



Communiqué

31 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 41st meeting of the Board on 31 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.

Supervisor training providers invited to apply for Board approval

The Board is now inviting applications from suitably qualified and experienced individuals and organisations to deliver supervisor training program across Australia.

The Board is introducing a training framework for supervisors that is based on competencies to ensure provisional psychologists and psychologists receive quality supervision that is consistent with the Board's standards. This framework, and its requirements, is explained in the [Guideline for supervisors and supervisor training providers](#).

The guideline takes effect from 1 July this year and requires psychologists to have undergone a Board approved supervisor training program before they can become Board approved supervisors (from 1 July, only Board approved supervisors are able to provide supervision). The guideline also requires Board approved supervisors to undertake a 'master class' every five years, to keep their supervision skills up to date and remain Board approved.

Supervision training providers will therefore need to become Board approved for that training to meet the Board's new guidelines.

The Board has released an [application pack](#) for individuals and businesses interested in becoming Board approved providers of supervisor training.

The Board will assess and approve applicants based on their:

- ability to meet Board standards and requirements of the guideline, and
- the selection criteria in the [application pack](#).

Multiple training providers may be selected to facilitate delivery of supervisor training nationally (in both urban and regional areas) and ensure a complete range of training components.

Applications close on 16 August 2013.

Individuals and organisations interested in becoming a Board approved training provider may submit request for additional information or clarification up to 20 days after the release of the application (i.e. 20 June 2013).

Queries should be addressed to: Board Support Officer, Psychology Board of Australia at psychologychair@ahpra.gov.au.

For the purpose of fairness and transparency, all individual questions and the answers provided will be made available to all applicants. All questions and the answers will be published on the Board's website seven days after the close of the allocated question time.

Current consultations

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. Public consultations are widely communicated in the Board's communiqués and website, and are open to everyone.

Review of registration standards, guidelines and codes

The first 10 National Boards to enter the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) developed standards, guidelines and codes for its commencement on 1 July 2010. These standards, guidelines and codes are currently under review.

All National Boards have registration standards which define the requirements that applicants, registrants or students need to meet to be registered. There are two registration standards that are common, or largely common, to all National Boards:

- *English language skills registration standard* (largely common), and
- *Criminal history registration standard* (common).

The review of these two standards is being coordinated across all National Boards. Preliminary consultation on these common registration standards has closed and the consultation paper is being finalised before public consultation.

There are also registration standards which are specific to the psychology profession. The Psychology Board has started its review of registration standards for continuing professional development, recency of practice and general registration. The Board will consult on these registration standards later in 2013.

Guideline for the 5+1 internship programs

The Board is currently consulting on a draft [Guidelines for the 5+1 internship program](#). The consultation paper should be read in conjunction with the Board's *Provisional registration standard* (published on 1 June 2012).

Please provide your feedback to this consultation via email to psychconsultation@ahpra.gov.au marked 'Attention: Chair, 5+1 consultation' by close of business Monday 8 July 2013.

Please note your submission will be published on the Board's website unless you request it not be published.

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:

- Cairnmillar Institute
- Flinders University/HELP University College (Malaysia), and
- University of Western Australia.

The Board also approved the accreditation (with conditions) of a course at the University of Western Australia and Australian Catholic University.

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 Deakin University. 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](#).

Professor Brin Grenyer
Chair
Psychology Board of Australia
4 June 2013