

## Policy for changing states for pre-1 July 2010 4+2 registrants

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### Summary

The Provisional Registration Standard was approved by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council on 31 March 2010 pursuant to the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act* (the National Law) as in force in each state and territory with approval taking effect from 1 July 2010. The Psychology Board of Australia's *Guidelines for 4+2 Internship Program* (the Guidelines) were developed in accordance with s.35(1)(c)(iii) of the National Law. The Provisional Registration Standard indicates the requirements of the 4+2 internship program that must be successfully completed and the Guidelines outlines the details of these requirements.

Section 7.4 of the Guidelines requires that requests for approval for a new work role or any amendment to an existing work role for an internship must be submitted to the Board for approval.

A provisional psychologist, who was undertaking a state or territory Board-approved 4+2 supervised practice program before 1 July 2010 (or 18 October 2010 in Western Australia), and who wishes to practise in another state or territory and continue his or her 4+2 internship program, is required to change to the new Psychology Board of Australia 4+2 internship program and meet all requirements of the Guidelines for this program.

### Definitions

**Act** means the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act* as in force in each state and territory of Australia

**AHPRA** means the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

**Board** means the Psychology Board of Australia established under part 5 of the Act

**4+2 pathway** refers to the pathway to general registration undertaken by provisional psychologists that is based on Board approval of the plan, supervisors, and work role(s) for the internship program

**4+2 internship program or internship program** refers to the supervised practice program as outlined in the Guidelines

**Guidelines** refers to the *Guidelines for the 4+2 internship program: provisional psychologists and supervisors*

**Practice** refers to the practice of psychology as defined under the Guidelines

**Provisional Psychologist** means a person registered as a provisional psychologist under part 7 of the Act

**Psychologist** means a person who holds general registration as a psychologist under Part 7 of the Act

**Supervisor, or Board-Approved Supervisor or Principal Supervisor** means a person who holds general registration as a psychologist and who has been approved by the Board, pursuant to section 9 of the Guidelines, to supervise provisional psychologists

### Responsibilities

The Board is responsible for formulating and approving this policy. AHPRA is responsible for ensuring that the policy is implemented and effectively managed.

### Scope

This policy applies to provisional psychologists who were undertaking a 4+2 internship/supervision program before commencement of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) who want to transfer their internship to a different state or territory. This policy also applies to supervisors of provisional psychologists undertaking the 4+2 internship program.

### Legislation

Under section 35(1)(c) of the National Law, the Psychology Board of Australia developed and approved the *Guidelines for 4+2 internship program: provisional psychologists and supervisors*. The Psychology Board of Australia has delegated the implementation of the 4+2 internship program to AHPRA. The Psychology Professional Officers at AHPRA may recommend a course of action or refer a specific case to the relevant Regional Board for a decision.

### Requirements

The provisional psychologist must submit the following documentation to the Board:

1. A transitional progress report of the state/territory Board in which the provisional psychologist was practising must be completed by the outgoing supervisor and submitted to that state or territory Board within 28 days of the cessation of the supervision arrangement. This transitional report must include the hours of supervised practice, supervision and professional development completed by the provisional psychologist.
2. If the state/territory Board recognises the hours of supervised practice, supervision and professional development activities, a letter approving the period

of supervised practice will be forwarded to the provisional psychologist.

3. In addition to completing a transitional progress report, the outgoing supervisor is required to update the assessment of capability (or equivalent) forms (or equivalent state or territory form) to indicate which training objectives of their supervised practice program have been completed by the provisional psychologist under his or her supervision. The transitional progress report and the assessment of capability forms must be forwarded to the proposed new supervisor within 28 days of the provisional psychologist advising the outgoing supervisor as to the contact details of the new supervisor.
4. A new Supervised Practice Plan, written by the provisional psychologist in conjunction with the new principal supervisor and using the *National 4+2 Internship Program Supervision Plan Template SPPR-10*, must be submitted to the state or territory Board where the provisional psychologist intends to practise the profession. This new Supervised Practice Plan must pay particular attention to address the outstanding training objectives which the provisional psychologist must complete under the national supervised practice program. The new plan must include the details of the proposed principal and secondary supervisor and an official position description for the new proposed work role must be attached.
5. For the provisional psychologist to obtain credit for supervised practice completed in the previous jurisdiction, the provisional psychologist must submit, with his or her new Supervised Practice Plan, the original letter (or a certified copy) received from the previous state or territory Board which stipulates the hours of supervised practice, supervision and professional development activities approved by the previous jurisdiction.

The National Board will recognise the hours of supervised practice, supervision and professional development recognised by the previous state or territory Board provided that the provisional psychologist resumes his or her training under an approved national internship program within 12 months of ceasing his or her state- or territory-based training program.

The provisional psychologist **must not commence work in his or her new work role** before receiving formal notification from the Board that the Supervised Practice Plan has been approved.

## Authorisation

Psychology Board of Australia

Meeting date: 25 February 2011

## Review

This policy will be in effect from 6 April 2011. The Board will review this policy at least every three years.