

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

Media release

14 November 2011

Health practitioners urged to renew registration online, on time

More than half of the 105,000 health practitioners across Australia who are due to renew their registration by 30 November 2011 have already done so.

The health practitioners who must renew are chiropractors, dental practitioners, optometrists, osteopaths, pharmacists, physiotherapists, podiatrists and psychologists.

Under the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme), these professions are due to renew their registration annually on 30 November.

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency Chief Executive Officer Martin Fletcher said the National Board Chairs were encouraged by the renewal response already received from practitioners.

"It is fantastic that many health practitioners due to renew have heeded calls to apply early and I would encourage all in the professions to use the online service at www.ahpra.gov.au for quick and easy renewal," Mr Fletcher said.

AHPRA has implemented an intensive communication campaign to support the renewal process, including sending several reminder emails and letters to practitioners. Practitioners should watch for these reminders as confirmation to renew online.

Under the National Law, all registered practitioners are responsible for renewing their registration on time each year and applications received after the registration expiry date will incur a late payment fee.

The late payment fee applies to practitioners who apply to renew during the one month late period outlined in the National Law and ending 31 December 2011. It is payable in addition to the annual renewal fee.

There are significant consequences for individual practitioners who do not renew on time in the National Scheme. Under the National Law, practitioners who do not renew registration within one month of their registration expiry date must be removed from the National Registers of Practitioners.

Their registration will lapse and they will not be able to practise in Australia until a new application is approved. Neither the National Boards nor AHPRA have any discretion about this.

For more information

- Visit www.ahpra.gov.au to access National Board websites and FAQs on renewal
- Visit www.ahpra.gov.au under Contact us to lodge an online enquiry form
- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 3 8708 9001 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200