



## Communiqué

### Thirteenth meeting of the Chiropractic Board of Australia 27 October 2010

The Chiropractic Board of Australia (the Board) is established under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009* (National Law).

#### Consultation paper on standards for limited registration

The Board has released a Consultation Paper on draft registration standards for limited registration in the public interest and limited registration for teaching and research. The Consultation Paper is published on the Board's website at [www.chiropracticboard.gov.au](http://www.chiropracticboard.gov.au). Submissions close on 10 December 2010.

Application forms for limited registration in the public interest and limited registration for teaching and research are now available on the Board's website together with information about fees for limited registration.

#### Engagement with the profession

Members of the Board attended a number of conferences, including the Chiropractors Association of Australia Annual General Meeting and the Chiropractic and Osteopathic College of Australasia's National Conference. The Board greatly appreciates these opportunities to engage directly with the profession and understand issues of concern to chiropractors.

The Board will shortly be publishing a series of further fact sheets and frequently asked questions (FAQs) to provide more information about issues raised during presentations to the profession.

The Board looks forward to continuing to engage with the profession in the future.

#### Graduate registration

The Board has published information about a new streamlined graduate registration process and application forms on the Board's website at [www.chiropracticboard.gov.au](http://www.chiropracticboard.gov.au). The process allows students graduating in 2010 to pre-apply for registration now, so AHPRA can begin the registration process, pending confirmation from education providers of successful graduation.

Under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act*, (the National Law) as enacted in participating jurisdictions, there are additional requirements that graduates must meet before they are registered. These include criminal history checks and identity verification. Some of these processes involve external agencies and can take time. Graduates must also meet the registration standards set by National Boards, including related to English language skills, before being eligible for registration. By pre-applying, students can support a smooth transition from graduation to registration and entering the workforce.

## Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

The Board is still receiving queries about its CPD requirements and reminds chiropractors that these are being phased in. When chiropractors renew in the first year of the national scheme, they do **not** have to declare that they have met the requirements for 25 hours CPD and a current senior first aid certificate. Instead, chiropractors will be asked to declare that they intend to meet the first aid and pro rata CPD requirements during the period of registration until they next renew.

The Board is also providing chiropractors with extra time to complete the CPD requirements during the first renewal period. Chiropractors will be able to count CPD hours completed between 1 July 2010 and 30 November 2011 towards their declaration of compliance for the period 1 December 2010 to 30 November 2011. In future years, chiropractors will need to meet the requirements during the 12-month annual registration period. Chiropractors will need to hold a current first aid certificate when they renew for the period 1 December 2011 to 30 November 2012.

### Assessment of formal learning activities

The Board has extended the implementation period for its new requirements for assessment of formal learning activities. The new assessment process requires CPD providers or practitioners' formal learning activities to be assessed and approved by a Board-approved body (including quantum of hours). The Board has approved the Chiropractors' Association of Australia (National) Limited (CAAN) and the Chiropractic and Osteopathic College of Australasia (COCA) as the approved bodies to assess and approve formal learning activities for CPD. The new process will use the assessment criteria published on the Board's website at [www.chiropracticboard.gov.au](http://www.chiropracticboard.gov.au). The Board is currently undertaking a pilot of the new process which will be implemented from 1 January 2011. In the meantime, the approved bodies will continue to apply their existing assessment processes and fees.

### Notification to lapsed registrants

The Board considered the process for communicating with chiropractors whose registration has lapsed under the National Law. There are serious consequences for any chiropractor whose registration has lapsed if they continue to practise. These include potentially being subject to prosecution and fines for use of the title chiropractor and/or holding out as a chiropractor, and no longer being covered by professional indemnity insurance. In addition, chiropractors whose registration lapses will have to reapply to be registered, and will have to pay both an application and an annual registration fee.

The Board encourages all chiropractors to renew their registration on time. Registered chiropractors can check the due date of their registration on the National Register at [www.chiropracticboard.gov.au](http://www.chiropracticboard.gov.au). Practitioners whose registration is due at the end of November should by now have received a letter from AHPRA with the relevant application form. If you are due to renew your registration at the end of this month and you have not received your letter from AHPRA to remind you to renew, contact AHPRA on 1300 419 495.

### Consultation framework

The Board is expecting to release a Consultation Paper on its proposed approach to consultation in the coming weeks. Please check the Board's website at <http://www.chiropracticboard.gov.au/News/Current-Consultations.aspx> for news about this.

## Communicating with you

The Board continues to encourage registered chiropractors to provide their email address to AHPRA to enable efficient future communication from the Board. When you receive your user id and password from AHPRA, please log in and add your email address to your contact details, so we can communicate with you directly. The Board is aware that registered practitioners are busy professionals and will only use email communication appropriately.

Dr Phillip Donato  
Chiropractor  
Chair, Chiropractic Board of Australia  
3 November 2010