

## ***Consultation Paper 25: National Psychology Exam***

To whom it may concern,

I am a current Masters of Psychology (Forensic) student at UNSW Australia. This letter is an opportunity for my feedback to be heard regarding the proposed change to the current exemption of higher degree students from completing the National Psychology Examination.

I am completely confident in my post-graduate program and the education and invaluable supervision we receive. What exacerbates this for me is the process, scrutiny and quality required to receive accreditation from APAC. I believe that programs achieving this standard should be appreciated and recognised.

By removing the exemption for Masters graduates to the National Psychology Examination the thoroughness of our education and the quality provided in post-graduate programs is being questioned. This would imply that APAC and perhaps their standards are also being questioned. The exemption plays an important role in recognising the small percentage of people who are accepted into Masters programs and the difficult nature of completing these programs.

I agree that consistency is appropriate and something to be valued. However, I worry it may reduce some of the appeal to individuals in years to come, who may not recognise the high standard of the Masters programs or how valuable it is to complete a post-graduate degree for our field due to the similarity of sitting this National Psychology Examination with all other pathways. Additionally, a consistent approach via APRAH and APAC would be more beneficial, where any areas of concern that are not being addressed become part of the APAC guidelines. Conversely, if the National Psychology Examination is not adding to APAC standards but is assessing information already included in post-graduate degrees, then this is already thoroughly assessed in the program.

I think it is critical to not undermine the extensive and complex standards that higher degree programs need to satisfy or the body approving them (APAC). By continuing to exempt Masters students from the National Psychology Examination you will confirm that you have confidence in these programs, the standards students must reach to be accepted and show consistency of standards across various psychological bodies.

Kind regards,

Provisional Psychologist

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