



Communiqué

2 May 2014

The Psychology Board of Australia (the Board) is established under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law). This communiqué highlights key issues from the 51st meeting of the Board on 2 May 2014. At each meeting, the Board considers a wide range of issues, many of which are routine and are not included in this communiqué.

Consultation update

Consultation is an important part of the Board's engagement with psychologists and members of the public. Feedback received is greatly valued, and informs the Board's development of registration standards, codes, and guidelines.

Public consultation - requirements for general registration, continuing professional development and recency of practice for psychologists

The Board is reviewing the requirements for general registration, continuing professional development and recency of practice for psychologists.

The Board has published a consultation paper which is open for feedback until 30 June 2014 and is seeking input from the community and the profession on proposals to update the following:

- General registration standard
- Continuing professional development registration standard
- Guidelines for continuing professional development
- Recency of practice registration standard, and
- Policy on recency of practice requirements

Under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, the National Board develops and recommends to the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (Ministerial Council), the registration standards that all registered psychologists must meet. When the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) commenced in 2010 new registration standards were approved by the Ministerial Council and new guidelines and policies implemented by the Board. The Board agreed to review all its standards, guidelines and policies after three years of the National Scheme, and this consultation is part of the scheduled review.

The registration standards set out requirements for obtaining and maintaining general registration as a psychologist, and the guideline and policy provide further guidance for practitioners. The Board is asking the community and practitioners to have their say on the standards registered psychologists must meet for entry into the profession, and the requirements for maintaining and extending their knowledge, skills and competence through continuing professional development and practice of the profession. The Board is also asking for feedback on the information in the CPD guideline and recency of practice policy which provide additional guidance to the profession.

The consultation paper is available under [Current consultations](#)

Preliminary consultation

The Board is currently undertaking preliminary consultation (testing ideas) regarding proposed amendments to the Provisional registration standard and Guidelines for the 4+2 internship program

for provisional psychologists and supervisors. The Board will undertake public consultation later in 2014.

Accreditation of programs

Under section 49 of the National Law, the Board requires accreditation reports from the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) before it can approve the accredited programs of study as providing a qualification for the purposes of registration.

At this March meeting, the Board approved APAC-accredited courses from:

- Charles Sturt University
- Monash University
- University of Adelaide
- Charles Sturt University

An updated list of Board-approved qualifications will soon be published under [Accreditation](#) on the Board's website.

Melbourne forum

The Board hosted a public forum in Melbourne on Thursday 1 May 2014 that was attended by 300 psychologists. This was the third forum to be held in Melbourne. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation given by the Chair of the Board about national regulation and registration will be available on the Board's [website](#) shortly.

Professor Brin Grenyer
Chair
Psychology Board of Australia
12 May 2014