



Communiqué

Meeting of the Chiropractic Board of Australia held on 29 July 2011

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

This communiqué highlights key issues from the Board's last meeting. At each meeting, the Board considers a wide range of issues, many of which are routine and are not included in this communiqué.

Publication of registrant data

At 30 June 2011, there were just over 4300 registered Chiropractors in Australia, and of these, 477 were new registrants approved between July 2010 and June 2011.

The Board will soon start publishing registrant data on its website which will include data on the number of registrants in each state and territory. This information is already publicly available on the AHPRA [website](#) in AHPRA Report.

Updated Website

The Board has updated its website to make it easier to navigate and find important information.

The Board's new website features clearer menus and intuitive architecture, better access to online services and more information tailored to the chiropractic profession. Information about the National Scheme and links to AHPRA are also accessible.

Graduate Applications

Chiropractic students who plan to start working as chiropractors in Australia after graduating are encouraged to apply for registration early. Applying early can help smooth the path from study to work. For the first time, graduating students will soon be able to apply for registration online. Watch the [AHPRA website](#) for updates.

Students who completed an approved program of study in mid-2011 or who expect to complete their program of study at the end of 2011 can find information on the AHPRA website at www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Graduate-Applications.aspx about applying for registration.

There are five simple steps to graduate registration:

1. Students can apply for registration 4 to 6 weeks before completing their course.
2. Applicants fill out an online application (if eligible) or download an application form. All applications require some documents to be sent to AHPRA by mail.
3. Education providers advise AHPRA when applicants are eligible to graduate
4. AHPRA finalises assessment, confirms registration, publishes new graduates' names on the Register of Practitioners and sends out registration certificates

5. New graduates are registered and eligible to start working as soon as their name is published on the Register of Practitioners.

Change to who can certify documents for registration

Copies of documents in support of an application for registration, or other purpose required by the National Law, must be certified as true copies of the original documents.

The Board has approved an amended policy for certifying documents which reflects the list of persons authorised by the Commonwealth Attorney-General to certify documents. As the requirements for certification of documents will now be aligned with the Commonwealth requirements (which are more broadly known and publicised), the Board hopes this will help to reduce the number of incomplete applications for registration. The amended policy will soon be available on the AHPRA website.

The list authorised by the Commonwealth Attorney-General includes some of the health professions regulated under the National Law. AHPRA will write to the Commonwealth Attorney-General seeking amendments to the approved list to also include the following health professions that are regulated under the National Law: Podiatrists, Osteopaths, Midwives and all Registered Dental Practitioners.

Further information

Further information about the Board can be found on the Board's website at: www.chiropracticboard.gov.au and practitioners are encouraged to refer to the site for news and updates on Policy and Guidelines affecting their profession. The Board reminds practitioners to make sure the contact details they have given to AHPRA are up to date and include a current email address so they can receive important updates, such as renewal reminders.

Dr Phillip Donato
Chiropractor
Chair, Chiropractic Board of Australia
July 2011