



Writing to your Parliamentary Representatives

The more letters that Federal, state and territory MPs and Senators receive about ACRRM's key policy priorities, the more likely they are to recognise that these are issues which governments needs to address.

A short, signed personal letter can have real impact, especially if you are referencing a specific inadequacy in the health system.

- **Use the correct title**
 - For MPs use *Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr First Name Last Name MP*
 - For Senators use *Senator First Name Last Name*
 - For MPs and Senators who are or have been government Ministers, use
 - *The Hon. First Name Last Name MP*
 - *Senator the Hon. First Name Last Name*
- **Include your name and address**
- **Introduce yourself and your issue/s**
- **Personalise the letter**—tell your own story by using your own words
- **Tell them what you want them to do to make the healthcare system better for you and your community**
- **Use polite and respectful language**
- **Keep it brief**—one page will have maximum impact.

FIND OUT MORE

acrrm.org.au/advocacy

Use the template below as a starting point for your own letter.

Dear *INSERT TITLE* per notes above

Re: <<specify desired action from politician>>

Introduce yourself

Introduce your issue—some suggestions:

- Include relevant facts and figures (some suggestions below)
- If relevant include a recent news item relevant to the issue
- Highlight local connection to issue
- Include a personal experience related to the issue.

This is to request that you <<**Specify what you would like the politician to do about the issue**>>

If you would like to discuss I can be contacted at <<**your preferred contact details**>>

Yours sincerely

Suggested Facts and Figures:

- Around 80% of ACRRM Fellows are rurally based doctors.
- ACRRM trainees' rural retention rates post training are double those of other GP trainees allocated rural positions on the government training pathway.
- ACRRM doctors serve communities by being able to pivot between hospitals and GP clinics to provide services to rural and remote communities.
- Rural and remote communities can thrive when access to comprehensive, continuous, high-quality healthcare services is guaranteed.
- Medicare and funding models must be reviewed to better remunerate rural and remote practice and grow a strong workforce of rurally based doctors who can provide primary, and emergency, other essential care.

Read our [Position Statements](#) for further information.



ACRRM acknowledges Australian Aboriginal People and Torres Strait Islander People as the first inhabitants of the nation. We respect the Traditional Owners of lands across Australia in which our members and staff work and live, and pay respect to their Elders past present and future.

