



Australian Government

**Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water**
Australian Antarctic Division

Expeditioner AMP 1.1 - 2.4 (Executive Level 1 - 2) – Antarctic Medical Practitioner

Classification	Expeditioner Band 1.1 – 2.4 (EL 1 - 2) - \$146,251 - \$213,284 pa
Total Remuneration	\$211,592 – 278,625 pa (when in Antarctica/sub-Antarctic inclusive of Antarctic Allowances)
Division	Australian Antarctic Division
Branch	People and Culture
Section	Polar Medicine Unit
Location	Based in Kingston, Tasmania. Antarctic and sub-Antarctic
Employment Status	Non-Ongoing (temporary)
Hours	Full Time
Security Clearance	Baseline Vetting

Commitment to Inclusion

AAD values diversity, in backgrounds and experience. We acknowledge the challenges associated with the work that we do and are committed to developing an inclusive culture for all people. We welcome everyone to apply, especially those individuals who are underrepresented in the industry: women and gender diverse people, LGBTQIA+ folks, culturally and linguistically diverse people and Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Overview

As an Antarctic Medical Practitioner (AMP) you will provide complete generalist medical, surgical and emergency dental care for a remote community at an Australian Antarctic or sub-Antarctic station. AMPs also provide care during voyages and in Antarctic and sub-Antarctic field environments.

You will generally be the sole medical practitioner at the station. The AMP provides total health care services for 15 to 25 expeditioners over winter. This can increase to 120 during summer (October to March). There may be up to 130 passengers and crew on expedition voyages. AMPs are generally winter jobs (total employment 15–18 months, with time in Antarctica 10–15 months). Occasional shorter term appointments may be available as ship, summer station and field doctors, however wintering applicants are preferred.

The Job

As an AMP you will be required to undertake some or all of the following:

- Provide complete medical, surgical, and dental care, including public health, occupational medicine, aviation and maritime medicine, nutrition, preparation of first-aids kits, upkeep and stocktaking of equipment and pharmaceuticals.
- Provide medical support across the breadth of primary, secondary and occasionally tertiary level care with 24/7 telemedicine support.

- Provide supplementary instruction and supervision to fellow expeditioners on matters of health, medical procedures and first-aid.
- Conduct medical research on human interaction and performance within the Antarctic extreme environment.
- Maintain strong communications with your supporting professional and clinical supervisors in the Polar Medicine Unit and prepare monthly and annual reports.
- As a supervisor or leader (irrespective of your title) you have specific health, safety and wellbeing responsibilities by modelling and applying safe work practices consistent with the AAD's Safety Commitment Statement and the AAD Safety Behaviours Framework

As a proactive and positive member of the community you will:

- Maintain a personal and practical commitment to AAD policies and standard operating procedures (including work, health and safety and environmental policies). Training and guidance in regard to all responsibilities relevant to your position will be provided.
- Be rostered to perform duties to support the community life of the expedition, such as general kitchen duties, garbage clearance, general cleaning duties, and assisting other expedition members with official programs, to ensure an equitable contribution.
- Work in areas outside of your primary role, for example, providing assistance to other areas or science projects, or participating in general labouring tasks such as clearing snow or handling cargo.

What we are looking for

Essential

You can only be selected for this role if you have these essential skills and licences.

Qualifications/licences (provide copies in your application):

- Unrestricted general or relevant specialist registration as a medical practitioner with the Medical Board of Australia <http://www.medicalboard.gov.au/>
- Basic Medical qualification
- A current, unrestricted "C" class (manual) Australian driver's licence.
- Provide details of any suspensions, restrictions or other actions from relevant registering and professional bodies in Australia or in any other country
- Certificate of Good Standing (where requested)
- Valid passport when travelling to the Antarctic or sub-antarctic. The expiry date of the passport (and any relevant visa) must be at least 6 months beyond the planned end date of your intended stay in the Antarctic or sub-antarctic

Recent hands-on experience:

Typical successful applicants include rural and remote generalist practitioners or registrars, and some specialists with a background broad scope of practice or relevant upskilling (e.g. emergency physicians, anaesthetists, surgeons, physicians).

AMPs must have practical skills or be able to respond, where appropriate, in the following fields. Some examples of practical procedures which have been performed by AMPs, or may be required, are indicated below. A generalist non- specialist level of experience is sought.

1. General Medicine

- General Medicine (*lumbar puncture, pleural tap*)
- Dermatology
- Ophthalmology (*enucleation of eye*)
- Ear, Nose and Throat
- Psychiatry and Mental Health Counselling

2. Emergency Management

- Urology & STI (*catheters, suprapubic cystotomy*)
- Thoracic (*underwater seal drains*)
- Burns (*split skin graft*)

3. Anaesthetics* and Intensive Care

- General Anaesthesia
- Local and Regional Anaesthesia (*spinal, Bier's Block*)

4. Surgery*

- Surgery – Appendicectomy (*craniotomy, laparotomy with exploration of the abdomen, oversewing perforated peptic ulcer, splenectomy, management of other abdominal trauma, colostomy, tracheostomy, oesophagoscopy, bronchoscopy, sigmoidoscopy*)
- Plastic Surgery (*hand injuries, amputations, management of tendon and nerve injuries*)

5. Orthopaedics

- Orthopaedics (*conservative management of all types of fractures, including skeletal traction, management of cervical and thoraco-lumbar spinal injuries, treatment of dislocations of minor and major joints, and management of lower back problems*)

6. Obstetrics and Gynaecology

- Obstetrics and Gynaecology (*Dilatation and Curettage, Ectopic Pregnancy*)

Highly Desirable

These are not essential to the role, however, to be suitable you will need to have at least some of these. We encourage you to apply even if you do not fit 100% of the requirements.

1. Occupational, Industrial and Environmental Medicine and Public Health*

- Diving Medicine*
- Aviation and Retrieval Medicine*
- Altitude Medicine*

2. Dentistry* (*extractions, conservative treatment*)

3. Laboratory*, Radiology & Radiography* and Pathology*

- Laboratory Methods (*urine, blood, microbiology, biochemistry, cross matching*)
- Radiology and radiography (*digital processing, ultrasound*)
- Pathology (*limited post mortem*)

4. Physiotherapy*, Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine

5. Medical Services*

- Nursing
- Sterilisation of equipment
- Drug and Equipment Inventory
- Nutrition, Dietetics
- First Aid Instruction

*Some training may be provided in these areas before departure.

Personal Qualities - The Australian Antarctic Division assesses the personal qualities required to successfully live and work in an isolated Antarctic or sub Antarctic community. Successful candidates need to demonstrate the personal qualities criteria detailed [here](#). This will be assessed during the selection process.

Eligibility and other requirements

Citizenship – In accordance with the PS Act 1999, APS employees are required to be Australian citizens. Persons who are not Australian citizens will generally only be considered where there are no suitable Australian applicants, with next considerations being Australian residents with work rights and New Zealand citizens

Security Clearance - This position may require a Baseline Vetting security clearance. You may be required to obtain and maintain a clearance at this level.

Pre-employment Check - Your suitability for employment will be assessed through a pre-employment screening process. This process includes a requirement to undergo and satisfy a National Police Check, referee checks, character clearance and a pre-employment medical and psychological adaptability assessment, specified mandatory qualification(s) validation and a probation period.

As this role will require you to be involved in a Safety Sensitive Aviation Activities, a condition of employment is that you will be required to undertake drug and alcohol screening of urine and/or saliva samples.

Requirement to be vaccinated under public health orders

It may be a condition of your employment that:

1. if you are required to be vaccinated against COVID-19 under an applicable Australian law; or
2. if the department is unable under an applicable Australian law to permit you to attend for work (ie outside of your usual place of residence) unless you are vaccinated against COVID-19,

You must be up to date with your COVID-19 vaccinations, and you must also comply with all recommendations from public health authorities regarding any additional vaccinations that ensure the effectiveness of the COVID-19 vaccine that you have received.

How to Apply

The [Application Process](#) and the [Life as an Expeditioner](#) pages contain critical information about living and working in Antarctica, and must be read in conjunction with this job description prior to applying.

Apply for this role by submitting your application through our [Jobs in Antarctica](#) website. If you have any questions regarding this role, email the contact officer.

Your email is our primary method of contacting you; please make sure that the email and phone number you provide us is correct, current and accessible. **We recommend applicants to not use their work email on their application for accessibility.**

Work Health and Safety Obligations

All workers (APS1-Secretary) have a duty to take reasonable care for their own health and safety whilst at work, to ensure their acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons and to comply with any reasonable instruction given to comply with the Work Health and Safety legislation.

All supervisors and managers (APS5-EL1) play a significant role by modelling safe work behaviours and clearly setting the standard for acceptable behaviour in the workplace. Supervisors and managers play a critical role in supporting 'Officers' to exercise due diligence and in consulting with duty holders.

An Officer (EL2-Secretary) makes and participates in making decisions that affect the whole or a substantial part of the department. Employees at the SES Band 2 and above classification are considered to be Officers under the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Cth) with all EL 2 and above required to complete officer due diligence training. Officers have a duty to be proactive and continuously ensure that the department complies with relevant duties and obligations.

Contact

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