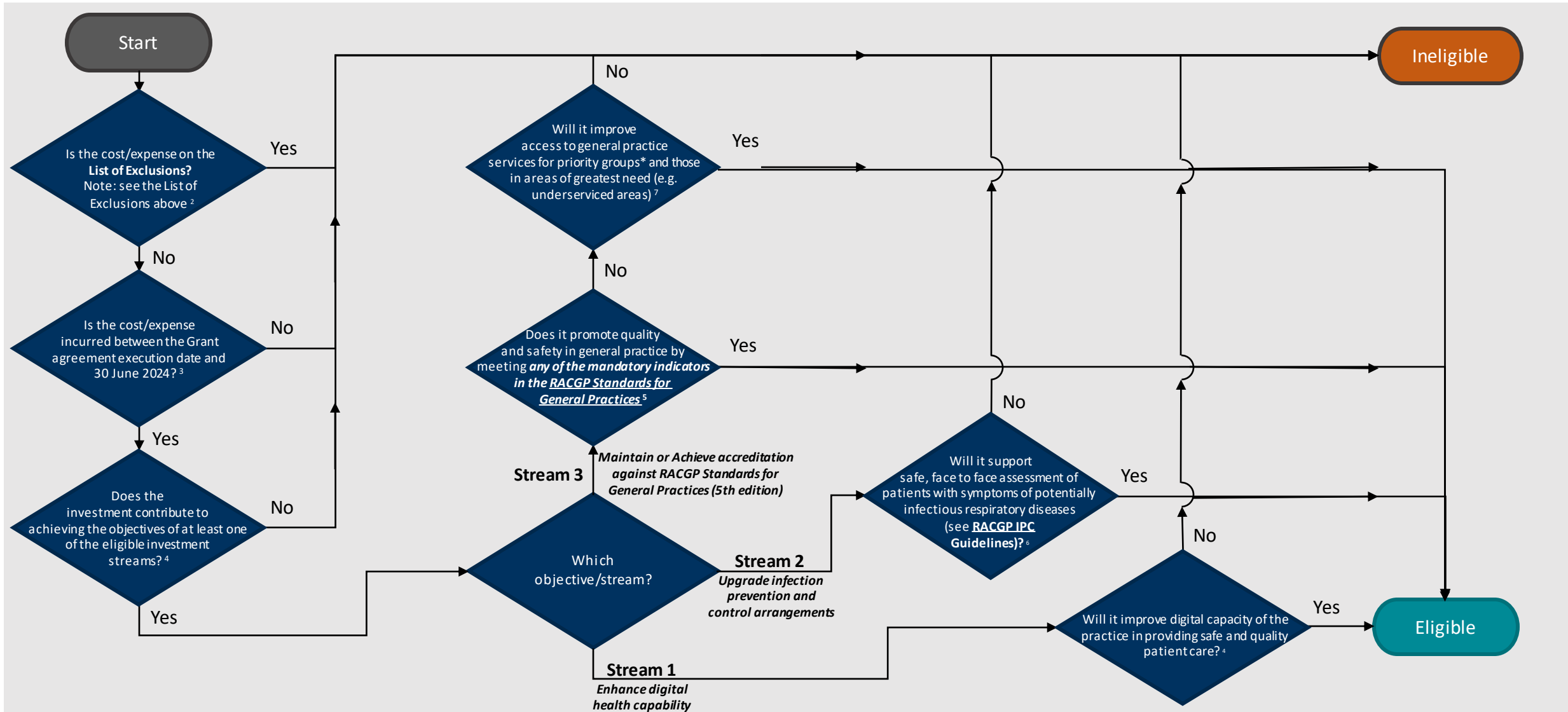


General Practice Grants Program: Investment activity eligibility decision framework

List of Exclusions: What the grant cannot be used for

- The grants cannot be used to cover expenses or costs:
- × outside of the three investment streams.
 - × business-as-usual costs associated with operating a general practice
 - × for activities or purchases outside of the Activity state date and Activity completion date under this Agreement.
 - × for the same activities or purchases that the Grantee has received or will receive funding for through another program.

Further information about each of these decision points can be found on the next page.



Strengthening Medicare – General Practice Grants Program

Further information

| # | Description |
|---|---|
| 1 | <p>What the grant can be used for</p> <p>For any of the investment streams – the grant funding can be used for staff training, equipment and/or services (including consultant services), innovation, minor capital works, and the reimbursement of staff time (including contractor general practitioners) associated with undertaking these investment activities within the general practice setting. It is recognised that each general practice will have different investment needs and will be best placed to identify investments for their practices under the relevant streams. The Program provides the flexibility for practices to identify investments within one or more of the three investment streams that best address those needs – as long as the investments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ contribute to achieving the objective of the relevant stream/s. ✓ are new investments where expenses/costs have been incurred between the Activity start date and Activity completion date under this Agreement. <p>Please refer to the Quick Reference Guide for examples of possible investment activities under each stream.</p> |
| 2 | <p>List of Exclusions: What the grant cannot be used for</p> <p>The grants cannot be used to cover expenses or costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> × outside of the three investment streams. × business-as-usual costs associated with operating a general practice e.g. utilities, rent, administration, taxes, consumable products such as personal protective equipment, existing subscriptions or other existing recurrent costs, staff wages/salaries for performing business-as-usual duties (including delivery of health services for which Medicare Benefits Schedule is claimed). × for activities or purchases outside of the Activity start date and Activity completion date under this Agreement. × for the same activities or purchases that the Grantee has received or will receive funding for through another program. <p>For example, the following are not to be funded with the Grant under the Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> × major capital works. × purchase of land. × retrospective costs or expenses. |
| 3 | <p>Grant must be used between the Activity start date and Activity completion date</p> <p>Grants are used on eligible activities/purchases between the Activity start date and Activity completion date. The Activity starts on the Agreement Execution Date and ends on 30 June 2024, which is the Activity Completion Date.</p> |
| 4 | <p>Intended objectives and outcomes for each investment stream</p> <p>Stream 1: Enhance digital health capability - To fast-track the benefits of a more connected healthcare system in readiness to meet future standards. <i>Intended outcome:</i> Increase take-up of contemporary digital health solutions including video telehealth, secure data storage and interoperable software that supports seamless, secure communication of patient data</p> <p>Stream 2: Upgrade infection prevention and control arrangements - To support the safe, face to face assessment of patients with symptoms of potentially infectious respiratory diseases (e.g. COVID, influenza) <i>Intended outcome:</i> Increase the proportion of COVID Positive and other respiratory patients treated in a general practice setting (by increasing practices' capacity to treat more of these patients).</p> <p>Stream 3: Maintain accreditation against RACGP Standards for General Practices (5th edition), or Achieve accreditation against RACGP Standards for General Practices (5th edition) - To promote quality and safety in general practice. <i>Intended outcome:</i> Increase the number of accredited general practices.</p> |
| 5 | <p>Mandatory indicators in the RACGP Standards for General Practices (5th Edition)?</p> <p>Indicators marked with the > symbol are mandatory, which means that the practice must demonstrate that they can meet this Indicator in order to achieve accreditation against the Standards. Indicators that are not marked with the mandatory symbol are aspirational Indicators. The RACGP encourages practices to meet the aspirational Indicators, but they are not essential to achieve accreditation.</p> |
| 6 | <p>Alignment with areas for improvements identified in RACGP - Infection prevention and control guidelines</p> <p>These guidelines provide general practices and other office-based healthcare practices with updated guidance on planning and implementing high standards of infection prevention and control in their workplaces.</p> |
| 7 | <p>Additional considerations</p> <p>Will it improve access to general practice services for priority groups* and those in areas of greatest need (e.g. underserved areas)?</p> <p>* At-risk and disadvantaged groups, including older Australians, veterans, at-risk young people, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people with mental illness, people in socio economically disadvantaged circumstances, people with disability, people from CALD backgrounds, LGBTQI+ people, people experiencing homelessness, people at risk of harm from substance misuse and people leaving criminal justice setting. (per Australia's Primary Health Care 10 Year Plan 2022–2032)</p> |