

# Communique



October 2025

The Podiatry Accreditation Committee (Committee) publishes this communiqué on the Committee's [accreditation webpages](#). Please forward it to anyone who may be interested.

## Committee meeting

The 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Committee was held via videoconference on 30 October 2025.

This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the meeting.

## Accreditation assessments and monitoring activities

### Accreditation decision

The Committee made accreditation decisions for two education providers delivering podiatry programs. The Podiatry Board of Australia (National Board) will consider the Committee's accreditation decisions at an upcoming meeting. The Committee also agreed to cease accreditation of one program that had been taught out by the education provider.

### Monitoring

The Committee considered monitoring evaluation reports from six education providers and their programs of study. The outcomes of the Committee's evaluations will be provided to the education providers and the National Board following the Committee meeting.

### 2025 routine monitoring

The Committee considered 2025 routine monitoring reports from five education providers. The outcomes of the Committee's evaluations will be provided to the education providers following the meeting. The National Board will be provided with an update on the Committee's 2025 routine monitoring reports following the meeting.

### 2026 routine monitoring

The Committee considered the 2026 routine monitoring package (report and templates) including the schedule. Ten education providers will receive the 2026 routine monitoring report and templates in March 2026 for their programs of study.

## Discussion items

### 2021 Accreditation standards for podiatry review

The project reviewing the 2021 Accreditation standards for podiatry commenced in March 2024. The project has been conducted in conjunction with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice, Chinese Medicine, Medical Radiation Practice and Paramedicine Accreditation Committees. At the meeting, the Project team advised that the National Board approved the updated accreditation standards for podiatry programs at its September 2025 meeting.

The updated accreditation standards are expected to be published in early 2026. Additional information regarding the transition of education providers and their programs to the 2026 standards will be made available at that time.

### **Podiatric surgery specialty title change**

The Committee discussed the National Board's update regarding the specialist title for practitioners registered in the podiatric surgery speciality. The Committee noted that the protected title will change from 'Podiatric Surgeon' to 'Surgical Podiatrist', coming into effect in twelve months, and relevant Committee documentation will be updated accordingly.

More information is available regarding the protected title change at the National Board's [website](#).

### **Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum**

The Chair of the Committee provided verbal updates on the Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum's (HPACF) July and September 2025 meetings. More information can be found on the HPACF's [website](#).

### **Update to the National Prescribing Competencies Framework**

The Committee noted that after public consultation between April and June 2025, the *National Prescribing Competencies Framework – Embedding quality use of medicines into practice*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (the framework) has now been updated and approved by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing for release with immediate effect. The Committee also noted the flow on effects for education programs leading to endorsement for scheduled medicines.

More information regarding the update of the framework, as well as the framework itself, can be accessed via the Ahpra [website](#).

### **Cultural safety questions in the 2026 routine monitoring**

The Committee reviewed consolidated, de-identified responses from education providers to the cultural safety questions in the 2025 routine monitoring. To continue tracking how providers evaluate mechanisms that support cultural safety for staff, students and graduates, the Committee agreed to include the following questions in the 2026 routine monitoring:

- How did you evaluate the changes made to the design and implementation of the program to ensure culturally safe practice is integrated into the program?
- How did you measure the effectiveness of the mechanisms you have in place that ensure cultural safety for staff and students?
- How did you evaluate the graduates' capability to provide culturally safe healthcare to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples?

### **Stakeholder engagement/partnerships**

The Program Accreditation team, on behalf of the Committee, continues to engage with education providers via the Committee's [accreditation webpages](#); through correspondence via email, phone contact and videoconference meetings, and communiques.

### **Next meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for February 2026.

### **Contact information**

For any queries related to podiatry program accreditation, please contact the Committee via the Program Accreditation team at [program.accreditation@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:program.accreditation@ahpra.gov.au).

For more information on podiatry accreditation please visit the Committee's [accreditation](#) webpages.