



Media release

1 June 2012

Revised registration standards for psychologists

The Psychology Board of Australia (the National Board) today published its revised *Professional indemnity insurance arrangements registration standard* and revised *Provisional registration standard*, which were recently approved by all Australian Health Ministers and come in to effect on 1 June 2012.

The National Board consulted widely on revisions to the provisional registration standard, which has been updated to include more detail on the 5+1 pathway. The Board will develop guidelines to support the 5+1 internship pathway and will consult with the profession and the community on these in due course.

The revised professional indemnity insurance arrangements (PII) standard was developed after extensive consultation and applies to all registered psychologists, including provisional psychologists. Meeting the standard is a requirement of registration.

Under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law), a registered psychologist must have appropriate PII arrangements to practise.

To support the implementation of the new PII registration standard, the National Board has also published a *Guideline on professional indemnity insurance for psychologists*, which clarifies the requirements of the new standard. This information provides guidance on PII to psychologists, employers of psychologists, higher education providers and insurance providers.

The onus is on individual psychologists to ensure they have appropriate PII cover for each practice and job they hold, including voluntary work.

The National Board strongly encourages psychologists to familiarise themselves with the new standard and its requirements, as failure to comply may result in health, conduct or performance action being taken against them by the Board. The National Board will in future be conducting random audits of psychologists' PII arrangements, to ensure the requirements are being met.

The Board has previously confirmed that – with other National Boards – it will introduce an audit of practitioners' compliance with all registration standards. The Board will continue to update the profession about plans in relation to audit.

For more information

- Read the new Provisional registration standard, PII registration standard and guideline published on the National Board's website, www.psychologyboard.gov.au, under the *Standards and guidelines* tab
- Lodge an online enquiry form under *Contact us* at www.ahpra.gov.au
- For registration enquiries, call: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 3 8708 9001 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

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