



Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

Post Office Box 344
RUNDLE MALL SA 5000
Telephone: 08 8226 6191
Email: HealthCHCSecretariat@sa.gov.au

Professor Brin Grenyer
Chair
Psychology Board of Australia
GPO Box 9958
MELBOURNE VIC 3001
Email: angela.smith@ahpra.gov.au

Dear Professor Grenyer

Approval of revised provisional registration standard for psychologists

Thank you for your letter of 22 June 2016, on behalf of the Psychology Board of Australia (the Board) recommending approval of the proposed revised *registration standard: provisional registration for psychologists* (the revised registration standard).

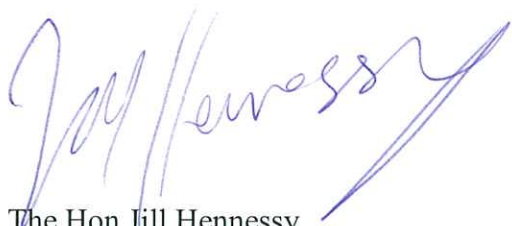
I am pleased to advise that pursuant to section 12 of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory, the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (AHWMC) agreed on 22 November 2016, to approve the revised registration standard as recommended by the Board.

In approving the revised registration standard, Ministers noted the Board's advice that employers, supervisors and provisional psychologists have indicated that approval and implementation of the proposed revised guideline is likely to significantly improve the viability of the 4+2 internship pathway and have a direct positive impact on the continuous development of a flexible, responsive, and sustainable Australian health workforce.

Ministers agreed with the Board's proposal that the approved revised registration standard commence as soon as practicable, up to 6 months after our approval. Ministers note that the Board-approved revised *Guidelines for the 4+2 internship program* will start at the same time and acknowledge that the Board also plans to publish explanatory material to support a smooth transition. The Board's plan to review the approved revised registration standard (and guidelines) three years after commencement is welcomed by Ministers as good regulatory practice.

Finally, the AHWMC notes that the Board has an expectation that there will be major reforms of psychology training pathways in the next few years. Ministers expect, as indicated by the Board, that there will be further consultation and discussions with key stakeholders, including health officials and the Commonwealth department of education and training, about any future directions related to the psychology workforce.

Yours sincerely



The Hon Jill Hennessy

Chair

Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

December 2016

cc: Mr Martin Fletcher, CEO, AHPRA: martin.fletcher@ahpra.gov.au