



Communiqué

November 2014

The Occupational Therapy 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).

The Board meets face to face each month to consider and decide on any matters related to its regulatory function within the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme).

This communiqué aims to inform stakeholders of the work of the Board.

Reminder: renewal of registration for 2014/15

The deadline for occupational therapists to renew their registration passed on 30 November 2014. Occupational therapists who forgot to renew their registration by this date are able to submit a [Fast Track application](#) form.

The registration renewal date for occupational therapists is 30 November.

If you do not renew your registration by 31 December (end of the one month late period), your registration will lapse in accordance with the National Law and your name will be removed from the national register.

If you wish to keep practising and do not renew registration by 31 December, you must submit a fast track application for registration. Fast track application forms are available on the Board website or by phoning the Customer Service Team on 1300 419 495 during January.

If submitting a fast track application, you cannot practise until your application is processed and your registration details are updated on the national register.

Publication of revised processes for the development of standards

At its October 2014 meeting, AHPRA's Agency Management Committee agreed to make minor revisions to the procedures for the development of registration standards, codes and guidelines and for the development of accreditation standards.

These revised procedures were received and endorsed by the Board at this meeting. The revised procedures are available on the AHPRA website www.ahpra.gov.au/Publications/Procedures.aspx.

Planning

The Board has commenced their planning for the 2015/2016 year by starting the development of a strategic workplan to guide the work of the Board over this period. Once finalised the revised strategic workplan will be included in the Health Professions Agreement it maintains with AHPRA and will be published on the Board's website.

Expert Advisors

The Board will shortly be commencing a project to recruit expert advisors on various aspects of occupational therapy practice. These areas include:

- Pediatrics
- Driving
- Hand therapy
- Work Health and Safety, return to work and functional capacity evaluation,
- Adult rehabilitation
- Mental health
- Home modifications, equipment prescription and attendant care / home services assessments.

All practitioners will be alerted to the commencement of this project by email and a media release will be published on the Boards website once the recruitment commences.

Charles Sturt University

The Board received advice from the Occupational Therapy Council (Australia & New Zealand) Ltd accrediting the Charles Sturt University Bachelor of Occupational Therapy & Bachelor of Occupational Therapy Honours programs. Under the provisions of s49 of the National Law the Board has approved this program of study as providing a qualification for the purposes of registration as an occupational therapist until 31 December 2019

Updating contact details

It is important that you keep your registration details up to date so that you receive important reminders. Your email address will be used by AHPRA to send you important information including renewal notices. To check your contact details, go to the [Your Account](#) link on the AHPRA homepage, and enter your User ID, date of birth and password (please note that your User ID is not your registration number). If you cannot remember your user ID or password, contact us [online](#) or call: 1300 419 495.

Conclusion

The National Board publishes a range of information about registration and the National Board's expectations of practitioners on its website at www.occupationaltherapyboard.gov.au or www.ahpra.gov.au.

For more detail or with questions about your registration please send an [online enquiry form](#) or contact AHPRA on 1300 419 495.

Chair



Dr Mary Russell
Occupational Therapy Board of Australia