

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my concern over the proposed removal of the 4+2 pathway and request that the **last enrolment period to be on 30 June 2021**.

I am currently enrolled in the final year of the Masters of Teaching (School Counselling) at the University of Sydney and am a scholarship holder with the Department of Education. I entered this program with the desire to work in the public school system and knowledge that I would be able to concurrently work as a School Counsellor whilst completing my Psychological Registration, with the supervision of a member of the SP-E group I am assigned to. My scholarship means that I will be placed in a DET selected area, which may or may not have supervisors available. Scholarship holders cannot ensure that we will have a supervisor within our area before July 2019. If the 4+2 program is retired in June 2019, it is a distinct possibility that I, and many of my cohort, will not be able to secure supervision in time to begin the 4+2 program. Removing this possibility has potentially resulted in students taking on up to \$44,000 worth of debt in university fees with no possibility of internal supervision, which was guaranteed when we began our master's program. Whilst it may seem a childish complaint – it is simply not fair to impose this sanction on this large cohort of individuals who wish to gain psychological registration whilst working for the good of Australia's children.

As such, I wish to request that the board extends the cut-off period for 4+2 for another **3 years, the cut-off being 30 June 2021**. Whilst I recognise retiring the 4+2 program may be an inevitability, I believe that is unethical that currently enrolled students will not be able to complete a pathway that was guaranteed them. A three year extension will mean that students entering these Masters programs will be fully informed before taking on significant debt with no possibility of internal supervision.

Kind Regards,

Regan Pullen