Implemented immediately.

expected to lead a reduction in the number of registered psychologists. It is to be
raised, as it is difficult to obtain the amount of supervision, especially in the short term. This may
may not be sufficient to meet the annual ceiling for registering a further cohort of registrants. The immediate
increase in the number of registrants would result in less relevant and lower standard activities in
the profession. Revising the registration requirements in a different system will
introduce a different system for the psychologists in question to a new system. This is an effective
step, which follows a points system that was developed by the Australian Psychological Society.

The College is not the view that registered psychologists should engage in professional
Section 2.4: Continuing professional development

The College endorses the Australian Psychological Board of Australia for addressing these issues and

on page 56 of the consultation paper.

discipline knowledge, assessment, intervention, communication, research and ethics and outcome

The College recognises the difficulty of finding the appropriate balance between providing high

guidelines.

b) the College is in a strong position to contribute to discussions regarding national

and the Australian College of Applied Psychology (ACAP) has been running the psychologists

Paper on registration standards and related matters.

RE: Consultation paper on registration standards and related matters

Dear Associate Professor Brian Crueney,

Chair: Psychology Board of Australia

Associate Professor Brian Crueney

18 November 2009
Complaining the problem of lack of remuneration for intern psychologists in conjunction with
where the majority of placements are voluntary will have this impact.

Increasing hours in the total cost for supervision raises the financial strain on
July 2010, at least in New South Wales and Queensland where we have few psychologists
and in other states generally where we would argue that the lower increase to be introduced in
the other states currently but we would still argue that the under increases to be introduced in
the measures. We recognise there intern psychologists are expected to undertake in a greater
number of placements and other training to

spend subsidies while training through taking on other work while in training. Thus the increase in

in addition many organisations do not provide any payment to their psychologists interns.

that does not meet standards.

especially if they are not completing their training through an institution such as ours.

However we are aware that the system is already not working as it currently does to full

We already experience difficulty obtaining placements for all our students even though we have

how effective in reducing the number of psychologists in the workforce.

The proposed psychology should the proposed requirements be introduced in July 2010 with a

proportion psychology no longer the number of psychology would 2,70 and higher and the number of

psychologists in NSW. ACT and NT and the number of psychologists on page 27.

Sections that was previously established and the resultant economics impacts on the workforce.

The college recommends that the model the APS model of continuing professional development is

and should be reviewed.

so recomended that the immediate requirement of 10 hours of individual supervision

be revised.

and APS model of continuing professional development. Should any specific aspect of this model not meet

The college recommends that the board adopts the APS model of continuing professional development.
There are two issues that may impact negatively on the number of psychologists in future years.

1. There are not enough psychologists to meet the demand for mental health services.

2. Psychologists are required to complete a certain number of continuing education credits each year.

The college recognizes the need for psychologists to acquire new knowledge and skills in order to remain well-informed and competent in their field.

The college recommends that the board ensure that the number of continuing education credits required for psychologists is kept to a minimum.

Equal Protection and Supervision

The college recommends that the board ensure that there is equal protection and supervision for all psychologists, regardless of their level of education or experience.

Informed Consent

The college recommends that the board ensure that psychologists obtain informed consent from their clients before providing services.

For any supervision activity, the number of hours of supervision required is determined by the specific area of supervision. In general, the number of hours required is based on the level of expertise and the complexity of the case.

We also note that the proposed changes to the +2 model are not in keeping with the view that the number of years required is lower. We strongly support the requirement that supervision undertaken training and
Foundation Professor and Head of School of Psychology

Chintu Pratt

The College is considering revised guidelines that take account of feedback from the profession and from other sources. Further discussion of the points raised should assist. We look forward to specific concerns raised in this paper. 

The College acknowledges the opportunity to provide feedback to the board and confirms its support for the move to national registration. It requests that the board takes account of the need to address changes to the program discussed above.

The College recommends that the board considers with APAC (as the accrediting body) regarding the impact on students who may opt for the 5+2 route but are not able to secure the final internship year after five years of training.

In addition, there appears to be no control over the numbers of students taken into these programs.

The College recommends that the Board takes account of the time it will take to lead to future cohorts opting to continue with their training in psychology.

The combination of these factors is likely to influence collaborations with APAC regarding the impact on students who may opt for the 5+2 route but are not able to secure the final internship year after five years of training. This raises the possibility of psychology students completing 5 years of skill in training without having been able to complete their internship year in the context of the program's requirements, beyond institutional requirements of maintaining acceptable student:staff ratios and accreditation by APAC.

For another two years and it is also not clear how many higher education providers intend to offer programs prior to student intake. It is likely that many of these programs will not be introduced, although it is unknown how many higher education providers intend to offer programs prior to student intake. It is likely that many of these programs will not be introduced.