



Charles Darwin University medical school

The Government will fund Charles Darwin University to operate a medical school from 2026 and build a workforce with the skills needed to support the Northern Territory's unique health challenges.

How will this initiative work?

The Government will provide \$24.6 million over four years from 2024-25 for Charles Darwin University to establish and operate a new medical school for the NT from 2026, subject to the completion of exploratory work on the establishment of the new medical school.

Charles Darwin University will be invited to apply for an ongoing allocation of 40 new commencing medical Commonwealth Supported Places (CSPs) each year, supporting high quality medical training for up to 200 students by 2030. Additional funding will also be provided to support related capital, establishment, and recurrent costs.

Why is it important?

The NT has persistent challenges in attracting and retaining a medical workforce, with many doctors travelling from other parts of Australia or internationally, rather than living long-term in the Territory.

Medical graduates who come from a regional background or study in the regions are much more likely to stay and practice in these areas. For this reason, the final report of the Australian Universities Accord found a need to increase the number of medical students studying in regional areas.

Who will benefit?

Growing the NT's locally based medical workforce, who understand the needs of their local community including First Nations people, will be to the betterment of all Territorians.

How much will it cost?

The Australian Government will provide \$24.6 million over four years from 2024-25.