



# Compliance Bulletin

## Regional Pharmacy Maintenance Allowance

This bulletin outlines community pharmacy eligibility criteria ahead of the upcoming Regional Pharmacy Maintenance Allowance (RPMA) renewal period for the 2026–27 allowance year.

It is important to ensure that your community pharmacy remains eligible to claim this allowance.

This bulletin provides a quick guide to the community pharmacy eligibility criteria, particularly the required opening hours when a registered pharmacist must be in attendance.

### **RPMA community pharmacy eligibility criteria**

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To be eligible to claim the RPMA, your community pharmacy must have:

- a Section 90 Pharmacy approval
- an annual prescription volume below the upper limit in the RPMA Payment Matrix. The 2026-27 RPMA Payment Matrix will be available on the PPA website prior to 1 July 2026.

The pharmacy must also be located in an eligible MM category – MM 3 Inner Regional, MM 4 Outer Regional, MM 5 Rural, MM 6 Remote or MM 7 Very Remote.



In addition, the community pharmacy must be open, **with a registered pharmacist in attendance**, for:

- at least 20 hours each week
- a minimum of 4 days each week
- 48 weeks of each allowance year.

You must inform the PPA of any change to your business circumstances that affects your eligibility. If you do not notify the PPA of such a change within 14 days:

- your ongoing monthly RPMA payments may be suspended, cancelled, delayed or ceased
- payments made since the change was made may be recovered.



If the number of hours when your community pharmacy is open with a registered pharmacist in attendance falls below the minimum required for the RPMA Program, you may become ineligible to participate.

You must notify the PPA within 14 days if your community pharmacy's opening hours are reduced below the minimum required.

## Submitting your 2026–27 renewal

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Annual renewal period for the 2026–27  
allowance year  
**1 May to 14 June**

Before you submit your RPMA annual renewal through the PPA Portal between 1 May and 14 June this year, check that your community pharmacy meets the eligibility criteria, specifically that your community pharmacy:

- ✓ was open, with a registered pharmacist in attendance, for the minimum required hours during the last RPMA claim period
- ✓ will continue to be open, with a registered pharmacist in attendance, for the minimum required hours during the next RPMA claim period.

## Compliance support

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Find out more about the eligibility criteria in the [RPMA Program Rules](#).

Frequently asked questions and more information about corrective actions can be found on the [Compliance section of the PPA website](#) and in the [PPA Monitoring, Compliance and Audit Factsheet](#) and [PPA General Terms and Conditions](#).

The PPA Compliance team is available to support you and clarify the program's eligibility criteria to help you to comply. For general compliance enquiries, please call 1800 951 285 and ask to speak with a member of the Compliance team.