The Australian College of Midwives (ACM) is seeking midwives who are interested in joining the Rural and Remote Advisory Committee (RRAC).

**RRAC Purpose**
There are ongoing challenges to address regarding midwifery and maternity services in rural and remote Australia requiring the active involvement of the Australian College of Midwives (ACM). The Rural and Remote Advisory Committee (RRAC) will provide advice and make recommendations to ACM on these matters.

**The role of the Committee is to:**
- Provide expert advice to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Australian College of Midwives (ACM) on matters related to rural and remote maternity care
- Provide expert advice and support to the CEO on ways in which to utilise national/international policies and developments in midwifery to assist with the ongoing development of midwifery education in rural and remote Australia.
- Make recommendations about ways in which ACM can effectively contribute to the ongoing development of midwifery in rural and remote Australia.
- Undertake specified tasks or projects as requested by the CEO from time to time, such as drafting ACM policies, and other relevant projects relating to rural and remote issues.
- Represent ACM as either individuals or as a group when requested to do so by the CEO in matters of relevance for rural and remote midwifery as resources permit.
- Liaise with various national and international midwifery organisations and individuals on behalf of ACM when requested to do so by the CEO.
- Provide input to the CEO on the selection of experts to represent ACM on national/international committees relating to rural and remote issues as necessary.
- Liaise with any other ACM Advisory Committee through the Chair as matters arise
- Carry out the responsibilities/role in a culturally-safe manner, demonstrating respect and understanding of the wide variety of cultural beliefs and practices members may come across during their time on this committee.

**Appointment**
As per the TOR, the appointment is for a period of 3 years.

Members will need to undertake a membership renewal EOI process at the end of their first term, thus reconfirming their commitment to the Committee and the Committee obligations. Re-appointment to the Committee will be dependent on a successful EOI being completed, as well as, evidence being noted of active participation in Committee meetings and project work over the period of the previous appointment.

**Meetings**
The RRAC meets quarterly by Zoom or teleconference however a majority of work is undertaken by email.
The current meeting schedule is as follows (but are subject to change):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>March, June, September, December</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Day</td>
<td>1st or 2nd Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>12:00pm (AEST)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Transparency**
Expressions of Interest

Rural and Remote Advisory Committee (RRAC)

Names and profiles of members will be communicated to ACM members via e-bulletin, website and social media. This is to ensure transparency of governance and inform members of ACM activity.

**Expectations**

- Members should be prepared to attend all scheduled meetings for the Committee, with a minimum of 50% attendance per year to maintain Committee membership;
- Members should be prepared to actively participate in all dialogue that occurs “out of session” pertaining to Committee business, which may on occasion require a quick response. E.g. regularly check email correspondence and promptly respond to requests, even if this is to say “I’m sorry I can’t contribute!”. This information will inform decisions related to continued membership of the committee;
- In busy periods you may anticipate the need to dedicate approximately 1-2 hours per week to the committee;
- Contribute to or lead committee work, which may include providing opinions on courses or web pages, commenting on documents, contributing to submissions, writing for the Australian Midwifery News, etc.

**What’s in it for you?**

- You will receive a letter of acknowledgement of your appointment to the ACM RRAC which can be used in your professional portfolio;
- You can add this role to your CV as evidence of your professional engagement and personal/professional development;
- You can log all hours that you undertake attending meetings or addressing work for the RRAC in your professional portfolio as CPD hours;
- You will have access to resources and engagement with fellow health professionals who are passionate about rural and remote maternity issues;
- You will have the opportunity to help guide rural and remote developments and changes;
- You will gain experience in working on a Committee and there may be opportunities to represent the ACM at local or national events;
- You will build up your personal/professional network by working with your midwifery peers.

**Selection Criteria**

The RRAC is a skills-based committee with appointments made against the following criteria:

- Current financial member of the ACM
- Have registration as a midwife with the NMBA and be able to meet recency of practice requirements.
- Have experience in, or a capacity to, represent midwives with regards to improving maternity services in the rural and remote sector.
- Have a well-developed capacity to analyse research evidence and other sources of information relating to rural and remote midwifery.
- Have email access.
- Have a willingness to donate time and expertise to the scheduled meetings and activities undertaken by the committee on behalf of ACM as outlined in the Committee’s TOR.

**RRAC Terms of Reference**

Download the TOR here

**For further information**

Please contact Hilary Rorison (Midwifery Advisor Professional Practice Unit) hilary.rorison@midwives.org.au

**To apply**

You will need to send the following details:
Expressions of Interest
Rural and Remote Advisory Committee (RRAC)

- Current CV
- Written response to all of the Selection Criteria
Send to: admin@midwives.org.au

Process for selection
- Once applications are received, they will be reviewed for completeness. An incomplete application will not be considered.
- Completed applicants that have addressed the selection criteria will be sent to the Midwifery Advisor Professional Practice Unit & the current RRAC Chair for review.
- Approved applications will be submitted to the ACM CEO for approval.
- Successful applicants will be recruited to the RRAC in readiness for the next available meeting.
- Unsuccessful applicants will be contacted and advised of the reasoning for their application not being approved.
- Ideally the process will take no more than 6 weeks from receipt of application. ACM will advise if there are any anticipated delays.