



Communiqué

30 August 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 44th meeting of the Board on 30 August 2013. At each meeting, the Board considers a wide range of issues, many of which are routine and are not included in this communiqué.

National Scheme combined meeting

The 14 National Boards and the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) held their annual combined meeting at the end of August.

Attendees included all National Boards, the Agency Management Committee, AHPRA leadership teams, representatives of state/regional boards, NSW Councils, accreditation authorities, Health Workforce Australia, members of the Community Reference Group and regulatory colleagues from New Zealand.

This was the fifth National Regulation and Accreditation Scheme (National Scheme) combined meeting, which aimed to take stock of what we have achieved in regulation and accreditation and provide an opportunity to discuss priorities for the work ahead.

Guidelines for the National Psychology Examination

The Board has approved the *Guidelines for the National Psychology Examination*.

The Board previously released public consultation papers on the development of the national psychology examination in April 2011 (Consultation Paper 9 - National Examination Consultation Paper), and April 2013 (Consultation Paper 18 – Guidelines for the National Psychology Examination). Feedback received from these consultations was taken into account when approving the final guidelines.

The guidelines will be published shortly, along with further information on how to register for the exam on the Board's [website](#).

Who needs to sit the National Psychology Exam, and when?

Applicant	When need to sit exam	Date from when need to sit and pass exam to be registered
Provisional psychologist in 4+2 internship	During 6th Year (after 1,540 hours of supervised practice internship)	1 July 2014
Provisional psychologist in 5+1 internship	During 6th Year (within approved supervised practice internship)	1 July 2014
Person returning to psychology practice after 10 years	As directed by Psychology Board of Australia in response to application	1 July 2014
Provisional psychologist in Masters/DPsych/PhD	During 6th Year (within accredited training program)	1 July 2016*
Person with overseas qualifications in psychology who meet other requirements	During approved supervised practice internship (usually this is a 3-month program)	1 July 2013
Person required to do so by Board or Panel or Tribunal	As directed by authority	As directed by authority

*Currently exempt until 30 June 2016. The Board will review this exemption prior to 2016.

Meeting with Chairs of Regional Boards and New Zealand Psychologists Board

As part of the National Scheme combined meeting, the National Board hosted a meeting with representatives from the New Zealand Psychologists Board and Chairs from the Psychology Board of Australia Regional Boards. The agenda covered: regional regulation issues including an overview of the National Board's Regional Review; Trans-Tasman regulation issues including an update from New Zealand; and consideration of the outcomes from the fifth International Congress on Licensure, Certification and Credentialing of Psychologists.

Future Board-approved supervisor training programs

Applications to become a board approved supervisor training provider closed on 16 August 2013. The Board is currently reviewing the applications. It is expected that applicants will be notified of the outcome in due course. The contact details of successful applicants will be listed on the Board's [website](#).

The Board envisages that it will open the application process again at some point in 2014. Future opportunities to apply will be published on the website. If you wish to add your details to the supervisor training stakeholder distribution list for any future correspondence please email them to psychologychair@ahpra.gov.au.

Accreditation programs

Under section 49 of the National Law, the National Board requires accreditation reports from the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) before it can approve the accredited programs of study as providing a qualification for the purposes of registration. There were no programs before the Board for approval at this meeting of the Board. The list of Board-approved courses is published on the Board's [website](#).

Professor Brin Grenyer

Chair

Psychology Board of Australia

6 September 2013