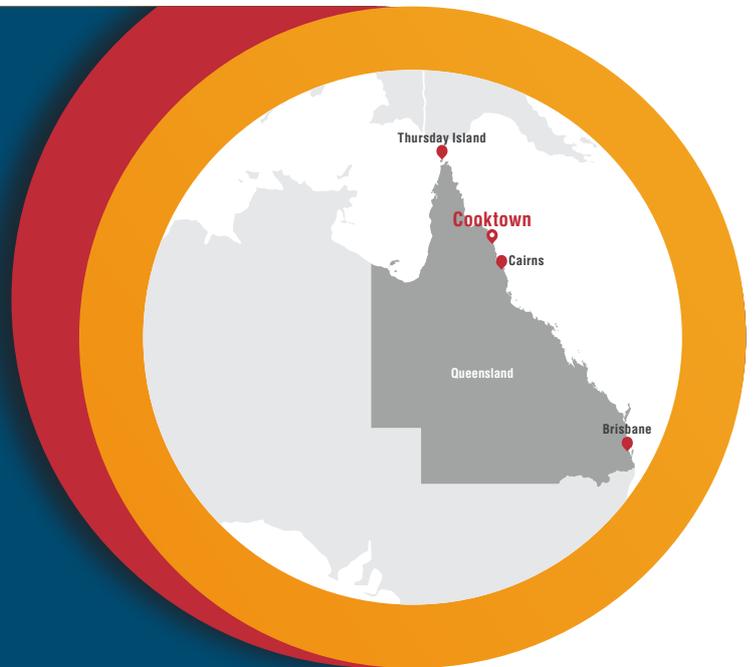


# ABOUT COOKTOWN QLD



## ABOUT TARGETED RECRUITMENT

The Remote Vocational Training Scheme (RVTS) has expanded its traditional workforce retention and training model by recruiting doctors to targeted remote communities with high medical workforce need. The aim is to enhance the attractiveness of rural and remote posts to high quality applicants to provide communities with a well-supported and sustainable GP workforce.

The initial pilot of the program in 2018-19 has successfully secured the services of six full-time doctors to six rural and remote communities across Australia.

Targeted recruitment positions utilise existing RVTS training positions and infrastructure. The training is fully funded by the Australian Government and is a four-year GP training program delivered by Distance Education and Remote Supervision to Fellowship of the ACCRRM and/or RACGP.



### Location



Cooktown is 244km from Cairns and almost 2000km north of Brisbane. Cooktown was discovered by Captain James Cook in 1770 when his ship HMS Endeavour hit a reef offshore. The gold mining boom in the 1880s saw much of the town's ornate infrastructure and architecture built which still stands today.



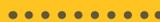
### Attractions



The fishing is world-renowned, with fishing enthusiasts flocking to the Cooktown River and the neighbouring offshore reefs to catch Barramundi and Coral Trout. The Musical Ship interactive sculpture is a huge tourism attraction. In June, the landing of Captain Cook is re-enacted as part of Cooktown Discovery Festival.



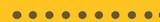
### Housing



The median price for houses in Cooktown is \$295,000. The average house in Cooktown is rented for \$318 per week. There are usually limited houses for sale, but a large range of houses which are available for rent. *Source: realestate.com.au, April, 2019.*



### Education



Cooktown State School is a government run and co-educational school catering for all year levels from Prep to Year 12. Endeavour Christian College caters for Prep to Year 12 and is co-educational. Holy Spirit College in Cooktown caters for students wishing to further their education or attend TAFE.

# ABOUT COOKTOWN MULTI-PURPOSE HEALTH SERVICE



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**Contact: Louise Bambury**  
Health Workforce Queensland  
(07) 3105 7800  
[yourhealth.net.au/cooktown](http://yourhealth.net.au/cooktown)

The Cooktown Medical Centre is a well-established facility in the town, opening in 1983. It provides a range of services, including general check-ups, family planning, pap smears, pregnancy tests, ante-natal care, heart care, lung test, counselling, immunisations, blood tests and minor surgery. The centre is well supported by the range of allied health services in the town, such as chronic disease prevention and management, dental clinics, outpatients, medical imaging, physiotherapy, social work, dietetics, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, diabetes educators, aged care, home and community care, mental health and child health outreach services. Cooktown also has the Cooktown Multi-Purpose Health

Service, a 24-hour health facility providing emergency, acute and residential aged care to the township of Cooktown and surrounds. The health service comprises of two emergency beds, 16 acute beds and 11 residential beds. The facility also has the resources to care for patients in palliative care as well as patients with respite needs. Recent changes within the health service mean that expectant mothers with low risk pregnancies will no longer have to travel out of Cooktown to give birth. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population of Cooktown is 14.5 per cent.

## FAST FACTS



### Referring hospitals

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- Cairns Hospital 325km



### Services

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- Medical imaging
- Minor surgery
- Dental
- Occupational health
- Optometry
- Physiotherapy
- Outreach services
- Maternal and child health



### Visiting specialists

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- Optometry
- Physiotherapy
- Mental health
- Obstetrics and gynaecology
- Orthopaedics
- Thoracic medicine



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