

Kathleen MacKinnon
New South Wales

23 November 2009

Re; Psychology Board of Australia Consultation Paper

Please accept this submission on the Psychology Board of Australia Consultation Paper.

RE; Section 4 – Proposal for “specialist” psychologist registration

- **This submission seeks recognition of those of us who are members of the Clinical College of the APS and who have achieved comparable clinical education and qualification via completion of a Medicare/Australian Psychological Society accredited/approved alternative entry Bridging Plan/Program for eligibility for Clinical Accreditation and are currently eligible for specialist/clinical status and seek assurance that any “grandparent clause” also not disadvantage us in any way.**
- **In summary, I would like to suggest a change to the wording so that the “grandparent” clause for Psychologists with a Master of Clinical Psychology be extended to include those of us who achieved comparable education, training and qualification via the Australian Psychological Society’s alternative pathway to eligibility as outlined below.**

I write further to the submission by the Chair of the College of Clinical Psychologists, of the Australian Psychological Society, Dr Deborah Wilmoth, PsyD and her expression of the concern of many of the Australian Psychological Societies Clinical College members and their request that members currently eligible for specialist status are not disadvantaged in any way.

I am writing about a particular sub group with current eligible specialist/clinical status, particularly on behalf of people, like myself, who have gained Clinical Accreditation for the provision of Medicare Specialist (Clinical) services and Eligibility and Membership of the Clinical College of the Australian Psychological Society (APS) via their alternative entry pathway involving completion of a Bridging Plan/Program approved and assessed by the Medicare Assessment Team of the APS, and eligible for Medicare Specialist/Clinical Psychologist status..

As you can see from the enclosed Certificate from the Clinical College of the APS, and letter from Medicare Australia confirming acceptance as an “eligible Clinical Psychologist”, I have completed the requirements of the Alternative Entry process for accreditation for provision of Clinical Psychologist services under Medicare and also entry to the Clinical College of the APS and as a consequence gained approval under Medicare to provide Clinical Psychologist services (effective 8 October 2008) and entry

to the Clinical College of the Australian Psychological Society (APS) effective from 28 October 2008, via the completion of an approved Bridging Plan/Program.

As mentioned in the heading above “I would like to suggest a change to the wording so that the “grandparent” clause for Psychologists with a Master of Clinical Psychology be extended to include those of us who achieved comparable education, training and qualification via the Australian Psychological Society’s alternative pathway to eligibility as outlined above”.

I am happy to provide you with details of my additional training for accreditation.

Yours truly

Kathleen MacKinnon
Member College of Clinical Psychologists
Accredited “Eligible Clinical Psychologist” for relevant Medicare items in the Medicare Benefits Schedule