



# Communiqué

**3 May 2013**

The Psychology Board of Australia (the Board) is established under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law). This communiqué highlights key issues from the 40th meeting of the Board on 3 May 2013. At each meeting, the Board considers a wide range of issues, many of which are routine and are not included in this communiqué.

## **Guidelines for supervisors and supervisor training providers, take effect from 1 July 2013**

The Board has approved the new *Guidelines for supervisors and supervisor training providers*, which are now published on the Board's website.

The Board had previously held two public consultations on earlier versions of this guideline. Feedback received from these consultations was taken into account when approving the final guideline.

The Board's website has been updated to provide more information on supervision and supervisor training providers, including a new section on supervisor FAQ's. More information is available on the [Supervision](#) page of the website, under the *Registration* tab.

An application process for providers of supervisor training programs interested in becoming Board approved is being finalised by the Board's Supervisor Training Working Party. More information will be available on the website shortly.

## **Current consultations**

The Board undertakes two phases of consultation; preliminary and public. During preliminary consultation the Board releases the paper to key stakeholders, which allows it to 'road test' the feasibility of proposed changes as well as consider feedback that may be incorporated for the following phase. Public consultations are widely communicated in the Board's communiqués and website, and open to everyone.

Consultation is an important part of the Board's engagement with psychologists, members of the public and other stakeholders. The feedback provided is greatly valued, and informs the Board's development of important documents.

## **National psychology exam guidelines**

The Board is consulting on [Guidelines for the national psychology examination](#). The consultation paper should be read in conjunction with the Psychology Board of Australia's [General registration standard](#), published on 1 July 2010.

Please provide your feedback to this consultation by email to [psychconsultation@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:psychconsultation@ahpra.gov.au) marked 'Attention: Chair, Exam consultation' by close of business Monday 27 May 2013.

## **Guideline for the 5+1 internship programs**

The Board recently undertook preliminary consultation on a draft *Guideline for 5+1 internship programs* and received a number of submissions from internal stakeholders. The Board has reviewed all the feedback and made some amendments to the draft Guideline.

The public consultation paper will be available on the Board's website and circulated to key external stakeholders on Monday 13 May 2013.

## Review of standards, guidelines and codes

The Board is currently undertaking a public consultation on:

- revised *Guidelines for advertising*
- proposed *Social media policy*, and
- revised *Guidelines for mandatory notifications*.
- whether to continue the *Code of ethics* developed by the Australian Psychological Society, or to use the shared code that has been adopted by most National Boards.

Please provide feedback by email to [guidelinesconsultation@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:guidelinesconsultation@ahpra.gov.au) by close of business on Thursday 30 May 2013.

The Board, in conjunction with the other Boards in the National Scheme, is consulting on these documents as part of its review of the registration standards, guidelines and codes that were developed before the National Scheme commenced. A very important part of this process is consultation.

The consultation about the Board's specific registration standards, codes and guidelines began in May, and will continue during the year.

The Board invites all interested practitioners, members of the community and other stakeholders to provide feedback to the consultations. For details about when these consultations will open, please check the Board's website and future communiqués.

### Accreditation - approved programs of study

Under section 49 of the National Law, the National Board requires accreditation reports from Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) before it can approve the accredited programs of study as providing a qualification for the purposes of registration.

At this meeting the Board approved the full accreditation of courses at University of Wollongong, Curtin University and University of Tasmania. The Board approved the accreditation (with conditions) of a course at the University of Tasmania. These courses will be added to the list of Board-approved courses that is published on the Board's website.

The Board also approved the discontinuation of a number of courses across the country in accordance with s.51(2) of the National Law, including courses at the Australian Catholic University and University of South Australia. Students currently enrolled in these courses will still have their qualification recognised for registration once they graduate, but there will be no new enrolments for these courses.

The updated list of Board-approved qualifications will be published soon on the Board's website under the [accreditation tab](#).

### Statistics

The National Board has released its quarterly registration data. The data includes information about types of registration held, principal place of practice, endorsements, registrant age and gender. The Board has also published its latest statistics on supervisors. Read the latest reports on our [statistics web page](#).

### Call for expressions of interest - List of approved persons for panel appointments

The Board is calling for expressions of interest from experienced psychology practitioners and community members interested in being included in the approved persons list for panel appointments.

The National Law allows National Boards to convene health panels and performance and professional standards panels, when required, to hold hearings into specific health, performance or conduct matters for individual registered practitioners. Such panels consist of members chosen from a Board-approved persons list. Recruitment in accordance with section 183(2) of the National Law, to the extent possible, will exclude individuals whose residence or principal place of practice is in a co-regulatory jurisdiction (i.e. NSW).

Appointments to the approved persons list are for up to three years, with eligibility for reappointment, and are expected to begin in mid-2013.

To download the candidate information pack, visit [Panel member recruitment](#) on the Board website. Applications should be received by 5.00pm AEST on **Friday 17 May 2013**.

Professor Brin Grenyer  
Chair  
Psychology Board of Australia  
7 May 2013