



Communiqué

27 September 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 45th meeting of the Board on 27 September 2013. At each meeting, the Board considers a wide range of issues, many of which are routine and are not included in this communiqué.

Revised Interim 4+2 Guideline released

The Board has released an interim guideline for 4+2 internship programs. The interim guideline implements some key changes to the program in response to stakeholder feedback.

The changes correct inconsistencies, improve clarity, and incorporate changes that have occurred since the guideline was first released in 2010. Amendments include the introduction of the national psychology examination and mandatory supervisor training. They also implement changes suggested by stakeholders such as the new requirement for case studies to be submitted to the Board and assessed during the second half of the internship instead of at the end.

The Interim Guidelines for 4+2 internship programs for provisional psychologists and supervisors have been published on the website and are effective from 1 October 2013. The Board has also made some improvements to the reporting and recording forms and has released new versions of the progress report form and final assessment of competence form, along with some new supplementary forms for provisional psychologists and supervisors.

Please note that these are an interim guideline and the Board continues with its project for a full review of the guideline, about which it will be consulting in due course.

Further information:

[Read the interim Guideline](#)

[Review the revised 4+2 forms](#)

Code of ethics

The Board has recently undertaken a [public consultation](#) that included a request for feedback on options for the code of ethics for the psychology profession.

After this recent consultation the Board has determined that the APS Code of ethics is currently the most relevant and suitable code for the psychology profession, and agreed to continue to approve this code as overarching code of ethics, conduct and practice of registered psychologists in Australia. The Board also agreed to extend the review timeframe to five years; therefore the next review will be scheduled for late 2018.

The Code of ethics is available to download from the APS website for no charge and can be accessed from the [Board's website](#).

Statistics

The Board has released its quarterly registration data. The data includes information about types of registration held, principle place of practice, endorsements, registrant age and gender. The Board has also published its latest statistics about Board-approved supervisors. The data includes information about psychologists who are approved supervisors for internship programs and registrar programs and the first national data on psychologists approved for higher degree student placements. Read the latest reports on our [statistics web page](#).

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](#).

Adelaide Forum

The Board is planning its next Forum in Adelaide on Thursday 28 November 2013. It is essential to RSVP to attend this event and due to space limitations there may be a waiting list and only those with a confirmed RSVP will be admitted.

Date: Thursday 28 November 2013

Time: 5:00 -7:00pm

Venue: The Terrace Ballroom
Stamford Plaza Adelaide
150 North Terrace, Adelaide
T (08) 8461 1111 F (08) 8461 0365

RSVP: 21 November 2013
Sue Carey
E: sue.carey@ahpra.gov.au

Renewal of registration for 2013/14

The Board has recently announced that the 2013 renewal of registration campaign for psychologists is now open. Psychologists with provisional registration renew on the anniversary of their initial registration.

More than 26,800 psychologists with general or non-practising registration are due to renew their registration with the Board by 30 November. Last year more than 90 per cent of all health practitioner registration renewals due by 30 November were submitted online.

The Board encourages psychologists to renew on time if they wish to continue to practise. Renewals received within a month of their registration expiry date will incur a late fee. Under the National Law, psychologists who do not renew their registration within one month of their registration expiry date must be removed from the Register of psychologists. Their registration will lapse and they will not be able to practise psychology in Australia until a new application for registration is approved.

AHPRA, on behalf of the Board, is sending out a series of reminders to practitioners who have lodged their email address with AHPRA. It is important that psychologists make sure AHPRA has their current contact information so they don't miss future email and hard copy reminders to renew. To update contact details using AHPRA's secure online services, psychologists can visit [AHPRA website](#):

The following pages on the Psychology Board website contain useful information for psychologists:

[Registration standards](#)

[Registration renewal](#)

[FAQ for psychologists](#)

Professor Brin Grenyer

Chair

Psychology Board of Australia

3 October 2013