



Communiqué

26 May 2017

The Psychology Board of Australia (the Board) is established under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (National Law), as in force in each state and territory. At each meeting, the Board considers a wide range of issues, many of which are routine and are not included in this communiqué.

This communiqué highlights key issues from the 85th meeting of the Board on 26 May 2017.

Brisbane forum

The Board hosted a public forum in Brisbane on Thursday 25 May 2017 to discuss contemporary issues in psychology practice.

Members of the Board presented on a number of topics including psychology regulation and workforce reform, online communications with clients, the complexities of private practice and reconciliation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.

The Board would like to thank all of the psychologists and students who attended the forum and participated in the questions and answer session that followed the presentation.

A copy of the presentation slides will shortly be available on the Boards website.

New 4+2 internship guidelines and provisional registration standard

The Board's [revised guidelines for the 4+2 internship program](#) came in to effect on 1 June 2017. New 4+2 internship program plans are now being assessed under the new guideline.

The new 4+2 internship is outcome-focused and competency based. There is an increased focus on the role of supervisor-based assessment with light-touch oversight by the Board. Changes include:

- more flexible supervision arrangements
- promotion of simulated learning activities
- increased supervisor responsibilities, and
- more flexibility to demonstrate achievement of the core competencies in different ways.

Individuals soon to complete their 4+2 internship will have until 1 September 2017 to apply for general registration in accordance with the old requirements in the interim guideline (2013 version). All general registration applications will have to meet the requirements in the new guidelines after this transition period.

The revised [provisional registration standard](#) also came in to effect on 1 June 2017. Provisional registration applications will be assessed under the revised standard from 1 June 2017. The revisions to the standard are mostly structural and clarify existing requirements, making it easier to read and understand. The minimum qualification is still a four-year accredited sequence of study in psychology (or overseas equivalent) and the four training pathways to general registration have been retained.

In addition to articles in the National Board's communiqué and newsletter, the National Board wrote to 4+2 pathway provisional psychologists and their supervisors in March 2017, ensuring they were aware of the changes. To allow sufficient time to review the changes, advance copies of the new 4+2 guidelines and supporting materials have been available for three months. These supporting materials

can still be accessed via the Board's [4+2 internship page](#), and include a fact sheet, details of the changes to requirements for assessment tasks and for psychological testing, a transition checklist, and a series of [frequently asked questions](#). New and revised forms and templates can be downloaded from the Board's [forms page](#).

The changes to the provisional registration standard and the 4+2 internship guidelines follow wide-ranging consultation with key stakeholders including government, the profession and the public.

Registration opens for CLEAR

The Fifth International Congress on Professional and Occupational Regulation will be held this November in Melbourne, Australia. Join regulatory stakeholders from around the world as they share global perspectives on licensure and regulation.

Additional information the conference, including how to register, is on the AHPRA [website](#).

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Further information

The Board publishes a range of information for psychologists on its website at <http://www.psychologyboard.gov.au/>. For more information about registration, notifications or other matters relevant to the National Scheme also refer to information published on www.ahpra.gov.au or send an [online enquiry form](#) or contact AHPRA on 1300 419 495.

Professor Brin Grenyer
Chair
Psychology Board of Australia
05 June 2017