



Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander Health Practice
Chinese Medicine
Chiropractic
Dental
Medical
Medical Radiation Practice
Nursing and Midwifery
Occupational Therapy
Optometry
Osteopathy
Pharmacy
Physiotherapy
Podiatry
Psychology

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

Media release

27 November 2012

Health practitioners urged to renew their registration by 30 November

More than 70% of the 127,480 health practitioners across Australia who are due to renew their registration by 30 November 2012 have already done so.

The health professionals who must renew are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners, Chinese medicine practitioners, chiropractors, dental practitioners, medical radiation practitioners, occupational therapists, optometrists, osteopaths, pharmacists, physiotherapists, podiatrists and psychologists.

Under the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme), the registration of these professions expires on 30 November, however not all medical radiation practitioners or occupational therapists¹ are due to renew by this date in 2012.

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, especially from those who have only been part of the National Scheme since July.

'It is fantastic that many health practitioners due to renew, including the new professions², have heeded calls to apply early and about 96% have done so online,' Mr Fletcher said.

'I would encourage all practitioners to use the quick and easy online renewal service to renew on time.'

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.

This applies to practitioners who apply to renew during the one month late period outlined in the National Law. The late payment fee is payable in addition to the annual renewal fee and recognises the extra work in managing late renewals.

The National Boards for the four professions that joined the National Scheme on 1 July² have waived the late payment fee for applications received in December 2012. The Boards made this decision in acknowledgement that many practitioners in these professions were not previously regulated and that this is their first renewal cycle.

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.

¹Medical radiation practitioners who transitioned into the National Scheme from state boards in Qld., WA, Tas. and occupational therapists who transitioned from state boards in Qld., WA and SA have different renewal dates

²Professions that joined the National Scheme on 1 July 2012 were: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practice, Chinese medicine, medical radiation practice and occupational therapy.

For more information

- Visit the individual Boards' websites for specific registration information and FAQs, accessible via www.ahpra.gov.au
- 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