



Australian Government

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



AUSTRALIAN  
ANTARCTIC  
PROGRAM

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

<b>Classification</b>	Expeditioner Band 1.1 – 2.4 (EL 1 - 2) - \$152,101 - \$221,815 pa
<b>Total Remuneration</b>	\$220,055 - \$289,769 pa (When in Antarctica/Sub Antarctic, inclusive of Antarctic Allowances)
<b>Division</b>	Australian Antarctic Division
<b>Branch</b>	People and Culture
<b>Section</b>	Polar Medicine Unit
<b>Location</b>	Kingston, Tasmania and Antarctic/sub-Antarctic deployment
<b>Employment Status</b>	Non-Ongoing (temporary)
<b>Hours</b>	Full-time (37.5 hours per week)
<b>Security Clearance</b>	Baseline Vetting

### WHO WE ARE – Australian Antarctic Division (AAD)

The AAD is part of the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW). As primary agency for Australia's Antarctic Program (AAP), the AAD is responsible for achieving the Australian Government's Antarctic goals to:

- maintain the Antarctic Treaty System and enhance Australia's influence within it
- protect the Antarctic environment
- understand the role of Antarctica in the global climate system
- undertake scientific work of practical, economic and national significance.

### THE JOB

As an Antarctic Medical Practitioner (AMP) you will provide complete generalist medical, emergency 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 comprehensive health care services for 15 to 30 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. The Polar Medicine Unit focuses on recruiting for winter AMP positions (total employment 15–18 months, with 4-5 months of pre-departure training and 10 – 15 months in Antarctica and Sub-Antarctica). Shorter term appointments (including ship, summer station and field doctors) are typically filled by returning AMPs who have previously completed the wintering pre-departure AMP training.

You should apply for this role if you have the appropriate knowledge, skills and experience and an interest in the challenge of living and working in a small community in a remote environment. Applicants will be assessed and if successful placed in a role for training and deployment, or a merit pool that will be used for future seasons.

**Key duties will include, but are not limited to:**

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, aiding other areas or science projects, or participating in general labouring tasks such as clearing snow or handling cargo.

**WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR - ESSENTIAL**

Required Identification/Qualification/License/Ticket	When you need to provide evidence	
	Provide copy with application	obtained prior to job commencement
<b>Medical Registration</b> - Unrestricted general registration as a medical practitioner with the Medical Board of Australia <a href="http://www.medicalboard.gov.au/">http://www.medicalboard.gov.au/</a>	✓	
<b>Basic Medical Qualification</b>	✓	
<b>Suspensions or Restrictions</b> - Provide details of any suspensions, restrictions or other actions from relevant registering and professional bodies in Australia or in any other country	✓	
<b>Certificate of Good Standing</b> (where requested)	✓	

<b>Driver's Licence</b> – A current, unrestricted “C” class (manual) Australian driver's licence.	✓	
<b>Citizenship</b> - 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.	✓	
<b>Valid Passport</b> - 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		✓

### Knowledge and experience:

Successful applicants are typically rural and remote generalist practitioners or registrars (e.g. rural generalists), or less typically specialists with a broad scope of practice and 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*)

## WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR – 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.

### Knowledge and experience:

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.

## ELIGIBILITY AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

### Personal Qualities:

During the recruitment selection process, the AAD assesses individual personal qualities required to successfully live and work in an isolated Antarctic/sub-Antarctic community. Successful candidates need to demonstrate the personal qualities detailed [here](#).

### Pre-employment check:

Your suitability for employment will be assessed through pre-employment screening including National Police Check, referee checks, pre-employment medical assessment, specified mandatory qualification(s) validation and completion of required probation period.

### Work Health and Safety Obligations:

All employees have a duty to take reasonable care of their own health and safety while at work, to ensure their acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons in line with any reasonable instruction given to comply with the Work Health and Safety legislation.

### RecruitAbility:

Under the [APS \(Australian Public Service\) RecruitAbility scheme](#) you will be invited to participate in further assessment for the vacancy if you choose to apply under the scheme; declare you have a disability; AND meet the minimum requirements for the position.

## HOW TO APPLY

Information about how to apply can be found [here](#), including further information about AAD jobs.