

**Question on Notice
No. 1640
Asked on 30 October 2008**

MR MALONE asked the Minister for Emergency Services (MR ROBERTS) -

QUESTION:

Why do paramedics who wish or need to change the station from which they operate have to have 'bonus points' to allow them to do so whereas overseas or trainee paramedics are able to get their station of choice?

ANSWER:

When overseas Qualified Paramedics are appointed to the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) they nominate a preferred area of employment on their application form. These preferences are considered when officers are appointed and if accepted, the officer may be required to work at any ambulance station within that area. Appointments are made to an area level, not to a particular ambulance station.

Student Paramedics also nominate an area of preferred employment and appointments are made at the area level rather than to a particular station. Students may be required to work at any station within that area.

In order for QAS paramedics to change from the station in which they operate, they must register their interest to transfer at level to a vacant position that has been nominated for filling through the Points Transfer Procedure.

All permanent QAS officers accrue points based on the remote category of their station and the period of service at that location. An officer's ability to secure a transfer to a desirable location is significantly increased with the accrual of a high number of points.

The Points Transfer Procedure was introduced so that officers who are registered for voluntary transfer can be quickly identified against a registered vacancy.