

## Communiqué

---

21 September 2018

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 100th meeting of the Board on 21 September 2018.

### Message from the Presiding Member

The Board met for the 100<sup>th</sup> time in September 2018. I have been temporarily appointed as presiding member as Professor Brin Grenyer retired following at the completion of this third term. On behalf of all stakeholders within the National Regulation and Accreditation Scheme, I would like to acknowledge the significant contribution of the first three Boards led by Professor Grenyer, during a time of immense change for the profession and health practitioner regulation in Australia. The other three retiring Board members, Professor Alfred Allan, Mr Chris O'Brien, and Mr Radek Stratil have been extended by Ministers until the National Board appointments are finalised.

The Board reviewed the progress of the Proposal to retire the 4+2 pathway with a timeline make a submission to Ministers in early 2019. The Board also provided feedback on the COAG Consultation paper on proposed Tranche 2 legislative amendments to the Health Practitioner National Regulation and Accreditation Act.

### Call for expressions of interest to serve as a Director on the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (Community member with legal expertise)

The Board is inviting expressions of interest to fill an upcoming Director vacancy on the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) Board.

APAC is a not-for-profit public company limited by guarantee. Under the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (NRAS), APAC is the appointed accrediting authority for psychology in Australia.

APAC's main functions are:

- Developing standards for the education and training of psychologists for approval by the Psychology Board of Australia
- Assessing higher education providers and their programs of study to determine whether they meet the approved accreditation standards
- Monitoring accredited education providers and their programs of study to ensure they continue to meet the approved accreditation standards
- Advising and consulting to the Psychology Board of Australia, governments and other bodies on matters of education and training relevant to the Psychology profession and discipline

The APAC Board has 12 Directors. The Australian Psychological Society (APS) and Heads of Departments and Schools of Psychology Association (HODSPA) nominate four Directors each. The APAC Board meets up to six times a year, usually in Melbourne. Committee and other meetings may be held by teleconference. Directors are remunerated via an annual stipend (plus travel and expenses).

The Psychology Board nominates four directors (three psychologists and one non-psychologist community member with expertise in law) to sit on the APAC Board. The current call for expressions of interest is open to **a community member with expertise in law**. The term of appointment is three years, with eligibility for reappointment for one further term.

It is expected that applicants will have legal qualifications and relevant professional practice or academic experience. Applicants must be eligible to be a director of a company and reside in Australia. The following skills and experience are also desirable:

- prior Board experience
- experience or understanding of the higher education sector
- experience of the regulatory sector
- graduate of the AICD Company Directors course
- knowledge of professional accreditation systems and processes
- team player
- strategic focus

To express your interest, please send a cover letter outlining your relevant experience and your curriculum vitae (including the contact details of two referees), addressed to: Psychology Board of Australia, at **psychologychair@ahpra.gov.au**. Enquiries about the Director role can also be sent to this address. Expressions of interest from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants are encouraged.

Expressions of interest close by 10.00am **AEDT** on Monday 5 November 2018.

### **Vacancies on the National Psychology Examination Committee**

Applications for vacancies for the National Psychology Exam Committee (NPE Committee) are open from 15 September until 26 October 2018.

The Board is seeking members of the psychology profession who have experience and knowledge in the core competencies required for general registration in the profession, including experience in training, teaching, and assessment of professional competencies. Expertise is required in the following areas:

- ethics and professional issues
- assessment and psychological testing
- interventions
- communications including cross-cultural and diverse groups, and
- multiple-choice test construction (test validation, parallel forms, statistics)

Committee appointments are made by the National Board, under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law). Members will include psychologists with different areas of practice (practitioners and academics; private and public sector psychologists). The NPE Committee consists of nine senior members of the psychology profession and includes members of the Psychology Board of Australia and members appointed through an expression of interest process. Appointments are for up to three years, with eligibility for reappointment. The committee meets in Melbourne for approximately ten days per year.

For more information please see the [vacancies](#) section of the Board's website.

### **Are your contact details up to date?**

It is important that your contact details are up to date to receive renewal reminders from AHPRA and information from the Board. You can check your details via the Login icon at the top right of the [AHPRA website](#). Email accounts need to be set to receive communications from AHPRA and the Board to avoid misdirection to an account junk box.

### **Further information**

The Board publishes a range of information for psychologists on its website at [www.psychologyboard.gov.au](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](http://www.ahpra.gov.au) or send an [online enquiry form](#) or contact AHPRA on 1300 419 495.

Rachel Phillips  
Presiding Member  
Psychology Board of Australia  
27 September 2018