

## Communiqué

---

### July 2016 meeting of the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia

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 functions within the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme).

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

#### **Revised competency standards development project**

The Board was pleased to note preliminary consultation on the revised competency standards has started and will run for eight weeks. Feedback received will further inform the revised competency standards in preparation for public consultation later this year

The Board looks forward to working with the profession on this important piece of work through both consultation phases. The Board values feedback on their proposals from all its key and interested stakeholders.

The Board intends to release further details about the project as work progresses. Should you be interested to read early details about the development of the project this information is available on the Board's [website](#).

#### **Return to practice pathways project**

The Board received a project update on the return to practice pathways project.

Preliminary research has been conducted into alternative pathways to facilitate re-entry to the profession after a period of absence.

The Board is looking at pathways implemented by other Boards in the National Regulation and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) as well as pathways used by regulatory bodies for occupational therapy overseas, to ensure any new approaches for re-entry are contemporary and tested.

#### **Engaging with new graduates**

The Board continues to seek and create opportunities to engage with new graduates of occupational therapy, with planning underway for a webinar to be held in September 2016.

The webinar will be accessible to new graduates regardless of their study location, with the Board to share information on the National Scheme and to answer any questions about becoming a registered occupational therapist. The Board's website is key in providing information to new graduates and practitioners about the profession. Make sure you regularly check the Board's website to find out when registration to the upcoming webinar is open as well as any other initiatives the Board is undertaking to engage.

### **Monash University program accredited**

The Board has accredited Monash University's Master of Occupational Therapy Practice program.

This decision was based on advice received from the [Occupational Therapy Council \(Australia and New Zealand\)](#).

### **Keeping in touch with the Board**

The Board publishes a range of information about registration and its expectations of practitioners on its website at [www.occupationaltherapyboard.gov.au](http://www.occupationaltherapyboard.gov.au) or [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au). Practitioners are encouraged to refer to the site for news and updates on policy and guidelines affecting their profession.

### **Julie Brayshaw**

Chair

Occupational Therapy Board of Australia

26 July 2016