

Endorsements

What is an endorsement?

Endorsement of a psychologist's registration is a legal mechanism under the National Law through which particular groups of registrants, who have an additional qualification or advanced practice recognised by the Board, can be identified to the public, employers and anyone else accessing the public register. An endorsement on registration indicates that a psychologist has expertise in an advanced area of practice, in addition to the minimum level of psychological training required for general registration. Endorsement of a psychologist's registration under the National Law has the same effect as approval of a specialist title under the *Psychologists Act 2005* (WA).

Who automatically transitions with an endorsement?

1. Psychologists in Western Australia who have specialist registration under section 29(1) of the *Psychologists Act 2005* (WA) in any of the following specialist areas:
 - Clinical psychology
 - Clinical neuropsychology
 - Counselling psychology
 - Educational and developmental psychology
 - Forensic psychology
 - Organisational psychology
 - Sports psychology

These seven areas of practice are “prescribed branches of psychology” under Regulation 7 of the *Psychologists Regulations 2007* (WA). All seven areas are “approved areas of practice” under section 98 of the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009* (“the National Law”), so if you are a Western Australia specialist psychologist you simply transition to the National register with the equivalent area of practice endorsement.

2. Western Australia psychologists who:
 - a. Have full registration as a psychologist under section 27 of the *Psychologists Act 2005* (WA); and
 - b. Appear on a list supplied by the Australian Psychological Society (APS) on 25 June 2010 of current members of any of the following Colleges:
 - College of Clinical Psychologists
 - College of Counselling Psychologists
 - College of Educational and Developmental Psychologists
 - College of Forensic Psychologists
 - College of Neuropsychologists
 - College of Organisational Psychologists
 - College of Sports Psychologists

If you appear on the Western Australia register with full registration, and on a list supplied by the APS, you will automatically transition to the national register of psychologists with the area of practice endorsement that is equivalent to the College of which you are a member.

It is important to note that if you did not give your permission for the APS to release your name to the Psychology Board of Australia your name will not appear on their list of current College members and you will not automatically transition with an endorsement. However you will still be eligible to apply to the Psychology Board of Australia for an endorsement.

3. Western Australia psychologists who:
 - a. Have full registration as a psychologist under section 27 of the *Psychologists Act 2005* (WA); and
 - b. Had been assessed before 1 July 2010 as eligible to provide clinical psychology Medicare services and met all the requirements to maintain that eligibility

will transition to the National Register with a Clinical Psychology area of practice endorsement.

Who doesn't automatically transition with an endorsement but is eligible to apply for one when Western Australia joins the scheme?

Note: some psychologists will be eligible to apply for endorsement through more than one of the categories listed below. If you fit into more than one of these categories you can simply select the one that is most straightforward for you to complete.

1. Western Australia psychologists who:
 - a. Have full registration as a psychologist under section 27 of the *Psychologists Act 2005* (WA); and
 - b. Are a current member of one of the APS Colleges listed on the previous page, but didn't transition automatically because you didn't give the APS permission to release your name to the Board.

To apply for an endorsement go to <http://www.psychologyboard.gov.au/Forms.aspx> to download the form: Application for endorsement (area of practice) – transition arrangements as a Psychologist - AEAT-10.

2. Western Australia psychologists who:
 - a. Met the requirements for membership of one of the APS Colleges listed on the previous page on 30 June 2010 but didn't actually have membership and
 - b. Apply for membership of the College by 30 September 2010 and
 - c. Are accepted as a member of the College by 30 December 2010.

Once you are accepted as a member of the College you can apply for an endorsement using the AEAT-10 form (see above) until 30 June 2013. You will need to include with your application documentation from the APS College that confirms the date you applied for membership and the date you were accepted as a member.

3. Western Australia psychologists who met the requirements for membership of one of the APS Colleges listed on the previous page on 30 June 2010 but who are not APS College members and who don't wish to become APS College members.

You can make an application to the Board for an endorsement using the AEAT-10 form (as above) anytime from 18 October 2010 until 30 June 2013. Your application must include evidence that you met the APS College requirements on 30 June 2010. Applications made after 30 June 2013 will need to meet the new requirements for endorsement.

4. Western Australia Doctor of Psychology students who on 17 October 2010 had finished all components of their degree (including the thesis) and were awaiting their final academic transcript can apply for an area of practice endorsement using the AEAT-10 form (as above) as soon as they receive their final transcript.

Who will be eligible to apply for an area of practice endorsement under the Board's transition provisions and grand-parenting arrangements after completing their education and/or training?

1. Western Australia psychologists who:
 - a. Have full registration as a psychologist under section 27 of the *Psychologists Act 2005* (WA) and transition to General registration under section 52 of the National Law and
 - b. On 17 October 2010 were undertaking a specialist supervision programme approved by the Psychologists Board of Western Australia and
 - c. Register the supervision plan with the regional board (WA/SA) of the Psychology Board of Australia before 30 December 2010 and
 - d. Complete the supervision under the terms and conditions approved by the Psychologists Board of Western Australia and apply to the Psychology Board of Australia for an endorsement by 30 June 2013.

2. Western Australia psychologists who:
 - a. Have full registration as a psychologist under section 27 of the *Psychologists Act 2005* (WA) and transition to General registration under section 52 of the National Law and
 - b. Lodge an application for APS College membership before 30 September 2010
 - c. Following assessment of the application by the APS have an Individual Bridging Plan (IBP) granted by 30 December 2010
 - d. Register the IBP with the regional board (WA/SA) of the Psychology Board of Australia before 30 December 2010 and
 - e. Successfully complete the IBP and apply to the Psychology Board of Australia for an endorsement by 30 June 2013.

3. Western Australia psychologists who:
 - a. Have full registration as a psychologist under section 27 of the *Psychologists Act 2005* (WA) and transition to General registration under section 52 of the National Law and
 - b. Before 30 September 2010 had entered into an agreed supervision plan (i.e. agreement between the supervisor and student) for the purposes of gaining full membership of an APS College that is equivalent to one of the Board's approved areas of practice (see list of Colleges on page 1) and
 - c. Register the agreed supervision plan with the regional board (WA/SA) of the Psychology Board of Australia before 30 December 2010 and
 - d. Complete the supervision program, gain full APS College membership, and apply to the Psychology Board of Australia for an endorsement by 30 June 2013.

4. Western Australia Master of Psychology students (including combined MPsych/PhD students) who were enrolled in the degree on 30 June 2010 can apply for an area of practice endorsement once they have finished the degree and completed one year of the Psychology Board of Australia registrar program.

5. Western Australia Doctor of Psychology students who were enrolled in the degree on 30 June 2010 can apply for an area of practice endorsement once they have completed the degree.