



Attention: Psychology Board of Australia - Submission on Consultation paper on codes and guidelines

Kim Firth to: natboards

14/04/2010 07:06 PM

Dear Sir

The WA Board would like to thank the Psychology Board of Australia for the opportunity to comment on the Consultation paper on codes and guidelines.

The WA Board supports the Psychology Board of Australia's proposals in respect of advertising, mandatory notification, code of ethics, CPD and 4+2 internship and would make the following comments in relation to the Guidelines on area of practice endorsements:

[Guidelines on area of practice endorsements - page 2, item 4 Other matters related to area of practice endorsements](#) .

The WA Board would like to bring to the attention of the Psychology Board of Australia the issue of those registrants completing dual degrees, eg clinical psychology and clinical neuropsychology. The WA Board has experienced difficulties with managing the supervision requirements of those seeking specialist registration in both areas, ie the WA Board position is that registrars should be completing specific supervision for each area of practice.

[Guidelines on area of practice endorsements - page 4, 2.2 Equivalence guidelines - 2nd dot point](#)

There doesn't appear to be a requirement for a 6 month period of supervision to aid familiarisation with local legislation, ethics and cultural differences (as is currently required in WA). The WA Board would recommend all overseas trained applicants who apply for an endorsement complete a period of 6 months supervision; this will assist the Board to satisfy itself that a practitioner is competent.

[Guidelines on area of practice endorsements - page 4, 2.2 Equivalence guidelines - 3rd dot point](#)

The WA Board believes this should read "*accredited, postgraduate bridging courses*" not "*accredited, post-doctoral bridging courses*"

[Guidelines on area of practice endorsements - page 4, 2.2 Equivalence guidelines - 4th dot point](#)

The WA Board believes this should read "*postgraduate psychology qualifications or equivalent pathways*"

[Guidelines on area of practice endorsements - page 4, 3 Approved supervised practice program \(registrar program\)](#)

There is no mention of progress reports to be provided to the Board during the supervision period. The WA Board would recommend there be a requirement for regular progress reports to the Board (the WA model requires progress reports every 6 months); this assists in identifying areas of difficulty early and provides some accountability for the supervisor and supervisee. The Board noted this is a requirement for the 4 year trained psychologists.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours faithfully

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