Expedited Specialist pathway Monthly report

February 2026

Medical Board Ahpra

Introduction

The Expedited Specialist pathway is for specialist international medical graduates (SIMGs) with an international specialist medical qualification on the Medical Board's *Expedited Specialist pathway: accepted qualifications list.* The Expedited Specialist pathway is now open for general practice, anaesthetics, psychiatry, obstetrics and gynaecology, general medicine and general pediatrics. General medicine and general paediatrics were added to the pathway on 19 January 2026. This monthly report provides information on the progress with Expedited Specialist pathway applications and registrations. The data is cumulative from the opening of the Expedited Specialist pathway on 21 October 2024.

Summary

As of 28 February 2026:

- **744** internationally qualified specialists have applied for registration in Australia since the pathway opened
- Of these, **38** applications were for anaesthetics, **638** applications were for general practice, **14** applications were for obstetrics and gynaecology, and **54** applications were for psychiatry
- **535** applicants have been registered through the Expedited Specialist pathway (section 58(b) of the National Law) – **18** anaesthetists, **474** general practitioners, **8** obstetricians and gynaecologists and **35** psychiatrists
- An additional **2** applicants applied for specialist registration under the Expedited Specialist pathway but were assessed as ineligible for the pathway. However, they were qualified for specialist registration under section 58(c) of the National Law and have been registered
- **12** applicants who applied through the Expedited Specialist pathway have been granted registration through alternative registration pathways (i.e. granted provisional registration via the competent authority pathway or specialist registration based on holding Fellowship)
- **145** applications are in various stages of assessment and are yet to be finalised. This includes waiting for information from the applicant or third parties, decisions pending by the Board and the process of finalising registration
- **45** applications have been withdrawn, and **5** applications have been refused by the Medical Board
- **86.4%** of applicants are from the United Kingdom
- **453** supervised practice arrangements have been approved to enable SIMGs to commence work in every state and territory.

Applications

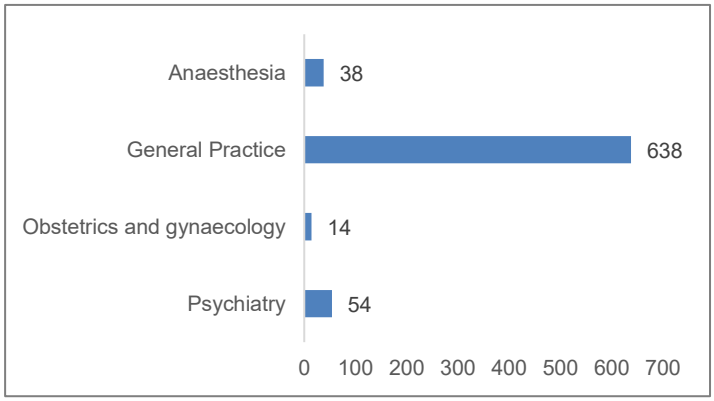

Figure 1 – Total applications by specialty

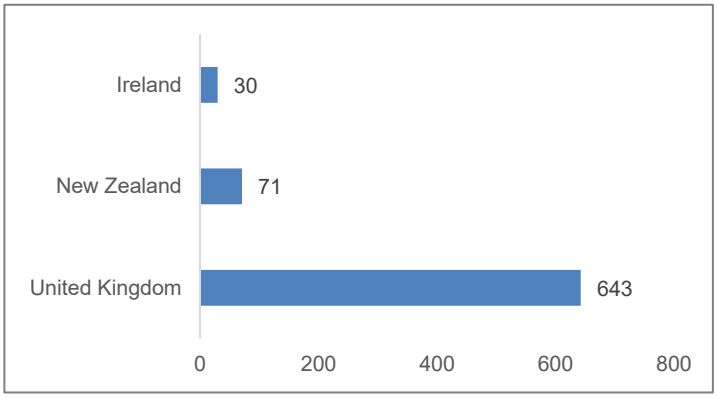

Figure 2 – Total applications by country of specialist qualification

Registration

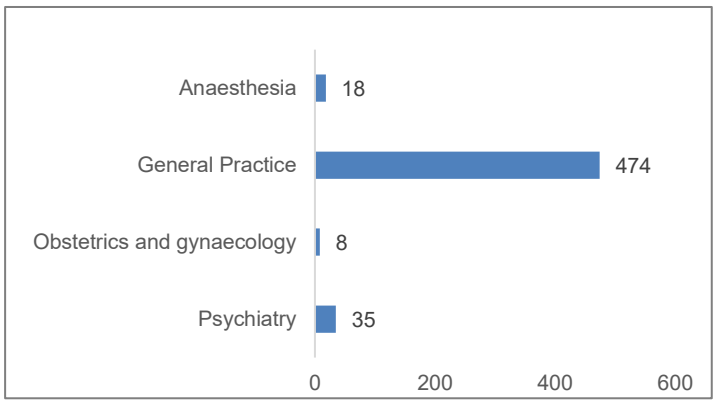

Figure 3 – Total registrations by specialty

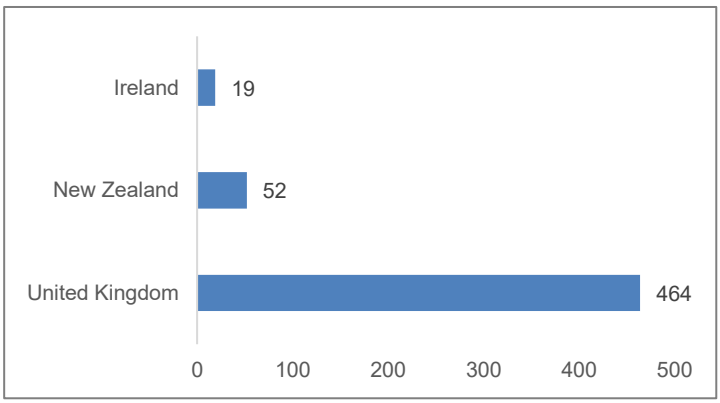

Figure 4 – Total registrations by country of specialist qualification

State and Territory information

SIMGs nominate a principal place of practice as part of their supervised practice plan. A SIMG may include a supervised practice plan with their application for registration, or alternatively, after being granted specialist registration. The Medical Board must approve the supervised practice plan before the SIMG can commence practice.

The graph below details the state or territory location of specialist registrants on the Expedited Specialist pathway. This includes SIMGs who have been registered but are yet to have an approved supervised practice plan (no SPP).

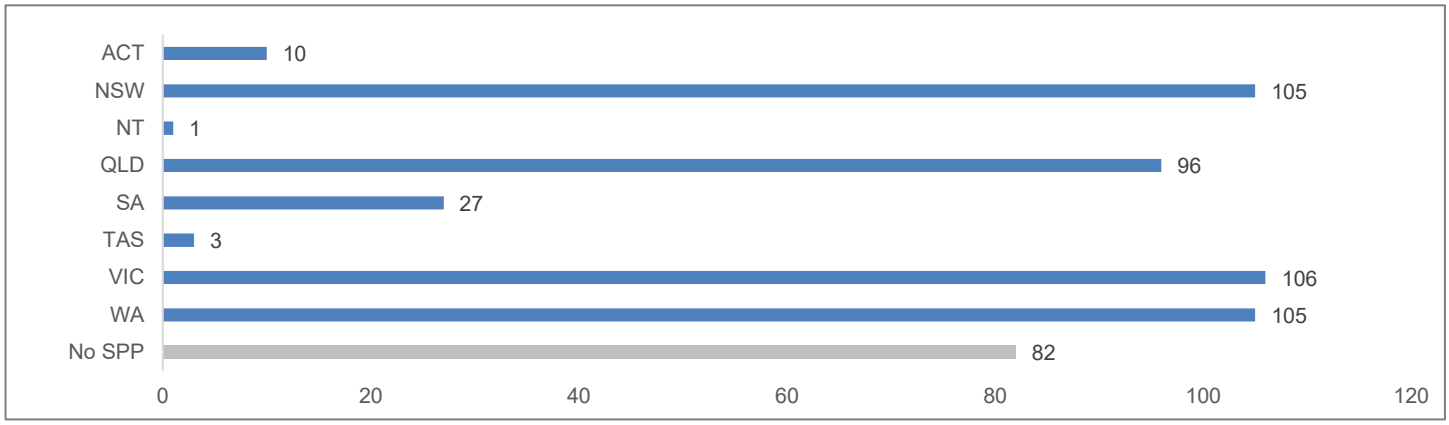

Figure 5 – Number of specialist registrants on the Expedited Specialist pathway by State and Territory