

Dear Psychology Board of Australia

I am currently an M. Psych student and as a mature age student who works fulltime and supports a household. It was very difficult to get through the system to this stage and it was only possible through considerable sacrifice studying part-time for 6 years. I have had to use my annual leave to study for assignments and exams, have sacrificed my long service leave and a social life, and had to spend over \$50,000 on course fees. It is already very difficult for mature age students who need to work to support themselves and others to survive the system with high enough grades to get into a Masters program. To have to sit yet another exam would make it harder again to make it through when I would like to think older people who are re-training bring a lot of breadth to psychology and additional understanding to helping people.

I do not think that people who have already been successful within the current system should be asked to sit any more exams. To do so would create more stress and more expense. We already sit many exams at Masters level, an extra, highly significant one such as this is asking for too much additional time and money.

We are studying in depth a wider range of psychology literature than in our undergraduate degrees, plus learning practical applications, so the work we do is more advanced than that of the undergraduate degree. I can see the need for people who have not been exposed to this advanced study to have to sit an exam to show some equivalence, but given we are already doing a full 2 years beyond the undergraduate program, I think this is sufficient.

I would prefer my submission to be anonymous

Thank you