



Flinders
University

Rural and Remote
Health SA

Riverland Interprofessional Student Placement Program (RISPP)

Placement Information

Flinders University Rural & Remote Health SA, in collaboration with the Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network (RMCLHN), have established an interprofessional student-led allied health clinic at the Aboriginal Wellbeing Centre in Barmera. The clinic primarily expands the existing Aboriginal Children's Clinic services but also welcomes consumers from all age groups.

The placement is founded on an interprofessional model, with clinical supervision provided by a physiotherapist overseeing students from disciplines which include Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Speech Pathology. The placement is further supported by additional input from various RMCLHN staff within each discipline. The placement offers the opportunity for students to also engage in community health service activities and benefit from weekly cultural tutorials, which enhance cultural competency and the ability to work in a culturally safe manner.

It's important to emphasise that this initiative is a pilot program. As a result, we strongly encourage student feedback and provide the opportunity to play an active role in shaping the ongoing development and design of the clinic.

Student Testimonials

"It was the most learning and growth I've ever had on a placement. It's so student-led and you get to come up with the ideas for your sessions. That worked really well for me."

"The cultural learning will definitely help for someone who hasn't been exposed to the Aboriginal community, so they can know what to expect and how to improve their practice."

"The student peer support system works well, rather than just being isolated by yourself on a placement - you've got other students around you, and can develop your clinical knowledge together."

Eligibility

We are currently accepting students who are

- enrolled in Speech Pathology, Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy degrees
- priority is given to Indigenous students
- priority is given to students from a rural background

Students need a current drivers license and access to a car during the placement. Due to funding restrictions, placements in this program are only open to domestic students.

Barmera & Berri Information

The name Barmera came from the Aboriginal word Barmeedjie meaning Lake. Barmera is a small town situated on the gently sloping shores of Lake Bonney with a small Foodland supermarket, butcher, bakery, motel, hardware store and sports grounds. The main shopping and services are located nearby (15 minute drive) in Berri where you will find Woolworths, Coles, Aldi and other stores, cafes and restaurants (don't stress - if you have dietary requirements or preferences you will be fine!).

Research more at the following websites: <http://www.barmeratourism.com.au/>, <https://www.berribarmera.sa.gov.au/discover-our-district> and <https://www.visitriverland.com.au/>

Travel, Accommodation & Financial Support

A house that is funded specifically for the RISPP is located in Barmera. Accommodation fees are fully subsidised (ie free) for students with a \$200 security deposit that is refundable at the end of your placement. The three bedroom house is a fully furnished residential home including washing machine, basic cooking utensils and equipment. Each student has their own private bedroom but shares the kitchen, living spaces and bathroom (unless you're lucky enough to get the ensuite!). Free wifi internet is available in the house. See photos below.

A travel subsidy of \$0.88/km (current ATO rate) is available for one return trip from Adelaide to Barmera plus any travel you are required to do as part of your placement (not for personal travel to shops, sightseeing etc). You will be required to keep a logbook of your travel.

Refer to the Flinders University Rural and Remote Health SA website for scholarships (<https://www.flinders.edu.au/content/dam/documents/colleges/cmph/flinders-rural-health/scholarships-rural-health-placements.pdf>) that may assist with your rural placement.

Student Community & Support

There are a number of students on placement at any given time in the Riverland and you are encouraged to network and socialise with them.

Student Networking & Interprofessional Sessions (SNIPS) are held regularly throughout the year. A health topic of interest is presented and this is a great opportunity to network with other students. You will receive an email invitation to these sessions during your placement.

Flinders University Rural & Remote Health SA has a campus in Renmark where you will find a student library, computing suite, eduroam, printing and student lounge. Rural & Remote Health SA staff are on hand either in-person or via phone and email before and throughout your placement to assist with any support required.

For Further Information

If you have any questions or would like further information please contact your Placement Education Coordinator or email the Rural & Remote Health team: rrhsa.placements@flinders.edu.au.

