

Media release

23 December 2010

Board Waives Application Fee for Psychology Provisional Registration

The Psychology Board of Australia has waived the application fee for psychology provisional registration in all states and territories until 30 June 2011.

The waiver previously granted in South Australia and Western Australia to provisional psychologists has now been applied as a transitional measure to all other states and territories until 30 June 2011.

Until 30 June 2011, provisional psychologists will be due to pay a registration fee of \$390 but will not have to pay the \$410 application fee.

Since 1 July 2010, individuals undertaking both a 4+2 pathway to general registration and an APAC accredited higher degree leading to general registration must be registered as a provisional psychologist. Information on registration as a provisional psychologist under the national registration and accreditation scheme (the National Scheme) can be found on the Board's website.

The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme is fully funded by registrants in the 10 regulated professions. There is no cross subsidisation between professions in the scheme.

Board Chair, Professor Brin Grenyer, said the Board made the decision to extend the application fee waiver after considering stakeholder feedback and in recognition of the common income gap between provisional and general registrants.

"While the cost of registering and regulating provisional psychologists completing their fifth and sixth years of supervised practice are considerably higher than the costs for general psychologists, the Board has set the fees at the same level for both groups," Professor Grenyer said.

"In making this decision and reviewing fees for provisional registrants, the Board aims to set a registration fee that places only a fair and reasonable burden on registrants and takes into account the stage of career of registrants, the Board's financial responsibilities and our need to uphold the Board's functions under the National Law," Professor Grenyer said.

From 1 July 2010 to now, everyone applying for provisional and general registration as a psychologist paid both an application fee of \$410 and a registration fee of \$390 (i.e. \$800 in the first year). The Board has now determined to waive the \$410 application fee for Provisional Psychologists as a transition provision until 30 June 2011.

All individuals undertaking both a 4+2 pathway to general registration and an APAC accredited higher degree leading to general registration who apply for provisional registration before 30 June 2011 will be only required to pay the registration/renewal fee (\$390).

The Board is reviewing provisional registration fees in consultation with its finance and management committee and AHPRA. The review aims to ensure any changes are implemented for the 2011/2012 financial year and will include issues related to the re-application fee for provisional registration at the expiry of two renewal periods.

A Fact Sheet about the fee waiver is available on the Board's website later today at <http://www.psychologyboard.gov.au>.

For more information

- Visit www.ahpra.gov.au under *Contact us* to lodge an online enquiry form
- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 7 3666 4911 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200