

Public consultation: Draft guidelines for the national psychology exam

The Psychology Board of Australia (the Board) is seeking your feedback about our proposal to adopt the *Draft guidelines for the national psychology exam* (the draft exam guidelines). There are ten specific questions we would like you to address below. All questions are optional and you are welcome to respond to any that you find relevant, or that you have a view on.

Providing feedback

Please email your submission to: psychconsultation@ahpra.gov.au. The submission deadline is close of business on **Monday 24 March 2025**.

Initial questions: To help us better understand your situation and the context of your feedback, please provide us with some details about you.

Question A: Are you completing this submission on behalf of an organisation or as an individual?

☐ Organisation

Name of organisation: RACP

Contact email: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

☒ Individual

Name: Inam Haq

Name of organisation: RACP

Contact email:

Question B: If you are completing this submission as an individual, are you:

☒ A registered health practitioner?

Profession: Doctor

☐ A consumer / client?

☐ Other – please describe: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

☐ Prefer not to say.

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| Questions for consideration – Updating the Guidelines for the national psychology exam |
| Preferred option |
| Question 1: Do you support updating the exam guidelines (Option 2)? Please provide a rationale for your view. |
| Your answer: Yes |
| Question 2: Do you support including the updated general registration competencies as outlined in the Professional competencies for psychologists into the draft exam guidelines? Please provide a rationale for your view. |
| Your answer: Yes |
| Question 3: Do you support an exemption from sitting the exam for international applicants for general registration who hold a qualification that is substantially equivalent, or based on similar competencies, to a Board-approved fifth and sixth year qualification? Please provide a rationale for your view. |
| Your answer: Yes |
| Content of the draft exam guidelines |
| Question 4: Is there any content that needs to be changed, deleted, or added into the draft exam guidelines? |
| Your answer: NA |

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| <p>Question 5: Is the language and structure of the proposed draft exam guidelines helpful, clear, relevant and workable? Are there any potential unintended consequences of the current wording?</p> |
| <p>Your answer:</p> <p>No that I can see</p> |
| <p>Proposed implementation of the draft exam guidelines</p> |
| <p>Question 6: The Board proposes to publish the draft exam guidelines when they are approved, but to have a future date for when it comes into effect (1 December 2025), to allow enough time for exam candidates to prepare. The first exam including the updated professional competencies will not be until the February 2026 sitting of the exam. Do you support this transition and implementation plan?</p> |
| <p>Your answer:</p> <p>Suggest 6 months minimum notification period to potential candidates, ideally longer</p> |
| <p>Question 7: Are there specific impacts for higher education providers, accreditation agencies, international regulators, governments, employers, psychologists, supervisors, exam candidates, clients/consumers or other stakeholders that the Board should be aware of, if the draft exam guidelines were to be approved? Please consider positive impacts and any potential negative or unintended effects in your answer.</p> |
| <p>Your answer:</p> <p>Not from RACP viewpoint</p> |
| <p>Question 8: Would the proposed changes to the draft exam guidelines result in any potential negative or unintended effects for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples or other priority groups in the community? If so, please describe them.</p> |
| <p>Your answer:</p> <p>None that can see but should be consulted with relevant consumer groups</p> |

Question 9: Would the proposed changes to the draft exam guidelines result in any adverse cost implications for practitioners, clients/consumers or other stakeholders? If yes, please describe.

Your answer:

No

Other

Question 10: Do you have any other feedback or comments about the draft exam guidelines?

Your answer:

No