

Strategy 2014-2016



Our vision

A competent, ethical and flexible health workforce that meets the current and future needs of the Australian community

Our mission

To regulate the chiropractic profession in Australia in the public interest

Our values

We act in the public interest

We promote safety in health practice

Our processes are transparent and consistent

We are accountable

Our decisions are fair and just

We work collaboratively

Strategic objectives

1. Become a recognised leader in health professional regulation
2. Foster community and stakeholder awareness and engagement
3. Build a sustainable regulatory framework
4. Adopt contemporary business models

Introduction

Objectives and guiding principles

Section 3 of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law) sets out the objectives and guiding principles of the National Law. They are:

- to provide for the protection of the public by ensuring that only health practitioners who are suitably trained and qualified to practise in a competent and ethical manner are registered
- to facilitate workforce mobility across Australia
- to facilitate the provision of high quality education and training of health practitioners
- to facilitate the rigorous and responsive assessment of overseas-trained health practitioners
- to facilitate access to services provided by health practitioners in accordance with the public interest
- to enable the continuous development of a flexible, responsive and sustainable Australian health workforce and to enable innovation in the education of, and service delivery by, health practitioners
- to operate in a transparent, accountable, efficient, effective and fair way
- fees required to be paid under the scheme are to be reasonable, and
- restrictions on the practice of a health profession are to be imposed under the scheme only if it is necessary to ensure health services are provided safely and are of an appropriate quality.

Functions of the National Board

The functions of the Board are described in s35 of the National Law. They are:

- to register suitably qualified and competent persons in the health profession and, if necessary, to impose conditions on the registration of persons in the profession
- to decide the requirements for registration or endorsement of registration in the health profession, including the arrangements for supervised practice in the profession
- to develop or approve standards, codes and guidelines for the health profession
- to approve accredited programs of study as providing qualifications for registration or endorsement in the health profession
- to oversee the assessment of the knowledge and clinical skills of overseas-trained applicants for registration in the health profession whose qualifications are not approved qualifications for the profession, and to determine the suitability of the applicants for registration in Australia
- to work with AHPRA to create the health profession agreement for services to the Board by AHPRA
- to oversee the receipt, assessment and investigation of notifications
- to establish panels to conduct hearings into the health, conduct and performance of practitioners
- to refer matters about health practitioners to tribunals
- to oversee the management of health practitioners and students registered, including monitoring conditions, undertaking and suspensions imposed
- to make recommendations to the Ministerial Council about the operation of specialist recognition in the health profession and the approval of specialties
- in conjunction with the National Agency, to keep up-to-date and publicly accessible national registers
- to provide financial or other support for health programs for practitioners and students
- to give advice to the Ministerial Council on issues relating to the national registration and accreditation scheme for the profession
- to give to the Ministerial Council the assistance or information reasonably required by the Ministerial Council in connection with the national scheme
- to do anything else necessary or convenient for the effective and efficient operation of the national scheme, and
- any other function given to the Board by or under the National Law.

Strategic Business Plan

1 Become a recognised leader in health professional regulation

Key objectives:

- to use a best-practice, risk-based approach to professional regulation
- to raise the Board's standing and reputation as a best-practice regulator, and
- to effect improved standards of professional conduct and performance by Australian chiropractors.

2 Foster community and stakeholder awareness and engagement

Key objectives:

- to maintain an open and honest dialogue with all stakeholders
- to increase stakeholder confidence in both the work of the Board and the National Scheme, and
- for the National Board to be the point of reference for both practitioners and the community on matters relating to the competence and the ethical and professional conduct of practitioners.

3 Build a sustainable regulatory framework

Key objectives:

- to ensure policies, codes guidelines and standards are current and represent a risk-based and best-practice approach to regulation
- to pursue cross-professional consistency where possible in both standards and regulatory decision-making
- to facilitate high quality education that takes into account both trends in education and future workforce needs
- to engage and participate in international groups and projects relevant to the regulation of chiropractors, and
- to work cooperatively to develop, enhance and sustain the National Scheme.

4 Adopt contemporary business models

Key objectives:

- to work in a risk-based and evidence-based context
- to develop a sustainable financial base to fund the work of the National Board
- to work collaboratively with AHPRA to efficiently use and apply resources, and
- to develop models of business that are sustainable and supported by a succession plan.